We will read a selection of Shakespeare's plays with attention to both formal and historical questions. Issues to be addressed may include genre, the Shakespearean text, gender, sexuality, consciousness, status and degree, politics and nation. Written work to include a mid-term, two short papers, and a final examination.

Two lectures and one section meeting weekly. Students should register for ENGL 0310A S01 and may be assigned to conference sections by the instructor during the first week of class.

In preparation for lectures and section meetings, students are required to participate in online discussion twice a week.

Romeo and Juliet, Henry V, Julius Caesar, Hamlet, Twelfth Night, Othello, The Winter's Tale, The Tempest

## Texts/Print/Online

Nineteen of Shakespeare's plays quickly flew into print in small volumes called [quartos](http://www.quartos.org/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank) shortly after production and with little guarantee of authority, accuracy, or income for the author.  After his death in 1516, friends took on the responsibility of publishing the large format,[folio edition](http://www.folger.edu/template.cfm?cid=930" \t "_blank) of his works in 1623.

At this point, Shakespeare may well be the best selling author of all time.

I have ordered for use in this class The Norton Shakespeare: Essential Plays, the Sonnets,  2nd ed, general editor Stephen Greenblatt, in a one-volume paperback edition.  The Norton Shakespeare also comes in four separate paperback volumes containing all the plays and poems, and also in a single volume of Shakespeare’s complete works.  I recommend this edition for this class and for your personal library.  The Norton commentary is excellent, and we shall refer to it and the other supplementary materials in class.  With caution you may also use other editions of the plays.  Note that for some plays the text may vary considerably from edition to edition.  You may purchase relatively inexpensive paperback and ebook editions of good series such as the Arden Shakespeare and the Folger Shakespeare.



You must bring a print copy of the play under discussion to each meeting and section of the class.

For each play, references to textual concerns and questions are found in the [week to week modules](https://canvas.brown.edu/courses/900437/modules).

Online editions of Shakespeare are also an important resource.

The single best edition for online study may be  [Shakespeare's Words](http://www.shakespeareswords.com/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank) and its many research tools

I also recommend the *[Folger Digital Edition](http://www.folgerdigitaltexts.org/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)*s, also available in print and as an ebook

The commentary of[Shakespeare Online](http://www.shakespeare-online.com/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank) can be useful for history and background

Meetings/Discussions/Sections

The 10:00 am Monday and Wednesday meetings of this class are designed for lectures and questions.

Small section meetings, called "conferences" in the language of the Brown Registrar, will be scheduled following the first week of class, taking place either at the regularly scheduled Friday hour or at a set time on Thursday.  You will be notified by me not the Registrar of your section assignment.

Attendance is required at each of these meetings, and records of attendance will be kept; more than one unexcused absence will affect your grade.

Prior to class meetings participation in online Discussions is required as indicated in the [week-to-week Modules](https://canvas.brown.edu/courses/900437/modules).

 "Shakespeare's School," Edward VI School, Stratford

How You Will Be Evaluated in this Course

The goal of this class is attain a working sense of the development and range of Shakespeare plays.  All reading assignments must be completed on time and in sufficient depth to engage in the ongoing project of interpreting these works.

Through consistent attendance in lectures and sections through and participation in online discussions students practice and demonstrate their understanding of the many ways these plays may be understood (20%).

A mid-term examination will test mastery of the text and interpretation of the first three plays studied, assigned readings,  and the materials discussed in class (20%)

The two short essays (5 pages) will demonstrate the ability to interpret a single passage or a set of related passages though close reading of the Shakespeare's language (20% each)

The final examination will test mastery of the seven plays studied and of the understanding of the field of Shakespeare studies shared in the week to week life of the course (20%)

#### Schedule of Readings

Week One/ September 3/ Shakespeare's Lives/Shakespeare in Love

Week Two: September 7-13. Romeo and Juliet/Shakespeare in Love

Week Three: September 14-20 Romeo and Juliet

Week Four September 21-27 Henry V

* Essay One due September 30

Week Five: September 28-October 4 Henry V/Julius Caesar

Week Six: October 5-11 Julius Caesar

Week Seven: October 12-18 Hamlet

Week Eight: October 19-25 Hamlet

Week Nine: October 26-November 1 Twelfth Night

* Mid Term Examination Due: October 31

Week Ten: November 2-8 Twelfth Night/Othello

Week Eleven: November 9-15 Othello

Week Twelve: November 16-22 The Winter's Tale

* Essay Two due November 22

Week Thirteen: November 23-29 (Thanksgiving week) The Winter's Tale

Week Fourteen: November 30-December 6 The Tempest

* Final Examination Due: December 20