ENGLISH 4716 - Shakespeare in London

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Description & Objectives
+ This course explores the life & work of William Shakespeare from historical, textual, critical, & performance perspectives. Instruction will be bolstered by work with academic & theatre professionals & supplemented with practical experiences & field work.

+ In this course you will...
  + learn the historical context of Shakespeare & his plays
  + acquire an understanding of Shakespearean textual production & reproduction
  + master basic terms & techniques of Shakespearean criticism through an examination of its history
  + consider the variety of Shakespearean performance both historically & in contemporary English culture

Texts & Materials
+ course packet + notebook & writing instrument + playtexts (TBA)

Course Requirements
+ Participation - As this is primarily an experience-based course, your participation & positive contribution are essential to successful completion of the class & to an enjoyable & productive experience in London. Prompt attendance & positive/proper decorum at all scheduled events is mandatory--YOUR OVERALL COURSE GRADE WILL DROP ONE FULL LETTER FOR EACH SCHEDULED CLASS PERIOD YOU MISS ALL OR PART OF (i.e. tardiness counts as a full missed class) REGARDLESS OF EXCUSE. The attendance policy is not negotiable. Scheduled events will be listed in your course packet & announced in class--you are responsible for planning travel & arrival times accordingly (slow trains/poor directions will not mitigate tardiness or absence). Positive contributions are defined on p. 2 of this syllabus & in your course packet. Class events may include:
  + Professional Workshops - Invited guest speakers, including theatre professionals & distinguished scholars will lecture on their fields of expertise. Guests may also conduct question-&-answer sessions &/or practical workshops. Students will be expected to fully participate in workshop activities by taking notes &/or taking part.

  + Live Performances - Students will attend several productions of plays by Shakespeare or related to Shakespeare studies. Performances will serve as the basis for discussions & written responses. Students will be asked to complete worksheets & answer written prompts as they attend performances.

  + Site Tours - The class will visit & tour several sites & areas related to Shakespeare’s historical & literary context. Tours will serve as the basis for discussions & written responses. Students will be asked to complete worksheets & answer written prompts during site visits.

  + Response Journal - Students will demonstrate & develop their newly acquired knowledge of terminology, history, critical technique & contextual issues via written considerations of class events. Responses will be used as the basis for in-class discussions. Written response notebooks (& any notes from subsequent discussion) will be submitted for grading at the end of specified class periods.

  + Edition Report - Students will purchase an edition of one of Shakespeare’s plays for examination & evaluation. Each student will prepare a report on their edition & a short presentation for class discussion.

  + Review Report - Students will read reviews of one of the performances attended by the class for comparison & contrast. Each student will prepare a report on their assigned reviews & a short presentation for class discussion.

  + Research Project - Upon return from the UK, students will complete a research project relating to their London experience. Topics will be discussed with & approved by the professor prior to departure from London. The project will be completed in stages, including preliminary bibliographies/ outlines, rough drafts, & final drafts. The research paper & bibliography are to follow MLA style (2009 update).

  + Exam - Students will complete one comprehensive exam at the conclusion of the period in London. The exam may include multiple choice, matching, short answer, identification, &/or essay components. Essay questions & study guides will be provided.
**Course Evaluation** - 1000 points possible (900 = A, 800 = B, 700 = C, 600 = D)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participation (including worksheets)</th>
<th>150 points</th>
<th>Response Journal</th>
<th>150 points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Edition Report</td>
<td>200 points</td>
<td>Review Report</td>
<td>200 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Project</td>
<td>200 points</td>
<td>Exam</td>
<td>100 points</td>
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**Course Disclaimers**

+ **Contract** - This syllabus constitutes an agreement between the student & the professor. Your continued enrollment in this course constitutes your agreement to abide by the terms of this syllabus. If changes must be made to any aspect of the syllabus, all students will be notified as soon as possible & the professor will explain the reason for any changes. Any changes will apply to all students.

+ **Content** - Courses in theatre & literature deal with works on the page & on the stage. Sometimes the situations, actions, & language of these works can be challenging & explicit. While every effort will be made to accommodate student sensitivities, please keep an open mind as you approach the course. You are encouraged to discuss any concerns with your professor.

**Course Policies**

+ **Decorum** - As a student in this course, you are a representative of your university & your country. In all class meetings (including group travel to & from events), proper behavior & dress is essential. Expectations will be outlined in detail prior to each event. Failure to adhere to these expectations will prove detrimental to your overall grade & may be grounds for dismissal from the course.

+ **Late Work** - Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the announced due date. Assignments will lose one full letter grade each day they are late, regardless of excuse. Assignments submitted more than one week late will not be accepted.

+ **Make Up Work** - Work can be made up only with proper documentation of emergencies approved by both the course professor & the director of the British Studies program. Please contact your professor in case of an emergency.

+ **Revisions** - Students may revise any work completed outside of class (with the exception of the Research Project) provided the work is submitted on time & completed by its original due date. If students wish to revise, they must complete a revision worksheet & discuss their revision with the professor prior to submitting revised work. Details of revision procedures will be contained within the course packet.

+ **Grade Challenges** - Any concerns regarding grading must be submitted in writing no later than one week after the assignment has been returned to the student. Concerns must be clearly stated with justifications as to the source of the concern.

+ **Incomplete Grades** - Incompletes will only be given in the case of emergencies documented & approved by both the course professor & the director of the British Studies program. Please contact your professor in case of an emergency.

+ **Academic Misconduct** - Cheating in all forms is strictly prohibited. All parties involved in the submission of plagiarized or copied work will be found equally guilty of academic misconduct under all circumstances, be they intended or unintended. It is the responsibility of the student to know, understand, & comply with policies on cheating & plagiarism. Penalties for cheating & plagiarism including failing the assignment, failing the course, &/or expulsion from the British Studies program.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategies for Success - Positive Contributions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>What should I do to achieve a positive outcome?</strong></td>
<td><strong>What will your professor do to help?</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>arrive on time to all classes at the correct location with required assignments &amp; materials</td>
<td>keep all students informed of the schedule through frequent reminders</td>
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<td>attend all class events in proper attire &amp; conform to proper standards of behavior for the event</td>
<td>advise students in advance regarding events &amp; proper decorum</td>
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<td>respond productively, thoughtfully, &amp; often in discussions &amp; written work</td>
<td>respect all points of view &amp; ensure that all opportunities are enjoyed equally by all students</td>
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<tr>
<td>engage attentively, respectfully, &amp; politely with all speakers, tours, workshops &amp; performances</td>
<td>offer background &amp; follow up material to aid your preparation &amp; assimilation of course experiences</td>
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