

Course Outline for:

Honors Shakespearean Literature (online)

Grade Levels:	12	
Assignments:	18 lessons	Credits: 5 units
Course Materials:	all online	
UC a-g Requirements:	b- English	

Course Description:

Students read two comedies and two tragedies of the William Shakespeare as well as several sonnets. They delve into biographical information on Shakespeare, answer questions about each day's reading, and write two essays. Students write their own Elizabethan-style sonnet. They also learn about the Globe Theatre, Shakespeare's use of iambic pentameter and investigate theories about The Bard's true identity.

Learning Objectives:

- Become familiar with the characteristics of different forms of Shakespeare, in particular, and dramatic literature, as a whole, (e.g., comedy, tragedy, drama, dramatic monologue).
- Compare and contrast the presentation of similar themes or topics.
- Realize how the selection of genre shapes a given theme or topic.
- Analyze interactions between main and subordinate characters in dramatic literature (e.g., internal and external conflicts, motivations, relationships, influences) and explain the way those interactions affect the plot.
- Determine characters' traits by what the characters say about themselves in narration, dialogue, dramatic monologue, and soliloquy.
- Compare works that express a universal theme and recognize evidence which supports the ideas expressed in each work.
- Analyze and trace Shakespeare's development of time and sequence, including the use of complex literary devices (e.g., foreshadowing, flashbacks).
- Recognize and understand the significance of various literary devices, including figurative language, imagery, allegory, and symbolism, and explain their appeal.

- Interpret and evaluate the impact of ambiguities, subtleties, contradictions, ironies, and incongruities in Shakespeare.
- Understand how voice, persona, and the choice of a narrator affect characterization, tone, plot, and credibility.
- Identify the function of dialogue, scene designs, soliloquies, asides, and character foils in Shakespeare.
- Analyze the way in which a given work of literature is related to the themes and issues of its historical period.
- Become familiar with and comfortable with Elizabethan English.

Course Outline:

Lesson 1: Introduction

- A) Response questions - Christopher Marlowe - questions
- B) Baines' Note - questions
- C) Shakespeare's identity - Iambic Pentameter - questions
- D) The sonnet - From Fairest Creatures We Desire Increase - questions

Lesson 2: Hamlet

- A) The Globe Theater - questions
- B) Acts I & II - questions
- C) Choose a sonnet - questions

Lesson 3: Hamlet, cont.

- A) Acts III & IV - questions
- B) Choose a sonnet - questions

Lesson 4: Hamlet, cont.

- A) Acts IV & V - questions
- B) Choose a sonnet - questions

Lesson 5: Hamlet - the Discussion

- A) Response questions
- B) Synopsis of play - questions
- C) 1-2 page essay assignment
- D) Choose a sonnet - questions

Lesson 6: A Midsummer Night's Dream

- A) Synopsis of play
- B) Acts I & II - questions
- C) Choose a sonnet - questions

Lesson 7: A Midsummer Night's Dream, cont.

- A) Review questions
- B) Acts III & IV - questions

C) Choose a sonnet - questions

Lesson 8: The Happy Ending of A Midsummer Night's Dream

- A) Acts IV & V - questions
- B) Create your own sonnet assignment

Lesson 9: Themes in A Midsummer Night's Dream

- A) Response questions
- B) Thematic essay assignment - questions
- C) Shakespeare & the Earl of Oxford - questions
- Choose a sonnet - questions

Lesson 10: Romeo and Juliet

- A) The Prologue - questions
- B) Act I - questions
- C) The Second Prologue - questions
- D) Choose a sonnet - questions

Lesson 11: Romeo and Juliet, cont.

- A) Act II & III - questions
- B) Choose a sonnet - questions

Lesson 12: Romeo and Juliet, cont.

- A) Acts III & IV - questions
- B) Choose a sonnet - questions

Lesson 13: The Conclusion of Romeo and Juliet

- A) Act V - questions
- B) Create your own sonnet assignment

Lesson 14: The Winter's Tale

- A) Background information - Acts I & II - questions
- B) Choose a sonnet - questions

Lesson 15: The Winter's Tale, cont.

- A) Acts II & III - questions
- B) Choose a sonnet - questions

Lesson 16: The Winter's Tale, cont.

- A) Acts III & IV - questions
- B) Choose a sonnet - questions

Lesson 17: The Conclusion of The Winter's Tale

- A) The final act - questions
- B) 2-3 page essay assignment

Lesson 18: A Final Look at Shakespeare

- A) Identity of Shakespeare - questions
- B) Biography & controversy - questions
- C) Transvaluation of Sonnet #73 - questions
- D) Survey