

English 33a
Shakespeare
Summer 2024

Office hours via zoom by appointment: <https://brandeis.zoom.us/j/701934794>

Class meets via zoom at: <https://brandeis.zoom.us/j/94168308115>

Class recordings available on request

Week by week schedule:

July 8: Introduction, *Midsummer Night's Dream*
9: *Midsummer Night's Dream* I-II
10: *Midsummer Night's Dream* III-V

July 15: *Twelfth Night*
16: *Merchant of Venice* I-II
18: *Merchant of Venice* III-V
19: *King Lear* I.1-ii (Please note this is a rescheduled class)

July 22: *King Lear* I-II
23: *King Lear* III
25: *King Lear* IV

July 29 *King Lear* V

This is the EARLIEST DAY you can hand in the first paper if you do two. (But you can choose to write just one longer paper, due on August 9 – see below.)

30 (Rescheduled to July 19)
August 1 (Rescheduled to August 8)

August 5 *Macbeth* 1-III
6 *Macbeth* III-V
8 *The Winter's Tale* (Rescheduled class)

Written work due by 11:59 P.M. Friday, August 9, but you can take an automatic extension till Sunday August 11 at 11:59 P.M.

Please note the paper requirements:

A *total* of 2,500 words, which you can do as one or two papers, and over which you have to discuss three Shakespeare plays, at least two from the syllabus. The first paper (if you're doing two) cannot be handed in until July 29; the final paper (whether you're doing one or two) cannot be handed in until August 9. If you do two papers, the shorter one has to be at least 500 words long.

Examples: First paper - 1,000 words on one *King Lear*; second paper 1,500 words on *Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Julius Caesar*.

Or one 2,500 word paper on those plays.

Or first paper: 500 words on *Twelfth Night* and *Coriolanus*; second paper: 2,000 words on *Macbeth*

Readings are the plays listed on the syllabus. You can use any version of Shakespeare *with notes* (as long as the language isn't "translated" into modern English). You can find such versions easily on the web: one good place, with cheap online editions is the Folger Shakespeare Library: <https://www.folger.edu/explore/shakespeares-works/all-works/> which you can get on Kindle as well. (Again, make sure if you go there that you buy the online edition with notes.)

Here are free copies with notes:

MND: https://shakespeare-navigators.ewu.edu/dream/Act_1_Scene_1.html

12th Night: https://www.google.com/books/edition/Twelfth_Night/yNbxF84eNYcC

Merchant:

https://www.google.com/books/edition/The_Works_of_Shakespeare_The_merchant_of_FCQkAAAAMAAJ

Lear: https://www.google.com/books/edition/The_Tragedy_of_King_Lear/qjQOAAAAYAAJ

Macbeth https://www.google.com/books/edition/The_Tragedy_of_Macbeth/iKEZAAAAYAAJ

Winter's Tale: https://www.google.com/books/edition/The_Winter_s_Tale/0ULs8UQtbysC

Course Coals: Increased familiarity with Shakespeare: as a story-teller and a craftsman, and with the career of a radically experimental playwright whose innovations are now central to performative story-telling (stage and screen especially) world-wide.

Grading: A total of 2,500 words of writing, which you can hand in as one paper or as two. In the course of those 2,500 words you should discuss at least three different Shakespeare plays, and at least two of those should be plays from this syllabus. Thus you can write one paper on a single play and one paper on two plays, or one long paper on three plays, or one paper on two plays and a second paper on two plays (one of which could be a repeat from the first), etc. The main thing is to write about a total of at least three plays this summer, at least two of which we will have discussed in class.

Class participation is not *required* but it can help you enormously, so you should regard it as a standing and tremendous chance for the extra credit you might need to put you over the top for a considerably better grade.

Academic Honesty: Don't plagiarize or cheat. Cite all your sources. **Don't try to have ChatGPT (or any AI) do your work for you – I've already caught people doing that and while you might get away with it it'll be a disaster for you if you don't.**

IT IS REALLY IMPORTANT THAT YOU DON'T CHEAT.

Most (not all!) of us faculty members tend to be soft touches when it comes to giving extensions; and we tend to be easy or charitable graders when we can be. We're a generous demographic! But the one place where faculty tend to be really inflexible and punitive is with plagiarism – which includes using ChatGPT as a source. We're like this because we mostly went into teaching out of idealism – not for the pay, you can bet! And so we feel particularly wounded in our idealistic ambitions when the students we are really trying to get to think and even to be excited about thinking through something new treat us and the course as only a means to getting a grade so that plagiarism is okay. It's not. Please don't.

The rest of this syllabus will be familiar boiler plate which we're strongly recommended to include, and I do so with great joy.

Accommodations

Brandeis seeks to welcome and include all students. If you are a student who needs accommodations as outlined in an accommodations letter, the university seeks to support you. **In order to provide test accommodations, I need the letter more than 48 hours in advance.** Accommodations cannot be provided retroactively. If you have questions about documenting a disability of requesting accommodations, please contact Student Accessibility Support (SAS <https://www.brandeis.edu/accessibility/>) at 781.736.3470 or access@brandeis.edu.”

Academic Integrity

Every member of the University community is expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. A student shall not submit work that is falsified or is not the result of the student's own effort. Infringement of academic honesty by a student subjects that student to

serious penalties, which may include failure on the assignment, failure in the course, suspension from the University or other sanctions (see section 20 of R&R). Please consult Brandeis University Rights and Responsibilities for all policies and procedures related to academic integrity. Students may be required to submit work to TurnItIn.com software to verify originality. A student who is in doubt regarding standards of academic honesty as they apply to a specific course or assignment should consult the faculty member responsible for that course or assignment before submitting the work. Allegations of alleged academic dishonesty will be forwarded to the Department of Student Rights and Community Standards. Citation and research assistance can be found at [Brandeis Library Guides - Citing Sources](https://guides.library.brandeis.edu/c.php?g=301723) (<https://guides.library.brandeis.edu/c.php?g=301723>).

Student Support

Brandeis University is committed to supporting all our students so they can thrive. The following resources are available to help with the many academic and non-academic factors that contribute to student success (finances, health, food supply, housing, mental health counseling, academic advising, physical and social activities, etc.). Please explore the many links on this [Support at Brandeis](https://www.brandeis.edu/support/undergraduate-students/browse.html) page (<https://www.brandeis.edu/support/undergraduate-students/browse.html>) to find out more about the resources that Brandeis provides to help you and your classmates to achieve success.

Course Materials

If you are having difficulty purchasing course materials, please make an appointment with your Student Financial Services or Academic Services advisor to discuss possible funding options and/or textbook alternatives.

Library

[The Brandeis Library](https://www.brandeis.edu/library) collections and staff offer resources and services to support Brandeis students, faculty and staff. These include workshops, consultations, collaboration, materials and instruction on emerging trends in technologies such as machine learning, emerging trends in research such as data visualization, and emerging trends in scholarship such as open access. Librarians at the Circulation Desk, Research Help Desk, Archives & Special Collections, Sound & Image Media Studios, MakerLab, AutomationLab, and Digital Scholarship Lab are available to help you. <https://www.brandeis.edu/library/about/index.html>