



## ELIT 17 Introduction to Shakespeare

*Will Power! The plot thickens around religion, sex, royalty, and mystery in the great works of Shakespeare*  
Why is William Shakespeare considered one of the greatest playwrights of all time? Why do we still read, analyze, and enjoy him today? How do his themes transcend time, place, culture, and language? These are the questions we will try to answer during this class together.

**Instructor:** Julie Pesano (She/Her)

**Contact:** Preferred: Canvas Course In Box on far left margin of our Canvas page  
OR

**E-mail Address:** [pesanojulie@fhda.edu](mailto:pesanojulie@fhda.edu) or [jpesano@gmail.com](mailto:jpesano@gmail.com) (gmail is a bit more reliable)

**Office:** On Campus F61L (near the turtle sculpture)/ I'll be on campus on Wednesdays only.

**Office Hours:** Zoom office hours are by-appointment only, on Monday -Thursday 12:30-1:30pm. Please email for appointment 24 hours in advance.

OR

E-mail anytime. Please allow 24 hours for a response during weekdays and 48 hours during weekends.

### Canvas Course Platform:

This course uses the Canvas course management system. This is an entirely asynchronous course, meaning we will not meet in person or on Zoom at any time. You will submit all of your assignments on Canvas. The Canvas page for this course is available by logging into <https://deanza.instructure.com> using your MyPortal login credentials (your student ID and password that you use to register). You will see a “tile” for the course on your dashboard. There is also a Canvas app for your phone, which I *highly recommend* you download. Please note that some of the features are limited in the phone app as well as a tablet, so you should not plan on using your phone or tablet alone for the class; access to a computer will be necessary. If you have any problems accessing the site, I suggest contacting [tech support \(ETS\) by clicking here](#). Make sure to read all the weeks’ modules and do not just rely on completing your “to do” list. The modules are meant to simulate our class lectures, and you will need to know all this information to adequately complete the assignments for points.

**Course Advisory:** Eligibility for EWRT 1B, EWRT 2, *or* ESL 6.

**Honors Cohort:** This class also has the option to take as an honors class. This means you will complete an extra honors project, present for our first group presentation, and receive an honors designation on your transcript. To qualify, you must obtain clearance from the Honors Coordinator, Tom Nguyen [NgyuenTom@fhda.edu](mailto:NgyuenTom@fhda.edu) and get an add code from me. If you are interested, please request the honors project guidelines. Here’s an information video with more details.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MCrvQmrFBcg&feature=youtu.be> (Links to an external site.)

**Required Texts:** William Shakespeare, *Hamlet*

William Shakespeare, *Macbeth*

William Shakespeare, *Much Ado About Nothing*

William Shakespeare, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

(I prefer the Folgers Edition of the Previous texts, but you may use any edition you like)

**Other Supplemental Texts:** These are texts I'll often reference. You don't need to buy unless you'd like.

*The Friendly Shakespeare* by Norrie Epstein (approachable and fun)

*Shakespeare After All* by Marjorie Garber (insightful lectures from Harvard and Yale)

*Shakespeare's World* by D.L. Johanyak (helpful resource about Elizabethan culture)

*The Bedford Companion to Shakespeare* by Russ McDonald (another solid source for presentation information)

*Shakespeare's Words: A Glossary and Language Companion* by David Crystal and Ben Crystal (Very thorough dictionary of Shakespeare's language)

### Goals:

- Interpret Shakespeare's writings in their social, intellectual, and literary contexts.
- Understand the audience expectations of dramatic performance, comedy, tragedy, history and sonnet in Shakespeare's time and our own.
- Examine the social and cultural roles and stereotypes in Shakespeare's writings.
- Compare the dilemmas faced by Shakespeare's characters to those presented by the modern world.
- Closely examine Shakespeare's use of language.
- Develop and compare alternative interpretations of and approaches to the texts.

### Grading:

Scale: 97-100%=A+, 93-96%=A, 90-92%=A-, 87-89%=B+, 83-86%=B, 80-82%=B-, 77-79%=C+, 70-76%=C, 67-69%=D+, 63-66%=D, 60-62%=D-, 59% and below=F

A final grade for the course will be assigned on the basis of performance in the following areas:

Quizzes: 20% (Weekly multiple-choice quizzes)

Discussion Posts: 20% (Weekly posts)

Historical Presentation: 20%

Midterm 20%, Final Exam: 20%

Extra Credit Options: 1 extra credit maximum (added into quiz section of grade)

- Modern movie adaptation of one of our class plays (turn in 1 page critique) – 5 points

- Read one of the Modern Perspective Critiques at end of Folgers Edition (turn in 1 page critique) – 5 points

**Late Work:** You are required to complete all assignments on the due date. Late assignments will receive a point deduction depending on the amount of the assignment and the number of days late (in other words, turn in your assignments on time!) Computer issues, Wifi connection, sickness, etc. are not an excuse. Late assignments will be graded late.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is the use of ideas, facts, opinions, illustrative material, data, direct or indirect wording of another scholar and/or writer – professional or student – without giving proper credit. AI (like ChatGPT) generated essays also constitute plagiarism as the work is not the student's own. If a student is found guilty of plagiarism, he/she will receive a zero for the assignment.

**Conduct:** Please respect your classmate's opinions, participation, and opportunity for success and please respect the work necessary to complete this course. For more information on conduct online (Netiquette), see the canvas course website. Any Discord groups associated with the class are expected to comply with De Anza course Netiquette.

## **De Anza Student Resources:**

### **Student Success Center**

Need help with this course? Want to more personal connections this quarter? Student Success Center tutors and workshops are ready for you! Watch the [SSC Welcome Video](#) to learn more.

**Tutoring:** Go to <http://deanza.edu/studentsuccess> and click to join a Zoom tutoring room during open hours.

**Workshops:** Attend a [Skills Workshop](#), a [content-specific math/science workshop](#), an [Accounting chapter review workshop](#), or a [Listening and Speaking workshop](#).

**Resources:** Join the [SSC Resources Canvas site](#) to see content and learning skills links.

**After-hours or weekend tutoring:** See the [Online Tutoring](#) page for information about NetTutor (via Canvas) or Smarthinking (via MyPortal).

### **De Anza Library**

Most of your research can be found on the online databases <http://www.deanza.fhda.edu/library/>

### **Helpful MLA and Writing Guide**

There are many online writing resources available. The one we will use in class together [OWL at Purdue](#). Please familiarize yourself with this website and plan to refer to it throughout the quarter.

### **Undocumented Students**

This is a challenging time to be an undocumented student. First, I want to be very clear that **you belong here**—in this class, at De Anza, and in the broader community. There are many, many people who believe this and we will do everything we can to support you.

Second, I want to call your attention to De Anza's **Resources for Undocumented Students**. Check out this website: <https://www.deanza.edu/students/undocumented.html> (Links to an external site.)

And let me know if you have any questions or concerns. I can help!

### **De Anza College DSPS**

De Anza College views disability as an important aspect of diversity and is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. Disability Support Services (DSS) is the campus office that collaborates with students who have disabilities to provide and/or arrange reasonable accommodations. If you have, or think you have, a disability in any area such as, mental health, attention, learning, chronic health, sensory, or physical, please contact DSS to arrange a confidential discussion regarding equitable access and reasonable accommodations. If you are registered with DSS and have accommodations set by a DSS counselor, please be sure that your instructor has received your accommodation letter from **Clockwork** early in the quarter to review how the accommodations will be applied in the course. Students who need accommodated test proctoring must meet appointment booking deadlines at the Testing Center. DSS

Location: RSS Building, Suite 141, Phone: 408-864-8753 On the web: <http://www.deanza.edu/DSS/> (Links to an external site.) Email: [DSS@deanza.edu](mailto:DSS@deanza.edu)

### **De Anza College Mental Health**

Life at college can get very complicated. You may sometimes feel overwhelmed or lost. You may experience stress, anxiety or depression, or struggle with relationship difficulties. Many of these issues can be effectively addressed with a little help. Psychological Services helps students cope with difficult emotions and life stressors. Psychological Services is staffed by experienced, professional psychologists and counselors, who are attuned to the needs of college students. **The services are FREE and completely confidential.** Find out more at <http://deanza.edu/psychologicalservices/> (Links to an external site.) or by calling 408-864-8868.

### **Food Pantry**

The De Anza College Food Pantry is available to any De Anza student who qualifies for assistance. To be eligible, students must have a student ID and meet the [income guidelines](#) (Links to an external site.) for the Emergency Food Assistance Program (EFAP). The Food Pantry is located in the [Outreach Office](#) (Links to an external site.) (Seminar 3 Building). **Food Pantry Hours - Monday – Friday 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.** Questions? Contact the Outreach Office at [outreach@deanza.edu](mailto:outreach@deanza.edu) or 408.864.8327. Or visit this website: [https://www.deanza.edu/outreach/food\\_pantry.html](https://www.deanza.edu/outreach/food_pantry.html) (Links to an external site.)

**Important Dates:** (see <http://www.deanza.edu/calendar/>)

September 25

First day of Fall quarter classes

October 6

Last day to [add classes](#)

October 6

Last day to [drop classes](#) with a no record of grade

November 17th

Last day to drop classes with a W.

Welcome to the class. Please let me know if you have any questions. I encourage you to throw your heart into the learning, and the grade will follow. I look forward to working with and learning from all of you. JP