

**University of Puerto Rico  
Rio Piedras Campus  
College of Humanities  
English Department**

**English 3165:** Shakespeare in Performance  
Time: Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.  
Professor: Nemesio Gil, Ph.D.  
English Dept. #: (787) 764-0000 ext. 89611

Year: January-May 2019  
Classroom: P-105  
Email: [nemesio.gil@upr.edu](mailto:nemesio.gil@upr.edu)  
Office Hrs.: By appointment

Course Description: This course has a total of 45 hours/3 credits (credit hours). It aims to introduce students to the art and craft of performing Shakespeare. Specifically, it draws the technical and performative differences between screen and stage acting, directing, lighting, etc. In addition, it targets critical analysis of the Shakespearean text as main source of theoretical and practical debate.

Text: “No Fear Shakespeare” <http://nfs.sparknotes.com> contains William Shakespeare’s plays in side-by-side original and modern English versions.

Methods of Evaluation:

**EXAMS (200 pts.)**

There will be a total of **6 exams representing 6 individual plays to be read beforehand**. Students will sit in class for about a 3-hour exam per play. The exams will test students’ comprehension, critical analysis, story and character assessment, etc. for each play. Please, be advised that these will be extremely rigorous exams with a 10-minute break at around 10:30am when students must have completed the first part of the exam. After the break, students will move on to the second part. ALL students (including OAPI students) without exception will have until NOON to complete the rest of the exam. If anyone in particular finishes before that time, he or she will be installed in the “Avengers Hall of Fame.” Otherwise, take your time to concentrate and answer all questions in the time given. More details in class.

**ORAL DISCUSSIONS (80pts.)**

The following week after the exam there will be a group oral discussion, analysis, and breaking down of the play assigned in order to assess comprehension and interpretation of the texts. Setting, characters, plot, theme, etc. will be analyzed and discussed. Students may bring their notes and research into the discussion, but the grade will depend on their individual ability to engage in critical analysis and debate of play in question. After the break, the professor will discuss the clips that pertain to the visual section of the class. More details in class.

**ATTENDANCE (20 pts.)**

This is a Fridays-only course. Continuous attendance is required for the successful completion of the semester. Students will receive a series of readings and/or YouTube videos (via email) as research background for class discussion. Students are required to read, research, and be prepared to discuss findings in class. See “Rules of the Game” for specific guidelines on attendance. NO EXCEPTIONS. More details in class.

**TOTAL:** 300 pts./3 = 100pts = A, B, C, D, F

**(over)**

**\*\*Los estudiantes que reciban servicios de Rehabilitación Vocacional deben comunicarse con el/la profesor/a al inicio del semestre para planificar el acomodo razonable y equipo asistido necesario conforme a las recomendaciones de la Oficina de Asuntos para las Personas con Impedimento (OAPI) del Decanato de Estudiantes. También aquellos estudiantes con necesidades especiales que requieren algún tipo de asistencia deben comunicarse con el/la profesor/a al inicio del curso.**

#### Rules of the Game:

Once the professor reviews the rules of the course with students during the first week of class, they will sign in a sheet the week after as evidence of discussion.

1. **ABSOLUTELY NO** electronic devices (cellular, laptop, tablet, etc.) will be allowed during class. They must be **TURNED OFF** and in your back bags **AT ALL TIMES**. A deduction of 5 pts. from your **TOTAL FINAL GRADE** will apply automatically **PER EVENT** if you are caught sending messages or with your device at eyesight. Please, do not leave the class carrying your cellular to go to the “restroom.” Send and/or receive calls and texts before, during the break, or after the class has finished. **NO EXCEPTIONS. Curiously, it is precisely during class when cellulars start to receive an avalanche of texts and/or emergency calls.**

2. Since the course is only on Fridays, a **ONE-ABSENCE LIMIT with or without written notice** (e.g., doctor’s note) will be allowed without penalties. A deduction of 5 pts. from your final grade will be applied after **EACH ABSENCE** thereon. This is to ensure fairness in class attendance. Please, do not expect extra consideration for trips or events that you had planned beforehand. More than one absence will affect the final grade. This will show consideration for everyone in class and without preferences. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

3. **NO MAKE-UP EXAMS. NO EXCEPTIONS.** Make arrangements to take them the day assigned. Again, exams are **NOT** replaceable. Since an exam lasts the whole class, it must be completed the day and time assigned. Not before, not after. **See this rule as if you were a student in Naturales, where there is absolutely NO make-up exams for the feared and famous Departamentales.** Again, this rule will be enforced **WITHOUT EXCEPTIONS.**

4. An “A” is “sobresaliente”. Students who obtain this final grade have worked with as much effort as **impossible** in order to shine above the rest. Please, be advised you cannot just “breeze” through a course that requires a **LOT** of reading, critical analysis, and oral debate. Be ready to excel.

5. **RESPECT** your classmates and the university’s personnel and property. Purposeful inappropriate language, sexism, racism, bullying, etc. will not be allowed in class.

6. An alternative study modality of 11.25 hours may be employed during the semester and completed online as it might become necessary, except for in-class exams which are to be taken **in-class, in person, live, as described above.**

**(over)**

**ENGLISH 3165: SHAKESPEARE IN PERFORMANCE 2019**

**Course Schedule (subject to change if due to any UPR eventful situation, etc.)**

**Week 1**

Introduction

Film acting vs. stage acting discussion

**Week 2**

Biography and facts

Homework Discussion: Biography

Lecture: "Performing Shakespeare in cinema and TV"

**Weeks 3**

Test #1

*Macbeth*

**Week 4**

*Macbeth* Discussion + Clips (including Kurosawa)

**Weeks 5**

Test #2

*Julius Caesar*

**Week 6**

*Julius Caesar* Discussion + Clips

**Week 7**

Test #3

*Richard III*\*\*\* (this play is a humungous endeavor)

**Week 8**

*Richard III* Discussion + Episode from Amazon

**Week 9**

Test # 4

*Hamlet*

**Week 10**

**HOLIDAY**

**Friday March 22, 2019**

**Week 11**

*Hamlet* Discussion + Clips (including the Japanese one)

**Week 12**

Test #5

*Romeo and Juliet*

**Week 13**

*Romeo and Juliet* - Discussion of written work

**Week 14**

**HOLIDAY**

**Friday April 19 (Holy Weekend)**

**Week 15**

Test # 6

*The Comedy of Errors*

**Week 16**

*The Comedy of Errors* Discussion + Clips

**Week 17**

**Last day of class: Wed. May 8, 2019 substitutes a Friday  
(To be determined)**

**Have a great summer!**

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