

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

Prof. Wilfredo R. Santiago Hernández

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Course Title: Shakespeare in Performance

Course Code: INGL-3165

Credits: 3 credits per semester / 3 class hours

Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:30 PM - 3:50 PM.

Classroom: P-105

Office Hours: Mondays Wednesdays and Fridays from 1:30-2:30 through Moodle chat.

Course Description:

Shakespeare in Performance is a course that introduces students to the performative aspects of the poet's works. The main goal of the course is to teach students how to judge the quality of modern performances against its text. During this online course the students will analyze the technical and performative differences between screen and stage acting, directing, lighting and all the other elements that portray the visuality of his plays. In each performance the students will use the original text as the main theoretical framework for analysis and discussion.

Texts: The Norton Shakespeare (Third Edition) by Stephen Greenblatt gen. ed.

Online Text: "No Fear Shakespeare" <http://nfs.sparknotes.com>

Audiovisual Material: BBC Shakespeare's Plays for principal course purposes. With the addition of other films, clips and performances for discussion exercises*

*Provided the time the professor will provide other performance examples.

Evaluation:

There will be a total of 6-7 plays to be covered in the course which will be evaluated by means of **forums/synchronic student lead discussions, one 3-page response paper** based on text and performance analysis, **one mid-term exam, oral performances of selected scenes** and a **final compare /contrast (6-8 page) essay** at the end of the course. Further details on each method of evaluation will be discussed in class. * **There will also be surprise online quizzes if the professor deems it necessary.**

Class Activities/ Participation	20%
Performances/ Mid-Term Exam	25%
Response Paper (1)/Student lead discussions	25%
Final Paper	30%
Total:	100%

Law 51:

In accordance with the recommendation of the Dean of Students Office (Division for Persons with Disabilities), students who are clients of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester in order to make arrangements for reasonable accommodations and for any necessary auxiliary equipment. Other students with special needs who require any kind of assistance or reasonable accommodations should also contact the professor

Attendance:

Given that this involves emergency remote teaching assisted by technology, attendance will be evaluated in two ways for the successful completion of the semester/class. One will be through the attendance to synchronous sessions through Google Meets/ Big Blue Button. The seconds will be done through Moodle discussion forums and activities. There is a three synchronic session/forum discussion absence limit (6 contact hours). After these, the student may lose as much as 5% from your final grade after each absence after that. This is to ensure fairness and responsibility in class attendance.

Disclaimer: Prof. Wilfredo R. Santiago-Hernández is not responsible for the lack of internet services, computers, devices, hotspot problems on your part, or power outages in your area.

- ✚ If you experience any of these problems, UPR-RP students can make appointments to go on campus to use computers, printers, access reliable internet services, and visit available libraries. For appointments, please contact the dean of Student Affairs (decanatoestudiantes.rp@upr.edu).
- ✚ If you find yourself far from the campus there are technological services provided by different municipalities, “Acceso a la tecnología cerca de tí” ([Iniciativas-de-Apoyo-en-Municipios.pdf \(uprrp.edu\)](#)).
- ✚ If you encounter technical Difficulties with MIUPI, NEXT portal, or Microsoft Office, please contact the Help Desk (help.desk@upr.edu).
- ✚ If you encounter them with Moodle please contact: ayuda.moodle@upr.edu

Grading System

- A 100 – 90
- B 89 – 80
- C 79 – 70
- D 69 – 60
- F 59 – 0

Academic Integrity Policy:

The University of Puerto Rico promotes the highest standards of academic and scientific integrity. Article 6.2 of the UPR Students General Bylaws (Board of Trustees Certification 13, 2009-2010) states that academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to: fraudulent actions; obtaining grades or academic degrees by false or fraudulent simulations; copying the whole or part of the academic work of another person; plagiarizing totally or partially the work of another person; copying all or part of another person answers to questions of an oral or written exam by taking or getting someone else to take the exam on his/her behalf; as well as enabling and facilitating another person to perform the aforementioned behavior. Any of these behaviors will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the disciplinary procedure laid down in the UPR Students General Bylaws.

Gender and Sexual Identity Discrimination Policy:

The UPR prohibits discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity in any of its forms, including that of sexual harassment. According to the Institutional Policy Against Sexual Harassment at the UPR Certification Num. 130, 2014-2015 from the Board of Governors, any student subjected to acts constituting sexual harassment must turn to the Office of the Student Ombudsperson the Office of the Dean of Students, and/or the Coordinator of the Office of Compliance with Title IX for an orientation and/or formal complaint.

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

Week 1 (Jan. 19-21)

- ✚ Introduction
- ✚ Film acting vs. stage acting exercise/discussion **Due Jan 25.**

Week 2 (Jan 26-28)

- ✚ Biography and facts on Shakespeare's life
 - *The Life and Times of William Shakespeare* (2015) Film on Plex
- ✚ Elizabethan Theatre, Performance and History
- ✚ Approaches to analyze Shakespeare's performances.
- ✚ Student lead discussions.

Weeks 3 (Feb. 2-4)

- ✚ *A Midsummer Night's Dream*
- ✚ Elements of Shakespearean Comedy

✚ Discussion Forum **Due Feb.8.**

Week 4 (Feb. 9-11)

✚ A Midsummer Night's Dream discussion + Clips

✚ **Scene analysis post Due Feb.16**

Weeks 5 (Feb. 16-18)

✚ History of the Globe Theatre.

✚ *As You Like It*

✚ Staging discussion forum **Due Feb. 22**

Week 6 (23-25)

✚ *As You Like it* Discussion

✚ Response Paper **Due March 4.**

Week 7 (Mar. 4)

✚ Shakespearean histories and elements of Tragedy

✚ *Julius Caesar*

✚ Acts 1-3 scene analysis Forum **Due March 8.**

Week 8 (Mar. 9-11)

✚ *Julius Caesar* Discussion + Other adaptations*

✚ **First scene performances due March 16.**

Week 9 (Mar.16-18)

✚ *Hamlet*

✚ *Hamlet* through the centuries presentation.

Week 10 (Mar.23-25)

✚ **Mid-Term**

Week 11 (Mar. 30)

✚ *Hamlet* Discussion

✚ Soliloquy exercise **Due April 5.**

Week 12 (Apr. 6-8)

✚ The Elements of Tragicomedies

✚ *The Tempest*

✚ Character analysis forum **Due April 13.**

Week 13 (Apr. 13-15)

- + *The Tempest* Discussion of text vs. adaptations
- + **Second scene performances**

Week 14 (Apr. 20-22)

- + *All's Wells That End's Well*
- + **Final paper Outline and Rubric discussion.**

Week 15 (Apr. 27-29)

- + **Class online roundtable and Final paper abstract/summary due**
- + **Shakespeare and Performance today.**

Week 16 (May 4-6)

- + **Final Paper Due May 10**

Time distribution:

Synchronous Videoconferences: Once a week every Tuesday

(22.5 hours* may vary if needed)

Moodle assignments/ projects, activities and groupwork: Weekly on Thursdays

(22.5 hours* may vary)

Total: **45 hours**

Video Conference Rules:

1. The weekly video conferences will be recorded to serve as a helpful tool for any student to go back and rewatch excerpts of class discussions. Given this, I will alert the class when the recording begins. If you do not desire to be recorded, I will pause the recording if you desire to speak at any given moment. Meanwhile, maintain your camera off and audio while the recording is taking place.
2. When logging in to these sessions, please turn your camera off and mute your microphone. This will help maintain a good bandwidth connection throughout and you will only activate your camera/microphone when you participate in these.
3. When logging in to these sessions please greet/add your name to the session chat. This will serve as part of the criteria for assistance to the course.
4. Please wait your turn to speak! We can't all talk at once, so patiently wait your turn to speak.

Bibliography

- Asimov, Isaac. *Asimov's Guide to Shakespeare*. Gramercy Books, 2003.
- Barton, John. *Playing Shakespeare*. Methuen Drama, 1989.
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- Burt, Richard. "Slammin Shakespeare In Acc(Id)Ents Yet Unknown: Liveness, Cinem(Edi)a, and Racial Dis-Integration." *Shakespeare Quarterly*, vol. 53, no. 2, 2002, pp. 201–225., doi:10.1353/shq.2002.0019.
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- Spencer, Terence John Bew, et al. "William Shakespeare." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., <https://www.britannica.com/biography/William-Shakespeare>.
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- Massai, Sonia. *World-Wide Shakespeares: Local Appropriations in Film and Performance*. Routledge, 2005.

The Oxford Companion to Shakespeare. Oxford University Press, 2001.

Shakespeare, William, et al. The Norton Shakespeare. W.W. Norton, 2008.

Weingust, Don. Acting from Shakespeare's First Folio: Theory, Text, and Performance.
Routledge, 2006.