

SPRING 2022

STUDIES IN SHAKESPEARE

Dr. Sarah
Higinbotham

Oxford College
of Emory University

"I am the man"

Viola, Twelfth Night

For over 400 years, Shakespeare's plays have awed, inspired, and shocked audiences: challenging us to contemplate our identities, the government, romantic love, family conflict, law, and even language itself in new ways. They are works of enormous ambition and profound beauty. The course will study three plays that explore --- among many other things --- social expectations of gender and identity.

sarah.higinbotham@emory.edu
Office Hours:
MW 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Humanities Hall 203

Class meets
MW 1:00 - 2:15 p.m.
Perce Hall 239



Lynn Collins.
as Portia



Imogen Stubbs.
as Viola



Emma Thompson
as Beatrice

[Canvas](#)

[Dr. Higinbotham's website](#)

We Should Disagree

I think most of what I have learned that is of any consequence has come through disagreement and further exploration. I welcome your respectful disagreements with me. If we all interpret the articles we are reading in the same way, we have a problem, because no true thinking will be occurring.

Learn to relish when someone disagrees with you! Disagreements make the classroom environment more interesting, productive, generative, and challenging.

Our classroom is not Plato's Cave.

Please note, though, that the college classroom is a place where ideas are exchanged respectfully. I look forward to an environment where this will occur, but I don't have much tolerance for distracting behavior, such as rudeness, texting, sleeping, or side communications during class. If your participation is disruptive to the classroom discussion, if it creates a hostile, intimidating, or offensive environment, you are subject to removal from the classroom at my discretion.

See [Emory Oxford's Code of Conduct](#)



You may revise any of your projects

The ability to **accept and act on criticism** is one of the most valuable abilities you can develop. Can you hear constructive criticism with an open mind, build on lessons learned, and make revisions in response to suggestions?

Then I will assess your revised project a second time.

A revision isn't just a quick fix of the obvious errors, but a **"re-vision,"** or **another look** at your project, in which you address feedback. If you choose to revise, it can only help, not hurt your grade. The revision must be emailed to me within one week and include a cover letter, in which you explain to me what and why you revised what you did.

Classroom Policies

In the Zoom Classroom

One of the ways we can foster proximity -- like we have in the physical classroom -- is to all be engaged in Zoom. So I'm making your participation in our Monday/Wednesday Zoom meetings worth 30% of your overall grade.

For every class day:

25 points: camera on entire class (one 5 minute break allowed)

50 points: each point or question you make, in chat or aloud, 25 points each (up to two)

25 points: interacting with another person, by building on or pushing back against their earlier point. You must name them, i.e. "*I want to push back against Catherine's suggestion that Hero has no agency.*" or "*I agree with what Shreya said about the humor in the play, and want to add that...*"

Keep track of your comments and submit them within each class day's Participation/quiz assignment. I'll keep track of your camera. So the quiz submission will look like this:

**I asked why the history plays were so popular
I read out loud from *Much Ado About Nothing*
I pushed back on Jack's claim that Shakespeare is too existential**

If you are sick and cannot attend class, you may 1) watch the recorded Zoom video, 2) write a 500-word reflection on the day's reading and discussion, quoting the day's text at least twice and citing it in ML format.

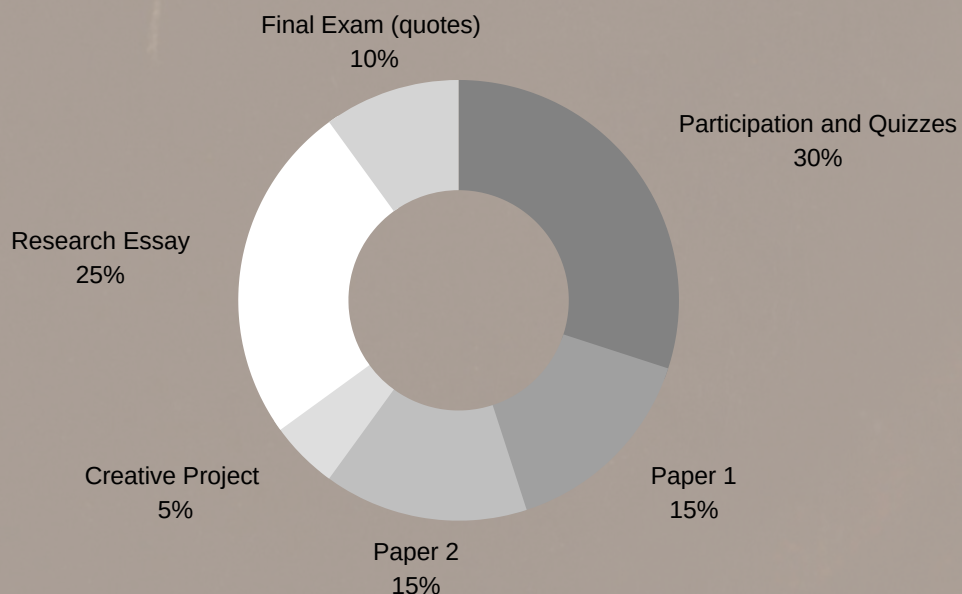
[See Zoom Engagement Policies Here](#)

Important Note on Academic Integrity:

Plagiarism, from the Latin word for "kidnapping," is presenting another person's work as your own.

When you use someone else's language, ideas, images, or other original material without fully acknowledging its source, you will be in violation of [Emory Oxford's Honor Code](#).

Every assignment will have specific, clear guidelines. While the work itself will be challenging, you should never be confused about what is expected or how it will be evaluated. If you do, please ask questions in class, email, or come see me.





Weekly Schedule

COMPLETE READING BEFORE
YOU COME TO CLASS

Jan 12 Introduction to Shakespeare, introductions to each other

Jan 17 - no class MLK

Jan 19 *Much Ado About Nothing*, act 1 ([PDF here](#))

Jan 24 *Much Ado About Nothing*, act 1

Jan 26 *Much Ado About Nothing*, act 2

Jan 31 *Much Ado About Nothing*, act 3

Feb 2 *Much Ado About Nothing*, acts 4-5

Feb 7 Workshop paper 1

Come with physical book of *Merchant of Venice* for a quiz grade

Feb 9 Jared Faircloth, letters / **Paper 1 due (data mining)**

Feb 14 **No Class (dean candidate): Creative Project Due: Shakespeare's playlist (if you choose MAAN)**

Feb 15 Shakespeare Watch Party Humanities Hall 202

Feb 16 *Merchant of Venice*, act 1

Feb 21 **No Class (dean candidate)**

Feb 23 *Merchant of Venice*, act 2

Feb 28 *Merchant of Venice*, act 3

March 2 **No Class (Dr. H in Montana)**

March 7 - Spring Break

March 9 - Spring Break

March 14 *Merchant of Venice*, acts 4-5 **Creative Project Due: Shakespeare's playlist (if you choose Merchant)**

March 16 Finish *Merchant*

March 21 **Paper 2 due (film analysis)**

March 23 *Twelfth Night*, act 1

March 28 *Twelfth Night*, act 2

March 30 *Twelfth Night*, act 3

April 4 *Twelfth Night*, act 4

April 6 *Twelfth Night*, act 5 **Creative Project Due: Shakespeare's playlist (if you choose Twelfth Night)**

April 11 **present on article in groups**

April 13 **peer review**

April 18 **research essay due**

April 20 TBA

April 25 last class - quotation exam