

ENG 3304

Spring 2026

Dr. Xinyuan Qiu

Office hours: 3:30 – 5:30 pm Tuesday

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Shakespeare

Class Time: Tuesday 6 – 8:45 pm

Description

This course introduces you to Shakespeare's tragedy, history, comedy, and romance. We will read seven plays: *Hamlet*, *King Lear*, *Henry IV*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Twelfth Night*, and *The Tempest*. Through close reading, lectures, discussion, and performance, you will learn to understand the literary texts in their social and cultural contexts and interpret Shakespearean plays from various perspectives. You will also learn how stage and theater mean in terms of Shakespeare over the years by comparing the plays and their performances in different media.

Student Learning Outcomes

After taking this course, students will be able to

- Understand Shakespearean plays in their social and cultural contexts
- Interpret Shakespeare from a variety of perspectives
- Comprehend Shakespeare in the contexts of stage, theater, and new media
- Orally communicate ideas related to recurring themes, characters, and different genres
- Make analysis of literary texts through close reading that leads to relevant questions and arguments
- Read texts across the boundaries of media and time



English (Undergraduate) Student Learning Outcomes

Graduating students will demonstrate that they can

- SLO 1 – construct documents that demonstrate unity, organization, coherence, and development, and are grammatically correct.
- SLO 2 – analyze and interpret literary works by applying principles of critical thinking, literary criticism, or theoretical engagement.
- SLO 3 – produce researched documents that demonstrate the ability to locate a variety of credible sources, employ them effectively through quotations and paraphrases, integrate them smoothly into the writer’s own prose, and document them correctly using the style appropriate to the document.

Marketable Skills

- Students will communicate effectively in writing and speaking.
- Students will use different research strategies to address problems and develop ideas that engage a variety of perspectives.
- Students will recognize how social and cultural contexts shape meaning and language.

Texts

You can purchase a copy of the reading texts from the university bookstore or any other platform. You may also use the Folger Shakespeare Library: [Shakespeare's works | Folger Shakespeare Library](#)

- ❖ Reading the texts alongside the audios can profoundly help you understand the text.

Reading	Audio
<i>Hamlet</i>	Hamlet - The Complete Shakespeare - SN Audiobooks - Multiple Subtitles - High-Res - 4K
<i>Henry IV, Parts I and II</i>	Part I: Henry IV, Part I - The Complete Shakespeare - SN Audiobooks - Multiple Subs - High-Res - 4K Part II: Henry IV, Part II - The Complete Shakespeare - SN Audiobooks - Multiple Subs - High-Res - 4K
<i>King Lear</i>	King Lear - The Complete Shakespeare - SN Audiobooks - Multiple Subtitles - High-Res - 4K
<i>The Taming of the Shrew</i>	The Taming of the Shrew - The Complete Shakespeare - SN Audiobooks - Multiple Subs - High-Res - 4K
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	A Midsummer Night's Dream - The Complete Shakespeare - SN Audiobooks - Multiple Subs - High-Res - 4K

<i>The Tempest</i>	<u>The Tempest - The Complete Shakespeare - SN Audiobooks - Multiple Subtitles - High-Res - 4K</u>
<i>Twelfth Night</i>	<u>Twelfth Night - The Complete Shakespeare - SN Audiobooks - Multiple Subs - High-Res - 4K</u>

Movie/stage adaptations

These adaptations on screen and stage are listed here to give you a better understanding of the texts. Watching the performance helps you learn the characters and their lines.

Hamlet

- *Hamlet* (1948), film directed by Laurence Olivier,
<https://www.bing.com/videos/riverview/relatedvideo?q=hamlet+laurence+olivier+full+movie&&mid=A05757E5EE70AD53BD13A05757E5EE70AD53BD13&FORM=VAMGZC>
- *Hamlet* (2009), directed by Gregory Doran, available on Amazon Prime Video
- *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* (1990), film directed by Tom Stoppard
<https://www.bing.com/videos/riverview/relatedvideo?q=rosencrantz+and+guildenstern+are+dead+full+movie&&mid=C78BBDBA2B9AB33E633DC78BBDBA2B9AB33E633D&FORM=VAMGZC>

King Lear

- *King Lear* (2015), stage directed by Antoni Cimolino, available at
<https://www.primevideo.com/detail/King-Lear/0NLT6BLCK8C2W0HNGNNNIEMN9R>
- *King Lear* (2008), TV film directed by Trevor Nunn
[King Lear - Ian McKellen - 2008 - Multiple Subtitles - Remastered 2024 - 4K](#)

Henry IV

- *The Hollow Crown*, Season 1, Episode 2
<https://www.amazon.com/The-Hollow-Crown-Season-1/dp/B01MSKFPUM>
- *The King* (2019), film directed by David Michod, available on Netflix

A Midsummer Night's Dream

- *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (1968)
[A Midsummer Night's Dream - Judi Dench - Helen Mirren - Diana Rigg - Ian Holm - 1968 - Restored 4K](#)
- Stage, Rice University "[A Midsummer Night's Dream](#)" presented by Rice University Department of Visual and Dramatic Arts

The Tempest

- *The Tempest* (2017), stage directed by Gregory Doran, watch at [Watch The Tempest | Prime Video](#)
- *The Tempest* (2010), film directed by Julie Taymor, Prime Video [Watch The Tempest | Prime Video](#)

Twelfth Night

- *Twelfth Night* (1996), film directed by Trevor Nunn, [Watch Twelfth Night \(1996\) | Prime Video](#)
- *She's the Man* (2006), directed by Andy Fickman [Watch She's The Man | Prime Video](#)

The Taming of the Shrew

- *The Taming of the Shrew*, stage, [Watch The Taming of the Shrew | Prime Video](#)

Time Commitment

To make accomplishments in this course, you are expected to do a fair amount of reading. All the plays are required to be read. Planning ahead and dividing the reading homework into daily work will help you make steady progress and finish the readings on time. Besides, reading along with the audios can help you focus and understand the texts. Use the stage/screen adaptations well to understand the texts.

Assignments

Attendance -----	10%
Participation -----	15%
Analytic essay -----	15%
Comparative essay -----	15%
Stage project -----	45%
• Play script 1 -----	10%
• Play script 2 -----	10%
• Stage proposal -----	10%
• Performance -----	15%

Schedule

Week 2 Jan 20	Discussion: <i>Hamlet</i> , Acts 1 – 3
Week 3 Jan 27	Discussion: <i>Hamlet</i> , Acts 4 – 5

Week 4 Feb 3	Discussion: <i>Henry IV</i> , Part I, Acts 1 – 4
Week 5 Feb 10	Discussion: <i>Henry IV</i> , Part I, Act 5 – Part II, Act 2
Week 6 Feb 17	Discussion: <i>Henry IV</i> , Part II, Acts 3 – Epilogue
Week 7 Feb 24	Discussion: <i>King Lear</i> , Acts 1 – 3
Week 8 Mar 3	Discussion: <i>King Lear</i> , Acts 4 – 5
	Movie watching: <i>Ran</i> (1985), film directed by Akira Kurosawa https://tubity.com/movies/100034458/ran
Mar 4	Play script 1 due
Week 9 Mar 10	No class (spring break)
Week 10 Mar 17	Discussion: <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> , entire play
March 18	Analytic essay due
Week 11 Mar 24	Movie watching and discussion: <i>Get Over It</i> (2001)
	Discussion: <i>The Tempest</i> , Acts 1 – 3
Mar 25	Comparative essay due
Week 12 Mar 31	Discussion: <i>The Tempest</i> , Acts 4 – 5
	Discussion: <i>Twelfth Night</i> , Act 1
Week 13 Apr 7	Discussion: <i>Twelfth Night</i> , Acts 2 – 5
	Discussion: <i>The Taming of the Shrew</i> , Induction – Act 2
	Movie watching and discussion: <i>Ten Things I Hate About You</i> (1999)
Week 14 Apr 14	Discussion: <i>The Taming of the Shrew</i> , Acts 3 – 5
	Movie watching and discussion: <i>Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf</i> (1966)
Apr 15	Play script 2 due
	Stage proposal due
Week 15 Apr 21	Movie watching and discussion: <i>Shakespeare in Love</i> (1998)
Week 16 Apr 28	Stage projects showcase

Policies For Attendance and Participation

Attendance

To engage in this course, you are supposed to attend classes. Attendance will be taken at the start of each class. Though some laxity will be granted to emergencies, you are supposed to email me beforehand or afterwards with justifiable reasons if you are going to be or have been absent.

Participation

Attending and sitting in classes silently will not give you credit for participation. To obtain credit, you are supposed to engage actively in class and group discussions. There will be sessions that start with a go-round-classroom discussion. This is a good opportunity for you to make contributions.

AI Policy

All assignments should be fully prepared by the student. Developing strong competencies in the skills associated with this course, from student-based brainstorming to project development, will prepare you for success in your degree pathway and, ultimately, a competitive career. Therefore, the use of generative AI tools, without prior permission, to complete any aspect of assignments for this course is not allowed and will be treated as plagiarism. If you have questions about what constitutes a violation of this statement, please contact me.

ADA Statement

SRSU Accessibility Services. Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. Students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Mrs. Mary Schwartze Grisham, LPC, SRSU's Accessibility Services Director or Ronnie Harris, LPC, Counselor, at 432-837-8203 or email mschwartze@sulross.edu or ronnie.harris@sulross.edu. Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall, room 112, and our mailing address is P.O. Box C122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas, 79832.

Student Responsibilities

All full-time and part-time students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the Student Handbook and the Undergraduate & Graduate Catalog and for abiding by the University rules and regulations. Additionally, **students are responsible for checking their Sul Ross email as an official form of communication from the university**. Every student is expected to obey all federal, state and local laws and is expected to familiarize him/herself with the requirements of such laws.

SRSU Distance Education Statement

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website.

Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires a secure login. Students enrolled in distance education

courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website. Directions for filing a student complaint are located in the student handbook.

Academic Integrity

Students in this class are expected to demonstrate scholarly behavior and academic honesty in the use of intellectual property. Students should submit work that is their own and avoid the temptation to engage in behaviors that violate academic integrity, such as turning in work as original that was used in whole or part for another course and/or professor; turning in another person's work as one's own; copying from professional works or internet sites without citation; collaborating on a course assignment, examination, or quiz when collaboration is forbidden. Students should also avoid using open AI sources unless permission is expressly given for an assignment or course. Violations of academic integrity can result in failing assignments, failing a class, and/or more serious university consequences. These behaviors also erode the value of college degrees and higher education overall.

Classroom Climate of Respect

Importantly, this class will foster free expression, critical investigation, and the open discussion of ideas. This means that all of us must help create and sustain an atmosphere of tolerance, civility, and respect for the viewpoints of others. Similarly, we must all learn how to probe, oppose and disagree without resorting to tactics of intimidation, harassment, or personal attack. No one is entitled to harass, belittle, or discriminate against another on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, age, gender, national origin, or sexual preference. Still, we will not be silenced by the difficulty of fruitfully discussing politically sensitive issues.

Supportive Statement

I aim to create a learning environment for my students that supports various perspectives and experiences. I understand that the recent pandemic, economic disparity, and health concerns, or even unexpected life events may impact the conditions necessary for you to succeed. My commitment is to be there for you and help you meet the learning objectives of this course. I do this to demonstrate my commitment to you and to the mission of Sul Ross State University to create a supportive environment and care for the whole student as part of the Sul Ross Familia. If you feel like your performance in the class is being impacted by your experiences outside of class, please don't hesitate to come and talk with me. I want to be a resource for you.

Helpful Resources on Campus

❖ Libraries

The Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library and Archives of the Big Bend in Alpine offer FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, library.sulross.edu/. Off-campus access requires logging in with your Lobold and password. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email (srsulibrary@sulross.edu), or by phone (432-837-8123).

No matter where you are based, public libraries and many academic and special libraries welcome the general public into their spaces for study. SRSU TexShare Cardholders can access additional services and resources at various libraries across Texas. Learn more about the TexShare program by visiting library.sulross.edu/find-and-borrow/texshare/ or ask a librarian by emailing srsulibrary@sulross.edu.

Mike Fernandez, SRSU Librarian, is based in Eagle Pass (Building D-129) to offer specialized library services to students, faculty, and staff. Utilize free services such as InterLibrary Loan (ILL), ScanIt, and Direct Mail to get materials delivered to you at home or via email.

Contact:

- srsulibrary@sulross.edu
- srsuarchives@sulross.edu
- Eagle Pass (D-129) Front Desk: 830-758-5035

❖ Counseling

Sul Ross has partnered with TimelyCare where all SR students will have access to nine free counseling sessions. You can learn more about this 24/7/365 support by visiting Timelycare/SRSU. The SR Counseling and Accessibility Services office will continue to offer in-person counseling in Ferguson Hall room 112 (Alpine campus), and telehealth Zoom sessions for remote students and RGC students.

❖ Tutoring Center

The Lobo Den Tutoring Center offers FREE tutoring support to help you excel in your courses. Whether you need assistance in Writing, Math, Science, or other subjects, we're here to help!

Important Information:

- Drop-in and Scheduled Appointments: Flexible options to fit your needs.
- Hours of Operation: Monday–Friday, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM.
- Workshops: Attend our regularly hosted academic workshops on STEM topics and professional development, often in collaboration with specialized faculty.
- Location: BWML Room 128.

- Contact Us: For more information or to book an appointment, email tutoring@sulross.edu or call (432) 837-8726. Looking for additional support?
- Tutor.com offers FREE 24/7 online tutoring in over 200 subjects, including specialized support for ESL and ELL learners with native Spanish-speaking tutors.
- Access Tutor.com via Blackboard: Log in to your Blackboard account to get started anytime, anywhere.

Take advantage of these valuable resources to boost your confidence and performance in your classes. We look forward to helping you succeed