English 117 and English 198: 
Shakespeare, Live!

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Course Description
Shakespeare’s plays were written to be performed in London, and so it isn’t surprising 
that London and its surrounding areas are the best places in the world to experience live 
Shakespeare. In this course we will read five plays and see at least this many in a variety 
of theaters, including at Shakespeare’s Globe Theatre (a reconstruction of the original 
theater where Shakespeare’s plays were first performed) and at Stratford-upon-Avon 
(Shakespeare’s birthplace and the home of the Royal Shakespeare Company). We will 
also visit numerous Shakespeare-related sites in London, including the South Bank and 
the Tower of London. Class meetings will generally take place Monday through 
Thursday, 9:30 AM-12 PM, so that you will have long weekends free to explore London 
and travel elsewhere in the British Isles or on the continent, which can easily be reached 
by train. Occasionally, class may be held alongside or during a field trip, and we may go 
later than 12 PM on some days or end early on others. Finalized readings and 
performances will be announced in early 2015.

Assignments/Expectations
117 assignments:
- In-class/out of class writing  50%
- Final exam  25%
- Scene performance  10%
- Participation/attendance  20%
You are expected to attend all of our class meeting, to 
read the plays carefully, and to 
complete all writing assignments. If you regularly neglect any of these obligations, you 
will fail the course.

198 assignments:
In addition to attending all field trips and play performances, you will be responsible for 
keeping a journal where you write down your responses to plays we read and see; your 
reactions to London (as they relate to Shakespeare); quotations you like from the plays 
we read; and any other ideas you have that relate to the course materials. Be sure to 
consider writing about not only activities and texts assigned for the class but anything 
you discover that might relate to Shakespeare. For instance, if you see a quote from a 
Shakespeare play on the Tube (London’s subway) or in a newspaper, write about it. If 
you meet someone at a pub who talks to you about Shakespeare, write about it. Note that 
the journal is not meant to be a personal diary or a place for your course notes. You will 
want separate notebooks for those purposes. I will ask to see your journals, usually 
without warning, at least once during the course. Important: if you lose your journal, you 
will not pass 198, so you might consider occasionally photocopying what you’ve written 
if you fear you might lose it.
**Texts:** You may use any edition of the plays as long as it has notes (glosses on particular words or phrases) as well as act, scene, and line numbers. It will be most convenient to buy separate paperback editions of the plays (e.g., Penguin or Folger editions), which are cheap and easy to carry around London, rather than a complete works, which will be a pain to lug around. If you’re unsure about whether your edition is acceptable, check with me.

**Plagiarism:** We take plagiarism very seriously. Most students know that copying word for word from another source—*even as few as two or three words*—constitutes plagiarism. Plagiarism also means that the ideas and concepts that you represent as your own are not, in fact, the fruit of your labor. Plagiarism is the act of taking credit for other writers’ ideas, information, or language, without acknowledging *explicitly* the source. You must be careful to document your use of sources (both internet and print) and your indebtedness to other people’s work. It is also plagiarism to recycle your own work from other courses. Please see the Code of Academic Conduct for procedures with regard to plagiarism. You are responsible for understanding what constitutes plagiarism; ignorance of the definition of plagiarism does not constitute a valid defense.

**Incompletes:** Specific rules and procedures govern the granting of an Incomplete; if you have not done the required work for the course, you will not automatically receive an Incomplete.

**SCHEDULE (tentative)**
*Unless otherwise noted, meetings will be held at 9:30 AM at FIE. Details of the plays and performances will be updated as information becomes available about the 2015 theater season.*

Sat., 6/20 Walking Tour with Residence Life Staff of your Kensington neighborhood (5 PM)
Sun., 6/21 Coach Tour of London (outside your residence). The Guide will lead you on a whistle stop tour of London. (time TBD)
Tues., 6/23 Play #1 (TBD) needs to be read before class.
Wed., 6/24 Discuss Play #1 SEE Play #1 at Theater TBD
Thurs., 6/25 Discuss performance of Play #1
Mon., 6/29 Visit Hampton Court Palace
Tues., 6/30 Play #2 (TBD) needs to be read before class.
                SEE Play #2 at Theater TBD
Wed., 7/1 Discuss performance of Play #2
Play #3 *Othello* needs to be read before class.
Thurs. 7/2 Train trip to Stratford-upon-Avon:
10:15 AM: workshop on *Othello* with actors from the Royal Shakespeare Company.
1:15 PM SEE Royal Shakespeare Company *Othello*

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon. 7/6</td>
<td>Discuss <em>Othello</em></td>
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<td>Tues., 7/7</td>
<td>Play #4 needs to be read before class.</td>
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<td>Wed., 7/8</td>
<td>Tour of the Globe and Walking Tour of Southwark</td>
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<td>See Play #4 at the Globe</td>
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<td>Thurs., 7/9</td>
<td>Discuss performance of Play #4</td>
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<td>Mon., 7/13</td>
<td>Play #5 needs to be read before class</td>
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<td>Tues., 7/14</td>
<td>Tour of the Tower of London</td>
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<td>See Play #5 at Theater TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed., 7/15</td>
<td>Discuss performance of play #5.</td>
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<td>Journals due in class.</td>
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<td>Thurs., 7/16</td>
<td>Final Exam (hand in exam at our pub dinner party</td>
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