

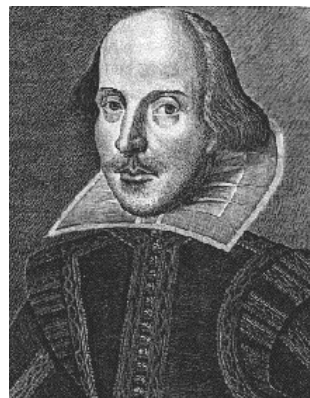
ENGL 2221
 CRN 3325
 Spring Quarter, 2019
 T & R 2:00 – 3:50 pm
 Nagel Hall 102
<https://canvas.du.edu/login/ldap>

W. Scott Howard
 Sturm Hall 387-E
 English & Literary Arts
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 Office Hours: by appointment

Shakespeare Seminar
Infinite Jest: Hamlet's Multiverse

“To the Reader”

This Figure, that thou here seest put,
 It was for gentle Shakespeare cut,
 Wherein the Graver had a strife
 With Nature, to out-doo the life:
 O, could he but have drawne his wit
 As well in brasse, as he hath hit
 His face; the Print would then surpass
 All, that was ever writ in brasse.
 But, since he cannot, Reader, looke
 Not on his Picture, but his Booke.



—Ben Jonson’s commendation of Martin Droeshout’s portrait of William Shakespeare in the 1623 *First Folio* of Shakespeare’s works.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course places *Hamlet* within context of Shakespeare’s time and our own, amplifying the play’s transcultural and transdisciplinary legacy from the earliest performances to recent productions in London, Paris, New York, and Denver; from legendary Nordic sources to Shakespeare’s *foul papers*, quarto texts, and First Folio; and from the cosmologies of Heraclitus, Ptolemy, and Copernicus to the quantum entanglements of Hawking, Barad, and Rovelli. We will follow Hamlet’s journey as a quest ‘after’ *Hamlet* across centuries & continents, through adaptations & archives, paying close attention to the poetics & praxis of mediating and remediating Shakespeare’s works. This course integrates critical theoretical methods with these intersecting paths of study, emphasizing the materiality of Hamlet’s multiverse. Campus activities will include guest presentations from DU Faculty from Archives & Special Collections, Theatre, Astronomy, Emergent Digital Practices, and Philosophy; plus two community-engagement events in collaboration with Genghis Kern Letterpress & Design (from Denver) and with Letterpress Depot (from Englewood) respectively highlighting works from our Shakespeare fine press & artist books collection at the Anderson Academic Commons; and studio internships & volunteering opportunities.

BOOKS (required):

Greenblatt, Stephen. *Will In The World: How Shakespeare Became Shakespeare*. New York: Norton, 2016.

ISBN: 9780393352603

Gunderson, Lauren. *The Book of Will*. Dramatists Play Service, 2018.

ISBN: 9780822237723

Ronk, Martha. *why why not*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2003.

ISBN: 0520238117

Rovelli, Carlo. *Seven Brief Lessons on Physics*. Trans. Simon Carnell and Erica Segre. New York: Penguin, 2014.

ISBN: 9780141981727

Shakespeare, William. *Hamlet*. Ed. Ann Thompson and Neil Taylor. London: Arden, 2006.

ISBN: 9781472518385

Stoppard, Tom. *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*. New York: Grove, Press, 1967.

ISBN: 0802132758

Wallace, David Foster. *Infinite Jest*: twentieth anniversary edition. New York: Little, Brown and Co., 2016.

ISBN: 9780316306058

BOOKS (recommended):

Drucker, Johanna. *Graphesis: Visual Forms of Knowledge Production*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2014.
ISBN: 9780674724938

Rovelli, Carlo. *The Order of Time*. Trans. Simon Carnell and Erica Segre. New York: Riverhead Books, 2018.
ISBN: 9780735216105

Sexton, Adam, and Tintin Pantoja. *Shakespeare's Hamlet: The Manga Edition*. Hoboken: Wiley Publishing, 2008.
ISBN: 9780470097571

Other Materials: to be announced and freely provided

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING:

One Commonplace Book*	30%
Four Essay** (5 pages each)	40%
One Project***	30%

*Commonplace Book—that is, a handwritten notebook—in which you engage consistently with our work, responding to in-class prompts as well as following your own path through the course. Between 75 and 100 words per response for each day of our scheduled class meetings. Some of these passages will be written during class; others, between meetings. You should be prepared to read aloud from these passages (upon request) during class meetings. In addition, you will occasionally be required to post transcriptions of and elaborations upon some of these passages in discussion forums via Canvas; and you should also be prepared to read aloud from those texts (upon request) during class meetings. Guidelines for all of your Commonplace Book activities will be provided during class meetings and also in writing (after each class meeting).

**Guidelines will be provided during class meetings and also in writing (two weeks before each due date).

***Guidelines will be provided during class meetings and also in writing (during week three). Project proposals (approvals required) will be due during week six.

Note on attendance: For each unexcused absence, your final grade in the class will be diminished by -0.5.

Note on assignments: Unless otherwise specified (and with the exception of your works that will be facilitated via Canvas) assignments are due at the beginning of class in hard copy form: typed, double-spaced, 1” margins, 12-point TNR font, pages stapled. Assignments deviating from these guidelines will be considered late. Work submitted late will receive a deduction of -0.5 per day.

Note on grading: *The Check System.* I'll be grading your Essays with a check system that will follow these guidelines. A check plus on all your Essays will translate into a grade of 4.0/A for that percentage of your overall grade in the course. Each check will reduce your grade for that component of your overall grade by -0.5. Each check minus, by -1.0; each missing Essay, by -2.0. If you ever receive less than a check plus, you will have the option to revise and resubmit the work for a higher grade. Those revisions, attached to the first versions, will be due by the beginning of the next class meeting. ***The Point & Letter System.*** I'll be grading your Commonplace Book and your Project with a point & letter system corresponding to this scale: A (4.0-3.9); A- (3.8-3.5); B+ (3.4-3.2); B (3.1-2.9); B- (2.8-2.5); C+ (2.4-2.2); C (2.1-1.9); C- (1.8-1.5); D+ (1.4-1.2); D (1.1-0.9); D- (0.8-0.5); F (0.4-0).

Note on plagiarism: Students are expected to submit original work for all assignments. Plagiarism will result in an automatic F in the course.

CILCA / PRAXIS Event (during the second half of the quarter on a weekday night; details forthcoming). Attendance and participation will count for extra credit; guidelines forthcoming.

Letterpress Depot Event (during the second half of the quarter; details forthcoming). Attendance and participation will count for extra credit; guidelines forthcoming.

CALENDAR (subject to changes):**Week 1**

4/2 *Hamlet // Will in the World*

4/4 *Hamlet // Will in the World*

Week 2

4/9 Jason Wedekind and Jeff Shepherd
Genghis Kern Design & Letterpress
<https://www.genghiskern.com/>
AAC 340 (The Loft Classroom)
Katherine Crowe, Special Collections & Archives
<https://library.du.edu/collections-archives/specialcollections/>

4/11 Shakespeare Fine Press & Artists Books
<https://library.du.edu/>
“fine press and artists books” Shakespeare
Hamlet // Will in the World // The Book of Will // First Folio // Hamlet Quartos

Week 3

4/16 *Hamlet // Will in the World // The Book of Will // First Folio // Hamlet Quartos // Cosmological texts (TBA) // Rovelli*

4/18 Meeting Location (TBA) // **Essay #1 Due** // Project Guidelines // *Hamlet // Will in the World // The Book of Will // First Folio // Hamlet Quartos // Cosmological texts (TBA) // Rovelli*

Week 4

4/23 Shakespeare born (1564) Stratford-upon-Avon
Rick Barbour, Department of Theatre
<https://www.du.edu/ahss/theatre/facultystaff/rickbarbour.html>
Byron Theatre
<https://www.du.edu/ahss/theatre/byronflex.html>

4/25 Shannon McKinney, Department of Theatre
<https://www.du.edu/ahss/theatre/facultystaff/shannonmckinney.html>
Byron Theatre
<https://www.du.edu/ahss/theatre/byronflex.html>

4/26 Shakespeare baptized (Holy Trinity Church) Stratford-upon-Avon
Shakespeare dies (1616) Stratford-upon-Avon

Week 5

4/30 *Hamlet // Infinite Jest // Cosmological texts (TBA) // Rovelli*

5/2 Paul Hemenway, Physics & Astronomy
<https://physics.du.edu/>
Hamlet // Infinite Jest // Cosmological texts (TBA) // Rovelli

Week 6

5/7 **Essay #2 Due** // *Hamlet // Infinite Jest // Cosmological texts (TBA) // Rovelli // why why not*

5/9 **Project Proposals Due** // *Hamlet // Infinite Jest // Cosmological texts (TBA) // Rovelli // why why not* // “if you love me, hold not off” by Emily Berman, <https://ifyouloveme-holdnotoff.tumblr.com/>



Week 7

5/14 *Hamlet // Infinite Jest // Cosmological texts (TBA) // Rovelli // why why not //*
 “if you love me, hold not off” by Emily Berman, <https://ifyouloveme-holdnotoff.tumblr.com/>
Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead

5/16 *Hamlet // Infinite Jest // Cosmological texts (TBA) // Rovelli // Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead //*

Week 8

5/21 **Essay #3 Due** // *Hamlet // Infinite Jest // Cosmological texts (TBA) // Rovelli // why why not // Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead // Will in the World // The Book of Will // First Folio // Hamlet Quartos // Graphesis //* “if you love me, hold not off” by Emily Berman, <https://ifyouloveme-holdnotoff.tumblr.com/>

5/23 *Hamlet // Infinite Jest // Cosmological texts (TBA) // Rovelli // why why not // Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead // Will in the World // The Book of Will // First Folio // Hamlet Quartos // Graphesis*

Week 9

5/28 *Hamlet // Infinite Jest // Cosmological texts (TBA) // Rovelli // why why not // Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead // Will in the World // The Book of Will // First Folio // Hamlet Quartos // Graphesis*

5/30 **Essay #4 Due** // *Hamlet // Infinite Jest // Cosmological texts (TBA) // Rovelli // why why not // Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead // Will in the World // The Book of Will // First Folio // Hamlet Quartos // Graphesis // Hamlet & popular culture*

Week 10

6/4 **Commonplace Books Due** // *Hamlet // Infinite Jest // Cosmological texts (TBA) // Rovelli // why why not // Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead // Will in the World // The Book of Will // First Folio // Hamlet Quartos // Graphesis // Hamlet & popular culture*

6/6 *Infinite Jest: Hamlet’s Multiverse*

Week 11

6/13 **Projects Due**



“Reading Shakespeare” by Lauren Mulkey.
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