

ENGL 520: What We've Done With Shakespeare: Cultural Adaptations and Appropriations of the Bard in Film, Art, Comics, and Social Media

Dr. Joseph P. Haughey
Fall 2016 | Thursdays 6:30-9:00 pm



“We know what we are, but know not what we may be.”

This semester-long study will examine our historical collective cultural response to the works of William Shakespeare. We will begin with a brief overview of Shakespearean adaptation in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, then focus significantly on film adaptations (film will comprise some 60-75% of our work) in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries (working through examples from the silent era to the present) and then consider how other types of media (painting, comics, audio recordings, radio broadcasts, internet memes, and social media) have helped shape twentieth and twenty-first century understandings of Shakespeare's plays. We will also talk about Shakespeare's reciprocal relationship with the American classroom, how his works have been adapted and shaped historically by teachers and schools as well as how schools have shaped broader cultural perceptions of the bard. This is an ideal course for those interested in Shakespeare, theater, cultural studies, film history, and/or education.

Please contact Dr. Haughey via email with questions: haughey@nwmissouri.edu