Digital Exhibit Project

For your final project, you will use the ArtSteps platform to create a digital exhibit on the Shakespearean work of your choice. **Your exhibit may focus on any play, poem, or sonnet (or set of sonnets) not read for class**, and should use secondary research, the primary text(s), visuals (which you select—you don't have to create them yourself, though you certainly can), and even the space of the gallery itself to generate a guided tour that **makes and supports an individual claim/opinion, developed by the student, about the selected work**. Don't worry, we'll take it in baby steps! (*See below for Process Work assignments and deadlines.*)

The organization of the exhibit, its contents, and its argument are completely up to you as the composer and curator.

That said, your exhibit should, **at a minimum**:

- Make and support a clear claim, opinion, and/or argument generated by the composer (that's you!);
- Include **at least six (6)** objects, images, artifacts, videos, etc. that illustrate and/or support the argument the overall exhibit is making;
- Include **at least six (6)** wall labels, written by the student, that explain the significance, interest, or import of the selected artifacts (etc.) and/or that analyze the artifacts to and for the audience;
- **Consider the space and organization** of the exhibit and how the composer (still you!) can use both the construction of the exhibit and **the guided tour feature** to help the audience move through the space—viewing the artifacts in a particular order—in a way that helps further the communication of the composer's overall point;
- Attend to both the opening and closing of the exhibit, with an eye to clear communication and persuasion;
- **Cite all sources used** (ideally at the end of the tour and, when applicable, in the label text) using MLA, Chicago, or APA style; and
- Use **at least four (4) secondary sources [at least two (2) of which must have been published in the last 20 years]** in the composition of the wall label texts, the selection of artifacts, and/or the support of the composer's overall claim or argument.

YOUR OBJECTIVES:

- DEMONSTRATE AN UNDERSTANDING OF AND DEVELOP AN OPINION ABOUT A WORK BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE;

- USE SECONDARY RESEARCH AND MULTIPLE MODES OF COMPOSITION TO CONSTRUCT A COMPELLING ARGUMENT;

- CONSIDER HOW TO COMPOSE FOR AND USE THE HUMANITIES TO SHARE INSIGHTS WITH A GENERAL AUDIENCE; AND

- DEVELOP OUR SKILLS IN ANALYSIS, EVIDENCE SELECTION, TEXTUAL ORGANIZATION, EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE, PROBLEM SOLVING, AND CREATIVE AND CRITICAL THINKING.

Elements of the Rhetorical Situation:
Topic: a Shakespearean work not read for class
Angle: *determined by the student*

Context: the ArtSteps platform, digital and semi-public educational space

Purpose: to make a claim or support an argument, generated by the student composer, about the selected Shakespearean work

Audience: the general public – this means that you will need to write clearly and concisely with an eye to informing and persuading a broad audience, making sure that your wall label texts are accessible and communicate effectively

TIP: you might think of this like a multimedia essay: you'll want to include all the usual parts (a thesis statement, evidence, analysis/explanation, citations, and a conclusion), you're just presenting them in a way that uses visuals and space as part of the communication process.

Assistance and Other Resources:
- **Sample ArtSteps Exhibit:** https://www.artsteps.com/view/5cc85f510bd7e53875641e29
- **ArtSteps User Guide (created by Prof. Elizabeth Lastra, University of Hong Kong):** http://middleagesforeducators.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Lastra-Artsteps-User-Guide-1.pdf
- **NB:** I will also be making you a "using ArtSteps" intro video, which will be available on Bb

Deadline: Your final draft is due to your Instructor by **Noon (ET), May 5th** (to submit, upload a document containing the link to your exhibit via the portal on Bb)

Final Project Process Work

In order to ensure that you are prepared to generate a masterwork for your final project, there are several "process work" tasks and deadlines that crop up during the semester. Each process work task will be graded on completion, and the grades will be averaged together to form your "Final Project Process Work" grade for the course.

Process Work Task 1 – Text Selection
Submit your text choice to your Instructor via Bb
Task 1 Deadline: Friday, February 5th

Process Work Task 2 – Starting Research
*Upload the citations for **at least two (2)** secondary sources related to your text to Bb*
Task 2 Deadline: Friday, February 19th

Process Work Task 3 – Research Notes
*Submit research notes (in which ever manner is most beneficial to you—this could be anything from an informal annotated bibliography to photos of notes written in margins or a notebook while you are reading). Your notes will need to cover **at least four (4) sources** and **at least two (2)** of those should be scholarly sources. Additionally, **at least two (2)** of your four sources must have been published **in the last 20 years**. (Upload via Bb)*
Task 3 Deadline: Friday, March 5th

Process Work Task 4 – Argument Draft
Submit a rough draft of your thesis statement for your exhibit along with a list of three to five (3-5) artifacts you might include in support of that thesis. (Upload via Bb)
Task 4 Deadline: Friday, March 19th

Process Work Task 5 – Exhibit Rough Draft
Submit a link to your digital exhibit—all you need to have in there right now is a tentative layout (so, maybe a few walls), a rough opening set up, and at least one placed artifact. (You're not committed to any of these choices, this is just to get you started! Submit the link via the portal on Bb)
Task 5 Deadline: Friday, March 26th

Process Work Task 6 – Final Countdown
Sketch out what you need to do finish up, when you're going to try to tackle those tasks, what you're going to do to reward yourself as you go, and then list any questions you have for your Instructor. (Submit via Bb)
Task 6 Deadline: Friday, April 9th

Q&A Final Exam

For your final exam, you will each take time to view one another's digital exhibits ahead of our Zoom meeting/final and will compile a list of questions, comments, and commendations for your peers (the topic being, unsurprisingly, their exhibits). The final itself will be structured like a Q&A at an academic conference, and students will participate in discussion about one another's work with an eye to helping further develop both the projects themselves and the class as a scholarly community.

Your final will take place at 11 AM (Eastern) on Tuesday, May 4th (via Zoom)