



BASIC PROGRAM of LIBERAL EDUCATION FOR ADULTS
September, 2024
Deep Dive: Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra*

COURSE INFORMATION		
COURSE TITLE Deep Dive: Shakespeare's <i>Antony and Cleopatra</i>	CODE & SECTION BASC 80037 24U1	LENGTH OF COURSE 3 weeks Sept. 3 to Sept. 17
COURSE SCHEDULE: DAYS: Tuesdays 9:30am to 11:00am	CLASS LOCATION Online	INSTRUCTOR Clare Pearson EMAIL: cepearson@uchicago.edu

Remote courses require you to login to Canvas to access the Zoom Classroom. **You will receive an invitation to join Canvas about a week before your course begins.** Please visit <https://grahamschool.uchicago.edu/academic-programs/online/learning-resources/liberal-arts> to find Canvas login instructions, Zoom instructions, and student training sessions.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Antony and Cleopatra, a relatively late play by Shakespeare, is a powerful work that stands out for its complexity and scope as well as for the challenge it presents to norms of tragedy. Meant as a second reading of the play, in this class we will engage in a close reading of the text, supplemented by passages from Plutarch, including the life of Antony and the passages from the life of Julius Caesar describing Cleopatra (via handout) and with historical background. We will focus on the play's use of history, it's presentation of the politics of middle-aged love and intertwined political ambition, and the ways in which it subverts the audience's expectations. We will use the Norton Critical Edition of the play; some readings from the supplemental materials will be recommended. Please read the Plutarch passages (on Canvas) and Acts 1 and 2 for the first class.

REQUIRED TEXTS

- William Shakespeare, *Antony and Cleopatra: A Norton Critical Edition*, W. W. Norton & Company; First Edition (June 15, 2011), ISBN 978-0393930771

WEEKLY READING SCHEDULE

(Please note that the schedule is approximate and may be adjusted to the needs and pace of the class, and that reading assignments may outpace the discussion to some degree)

WEEK	Author	TEXT/READING ASSIGNMENT
Week 1 Date: Sept. 3	Shakespeare	Plutarch selections handout Antony and Cleopatra, Acts 1 & 2
Week 2 Date: Sept. 10	Shakespeare	Antony and Cleopatra, Act 3, Act 3 through scene 5
Week 3 Date: Sept. 17	Sophocles	Antony and Cleopatra, Act 4 scene 6 to end and concluding discussion

Students will receive an invitation to join the Graham School Student Community Canvas Site, a place to read announcements, have discussions, ask questions, and find resources.

DISABILITY INFORMATION

Student Disability Services (SDS) works to provide resources, support and accommodations for all students with disabilities and works to remove physical and attitudinal barriers, which may prevent their full participation in the University community. Students that would like to request accommodations should contact SDS in advance of the first class meeting at 773.702.6000 or disabilities@uchicago.edu.