

# Unit 3 Shakespeare

Content Area: **Language Arts Literacy**  
Course(s): **English 12 CP**  
Time Period: **Marking Period 2**  
Length: **10 Blocks**  
Status: **Published**

## Course Description

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This course is designed for the student who has developed an exceptional proficiency in critical reading and thinking as well as advanced writing skills. Students are challenged with numerous fictional literary readings from several genres and related non-fiction. In addition, students complete many writing assignments and extensive outside readings. Students explore the modes of writing on a more sophisticated level; journal writing will address students' creative talents while other assignments will be analytical in nature. Students use MLA and The BIG6 information literacy model to conduct problem-based research projects.

## Unit Description

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### Stage 1-- Desired Results

**Unit Purpose:** Students will read and analyze Shakespeare's masterpiece Hamlet and learn how to approach complex text in order to comprehend it fully and correctly. They will also synthesize multiple texts by establishing protocols through which texts are criticized by reading and examining nonfiction and then they will apply those protocols to fiction.

### Established Goals:

**New Jersey Student Learning Standards:** English Language Arts Grades 11 and 12

### Explicit:

- RL.11-12.10. By the end of grade 12, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, at grade level or above.
- RL.11-12.4. Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including words with multiple meanings or language that is particularly fresh, engaging, or beautiful. (e.g., Shakespeare as well as other authors.)
- L.11-12.4. Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grades 11–12 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies
  - A. Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence, paragraph, or text; a word's position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.
- L.11-12.5. Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.

- A. Interpret figures of speech (e.g., hyperbole, paradox) in context and analyze their role in the text.
- B. Analyze nuances in the meaning of words with similar denotations.
- RL.11-12.3. Analyze the impact of the author’s choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a story or drama (e.g., where a story is set, how the action is ordered, how the characters are introduced and developed).
- RL.11-12.2. Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to produce a complex account; provide an objective summary of the text.
- RL.11-12.7. Analyze multiple interpretations of a story, drama, or poem (e.g., recorded or live production of a play or recorded novel or poetry), evaluating how each version interprets the source text. (e.g., Shakespeare and other authors.)
- RL.11-12.1. Cite strong and thorough textual evidence and make relevant connections to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.
- RL.11-12.6. Analyze a case in which grasping a point of view requires distinguishing what is directly stated in a text from what is really meant (e.g., satire, sarcasm, irony, or understatement).
- RI.11-12.2. Determine two or more central ideas of a text, and analyze their development and how they interact to provide a complex analysis; provide an objective summary of the text.
- RI.11-12.5. Analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of the structure an author uses in his or her exposition or argument, including whether the structure makes points clear, convincing, and engaging.
- RI.11-12.6. Determine an author’s point of view or purpose in a text in which the rhetoric is particularly effective, analyzing how style and content contribute to the power, persuasiveness or beauty of the text.
- RI.11-12.1. Accurately cite strong and thorough textual evidence, (e.g., via discussion, written response, etc.), to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferentially, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.
- RI.11-12.4. Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze how an author uses and refines the meaning of a key term or terms over the course of a text (e.g., how Madison defines faction in Federalist No. 10).

### **Implicit:**

- L.11-12.4.C. Consult general and specialized reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses), both print and digital, to find the pronunciation of a word or determine or clarify its precise meaning, its part of speech, its etymology, or its standard usage
- L.11-12.4.D. Verify the preliminary determination of the meaning of a word or phrase (e.g., by checking the inferred meaning in context or in a dictionary).
- SL.11-12.1. Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with peers on grades 11–12 topics, texts, and issues, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.
- A. Come to discussions prepared, having read and researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence from texts and other research on the topic or issue to stimulate a thoughtful, well-reasoned exchange of ideas.

- SL.11-12.6. Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating a command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.
- SL.11-12.1.B. Collaborate with peers to promote civil, democratic discussions and decision-making, set clear goals and assessments (e.g. student developed rubrics), and establish individual roles as needed.
- SL.11-12.1.C. Propel conversations by posing and responding to questions that probe reasoning and evidence; ensure a hearing for a full range of positions on a topic or issue; clarify, verify, or challenge ideas and conclusions; and promote divergent and creative perspectives.
- SL.11-12.1.D. Respond thoughtfully to diverse perspectives; synthesize comments, claims, and evidence made on all sides of an issue; resolve contradictions when possible; and determine what additional information or research is required to deepen the investigation or complete the task.

### Essential Questions:

#### Understandings:

#### Students will understand that...

- Classic drama is a study of not only plot and story structure, but of human nature as well.
- Appearance vs. reality is a timeless theme in literature, philosophy, and life.
- Characters, as well as people, are complex and possess various traits that make them who they are, even if they are contradictory.

- How can a critical analysis of literature offer unique insight into how one understands the process of decision-making and its consequences?
- How can the interpretation of classic characters' behaviors be applied to the people we meet and see today?
- How is the way words are used to show or reveal meaning in literature?
- Why do authors write literary criticisms?
- Is justice truly attainable?

#### Students will be able to...

#### Students will know...

- How to distinguish an author's purpose.
- Which literary devices are commonly used.
- How the historical context and author's opinion plays an important role in a text.

- Understand figurative language and word relationships and their meanings
- Interpret and analyze figurative language in context
- Analyze word meanings that are similar.
- Determine theme/central idea in a fictional text
- Determine how several themes/central ideas interact and build upon each other in a fictional text
- Summarize a fictional text objectively
- Determine author's choice of how to integrate setting, action (order), conflict,

characters (development)

- Watch and read many interpretations of a work
- Determine how each version of a work interprets the source (original) text.
- Determine explicit and inferred information in a fictional text
- Determine meanings in text when ideas are vague or unclear
- Determine how central ideas interact and build upon each other in a nonfiction text
- Summarize a nonfiction text objectively
- Analyze structure effectiveness for expository and/or argumentative texts
- Determine clarity, persuasiveness, and engagement of (nonfiction) text itself
- Determine author's POV (tone) in a nonfiction text
- Determine author's purpose of a nonfiction text
- Analyze style & content and determine their impact on power, persuasiveness, and beauty in a nonfiction text
- Determine explicit and inferred information in nonfiction text
- Determine meanings in nonfiction text when ideas are vague or unclear
- Determine tone that is opposite of the words being written or said.
- Consult various language manuals.
- Analyze how key terms are used and refined as the (nonfiction) text progresses
- Start and participate in discussions
- Build upon the ideas of others in

discussions

- Express personal thoughts clearly and persuasively during a discussion
- Prepare for discussions
- Refer directly to evidence during a discussion
- Use appropriate speech depending on the (discussion) situation
- Comprehend nonfiction text independently
- Work with peers to interact appropriately during a discussion
- Ask questions to the group during a discussion
- Respond to questions from the group during a discussion
- Listen to all opinions and ideas during a discussion
- Challenge and verify ideas during a discussion
- Thoughtfully respond to and synthesize, claims, evidence during a discussion
- Determine how to deepen the discussion

### **SAT Skills**

- Comprehend fictional text independently
- Determine word meanings (The Official SAT Study Guide Ch. 7; Ch. 12)
- Determine connotation(s) and figurative meanings of words (The Official SAT Study Guide Ch. 7; Ch. 12)
- Analyze word choice for meaning and tone (The Official SAT Study Guide Ch. 7; Ch. 12)
- Examine words with multiple meanings (The Official SAT Study Guide Ch. 7; Ch. 12)
- Examine new and fresh language
- Use context to determine meanings of

words (The Official SAT Study Guide Ch. 7)

- Analyze theme/central idea over the length of a fictional text (The Official SAT Study Guide Ch. 9; Ch. 12)
- Cite relevant evidence to support analysis (The Official SAT Study Guide Ch. 14-16)
- Determine central idea(s) of a nonfiction text (The Official SAT Study Guide Ch. 9; Ch. 12)
- Analyze central idea(s) development in a nonfiction text (The Official SAT Study Guide Ch. 9; Ch. 12)
- Cite relevant evidence to support analysis
- Determine word meanings (The Official SAT Study Guide Ch. 7; Ch. 12)
- Determine connotation(s), figurative, technical meanings of words (The Official SAT Study Guide Ch. 7; Ch. 12)

## Stage 2 -- Assessment Evidence

### Formative Assessments:

Quizzes (3 “Minor” Assessments)-  
Demonstration of explicitly-taught skills through quizzes

Reader’s Notebook (5 “Homework” student-selected entries) - Five entries over the course of the unit in which reading skills are explored.

Writer’s’s Notebook (5 “Homework” student-selected entries) - Five entries over the course of the unit in which writing skills are explored.

### Summative Assessments:

Reading On Demand Skills Assessment

A student-choice project (*name of project*)

## Stage 3 -- Learning Plan

### Learning Activities:

- Introduce the standards, essential questions, assessment evidence and corresponding rubrics, and calendar of lessons to students.
- Execute standards-based mini-lessons to develop skills and strategies.
- Collaborate with assigned partners.
- Experience activities where speaking and listening skills are used during Book Talks.
- Confer individually with teacher and peers.
- Demonstrate understanding of skills through

### Mini-Lessons

- Analyzing Text - two or more ideas central ideas -- building on one another
- Drawing Inferences - leaves the matters uncertain
- Identifying Theme
- Author's Choices - analyze multiple interpretations, evaluate version interpretation
- Figurative & Connotative Word Use
- Plot Elements & Structure
- Unstated Point of View (i.e. satire, sarcasm, irony)

### Resources

All student selected choices available through classroom library, school or public library, or bought by student.

### Works of Study:

- *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare

### Potential Works of Study:

- Hamlet and His Problems by T.S. Eliot
- Hamlet and Revenge by Kiernan Ryan
- Hamlet's Thoughts and Antics by Margreta de Grazie
- Too Much in the (Black) Sun: Hamlet's First Soliloquy, A Kristevan View by Anny Crunelle-Vanright
- Shakespeare's Sonnets
- HAMLET (1948, 1990 and 1996 versions)
- THE LION KING (1994)

### Online Resources:

Hamlet and His Problems by T.S. Eliot

- <http://www.bartleby.com/200/sw9.html>

Hamlet and Revenge by Kiernan Ryan

- <https://www.bl.uk/shakespeare/articles/hamlet-and-revenge>

Hamlet's Thoughts and Antics by Margreta de Grazia

- <http://emc.eserver.org/1-2/degrazia.html>

Too Much in the (Black) Son: Hamlet's First Soliloquy, A Kristevan View by Anny Crunelle-Vanright

- <http://www.hull.ac.uk/renforum/v2no2/crunelle.htm>

Sonnet 29

- <http://www.shakespeare-online.com/sonnets/29.html>

Sonnet 106

- <http://www.shakespeare-online.com/sonnets/106.html>

**SAT Connection:**

*The Official SAT Study Guide*

*Chapter 6 Command of Evidence*

*Chapter 7 Words in Context*

*Chapter 8 About SAT Reading Test*

*Chapter 9 Reading: Information and Ideas*

*Chapter 10 Reading Rhetoric*

*Chapter 11: Reading Synthesis*

*Chapter 14 Writing and Language: Expression of Ideas*

*Chapter 15 Writing and Language: Standards of English Conventions*

*Chapter 17 About SAT Writing*

**Vocabulary:**

Lit-based vocabulary

\*Student selected vocabulary



## **CONSIDERATIONS FOR DIVERSE LEARNERS**

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### **Accommodations and Modifications:**

**Students with Disabilities, English Language Learners,**

**Students at Risk of Failure, Students with 504s, Gifted & Talented Students**

Strategies and Practices that Support Students with Disabilities:

- Use of visual and multisensory formats
- Use of assisted technology
- Use of prompts
- Modification of content and student products
- Testing accommodations
- Authentic assessments
- Small group/One to one
- Additional time
- Review of directions
- Student restates information
- Space for movement or breaks
- Extra visual and verbal cues and prompts
- Preferential seating
- Follow a routine/schedule
- Rest breaks
- Verbal and visual cues regarding directions and staying on task
- Checklists
- Immediate feedback

### Strategies and Practices that Support Gifted & Talented Students:

- Adjusting the pace of lessons
- Curriculum compacting
- Inquiry-based instruction
- Independent study
- Higher-order thinking skills
- Interest-based content
- Student-driven instruction
- Real-world problems and scenarios
- Problem-based learning
- Interest-based research
- Authentic problem-solving

### Strategies and Practices that Support English Language Learners:

- Pre-teaching of vocabulary and concepts
- Personal vocabulary
- Text-to-speech
- Simplified instructions
- Visual learning, including graphic organizers
- Use of cognates to increase comprehension
- Teacher modeling
- Pairing students with beginning English language skills with students who have more advanced English language skills
- Scaffolding
- Word walls
- Sentence frames

- Think-pair-share
- Cooperative learning groups

#### Strategies and Practices that Support At-Risk Students:

- Guided notes and/or scaffold outline for written assignments
- Guided reading
- Introduce key vocabulary before the lesson
- Work in a small group
- The lesson taught again using a differentiated approach
- Allow answers to be given orally or dictated
- Use visuals / Anchor Charts
- Leveled texts according to ability
- Choice Boards
- Literature circles
- Project-based learning
- Graphic organizers
- Choice books
- Mini-Workshops to reteach or extend
- Jigsaw
- Goal-setting with students
- Use of a reading buddy
- Exploration based on interest

#### Strategies and Practices that Support Students with 504 Plans:

- Follow all the 504 plan modifications
- Text-to-speech/audio-recorded selections
- Amplification system as needed

- Leveled texts according to ability
- Fine motor skill stations embedded in rotation as needed
- Modified or constrained spelling word lists
- Provide anchor charts with high-frequency words and phonemic patterns

## Standards

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LA.L.11-12.5	Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.
LA.L.11-12.6	Acquire and use accurately general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.
LA.RL.11-12.1	Cite strong and thorough textual evidence and make relevant connections to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.
LA.RL.11-12.2	Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to produce a complex account; provide an objective summary of the text.
LA.RL.11-12.3	Analyze the impact of the author's choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a story or drama (e.g., where a story is set, how the action is ordered, how the characters are introduced and developed).
LA.RL.11-12.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including words with multiple meanings or language that is particularly fresh, engaging, or beautiful. (e.g., Shakespeare as well as other authors.)
LA.RL.11-12.5	Analyze how an author's choices concerning how to structure specific parts of a text (e.g., the choice of where to begin or end a story, the choice to provide a comedic or tragic resolution) contribute to its overall structure and meaning as well as its aesthetic impact.
LA.RL.11-12.6	Analyze a case in which grasping a point of view requires distinguishing what is directly stated in a text from what is really meant (e.g., satire, sarcasm, irony, or understatement).
LA.RL.11-12.7	Analyze multiple interpretations of a story, drama, or poem (e.g., recorded or live production of a play or recorded novel or poetry), evaluating how each version interprets the source text. (e.g., Shakespeare and other authors.)
LA.RL.11-12.9	Demonstrate knowledge of and reflect on (e.g., practical knowledge, historical/cultural context, and background knowledge) eighteenth-, nineteenth- and early twentieth-century foundational works of literature, including how two or more texts from the same period treat similar themes or topics.
LA.RL.11-12.10b	By the end of grade 12, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, at grade level or above.
LA.SL.11-12.3	Evaluate a speaker's point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric, assessing the stance, premises, links among ideas, word choice, points of emphasis, and tone used.
LA.SL.11-12.4	Present information, findings and supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically. The

content, organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

LA.11-12.SL.11-12.2

Integrate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and media (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) in order to make informed decisions and solve problems, evaluating the credibility and accuracy of each source and noting any discrepancies among the data.

## Anchor Standards

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LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R1

Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences and relevant connections from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R2

Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R3

Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R4

Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone.

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R5

Analyze the structure of texts, including how specific sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of the text (e.g., a section, chapter, scene, or stanza) relate to each other and the whole.

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R6

Assess how point of view or purpose shapes the content and style of a text.

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R7

Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R8

Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, including the validity of the reasoning as well as the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence.

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R9

Analyze and reflect on how two or more texts address similar themes or topics in order to build knowledge or to compare the approaches the authors take.

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W1

Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W2

Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W3

Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W4

Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W5

Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W6

Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and to interact and collaborate with others.

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W7

Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects, utilizing an inquiry-based research process, based on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W8

Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, assess the credibility and accuracy of each source, and integrate the information while avoiding plagiarism.

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W9	Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R10	Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently with scaffolding as needed.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W10	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.

## Interdisciplinary Standards

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LA.RH.11-12.1	Accurately cite strong and thorough textual evidence, (e.g., via discussion, written response, etc.), to support analysis of primary and secondary sources, connecting insights gained from specific details to develop an understanding of the text as a whole.
LA.RH.11-12.2	Determine the theme, central ideas, information and/or perspective(s) presented in a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of how key events, ideas and/or author's perspective(s) develop over the course of the text.
LA.RH.11-12.3	Evaluate various perspectives for actions or events; determine which explanation best accords with textual evidence, acknowledging where the text leaves matters uncertain.
LA.RH.11-12.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including analyzing how an author uses and refines the meaning of a key term over the course of a text (e.g., how Madison defines faction in Federalist No. 10).
LA.RH.11-12.5	Analyze in detail how a complex primary source is structured, including how key sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of the text contribute to the whole.
LA.RH.11-12.8	Evaluate an author's claims, reasoning, and evidence by corroborating or challenging them with other sources.
LA.WHST.11-12.1.A	Introduce precise, knowledgeable claim(s), establish the significance of the claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that logically sequences the claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
LA.WHST.11-12.1.B	Develop claim(s) and counterclaims using sound reasoning and thoroughly, supplying the most relevant data and evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both claim(s) and counterclaims in a discipline appropriate form that anticipates the audience's knowledge level, concerns, values, and possible biases.
LA.WHST.11-12.1.C	Use transitions (e.g., words, phrases, clauses) to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships between claim(s) and reasons, between reasons and evidence, and between claim(s) and counterclaims.
LA.WHST.11-12.1.D	Establish and maintain a style and tone appropriate to the audience and purpose (e.g., formal and objective for academic writing) while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.
LA.WHST.11-12.1.E	Provide a concluding paragraph or section that supports the argument presented.
LA.WHST.11-12.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
LA.WHST.11-12.5	Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.
LA.WHST.11-12.6	Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, share, and update writing products in response to ongoing feedback, including new arguments or information.
LA.WHST.11-12.8	Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the strengths and limitations of each source in terms

of the specific task, purpose, and audience; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and overreliance on any one source and following a standard format for citation.

LA.WHST.11-12.9

Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

## **Holocaust & Amistad Connections**

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SOC.6.1.12.A.3.h

Examine multiple perspectives on slavery and evaluate the claims used to justify the arguments.

SOC.6.1.12.D.5.d

Relate varying immigrants' experiences to gender, race, ethnicity, or occupation.

## **Career Readiness, Life Literacies, & Key Skills (CLKS):**

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9.4.12.CI.1: Demonstrate the ability to reflect, analyze, and use creative skills and ideas

9.4.12.CT.2: Explain the potential benefits of collaborating to enhance critical thinking and problem solving

9.4.12.CT.4: Participate in online strategy and planning sessions for course-based, school-based, or other projects and determine the strategies that contribute to effective outcomes.

9.4.12.IML.2: Evaluate digital sources for timeliness, accuracy, perspective, credibility of the source, and relevance of information, in media, data, or other resources

## **Computer Science & Design Thinking (CS & DT):**

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8.1.8.E.1 - Effectively use a variety of search tools and filters in professional public databases to find information to solve a real world problem.

8.1.8.D.4 - Assess the credibility and accuracy of digital content

## **LGBTQ & Persons With Disabilities**

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### **LGBTQ**

[“Was Shakespeare Gay?”](#)

[“Was Shakespeare Gay, and does it matter?”](#)

“Shakespeare and gender: the ‘woman’s part’”

12 Arguments to Prove Shakespeare was Gay or Bisexual

Queer Theory in Hamlet