

Shakespeare

birthplace trust

Stratford-upon-Avon
college



Heart of England
International Academy

International
Foundation Programme

Shakespeare Studies and Performance

Shakespeare Studies and Performance

This programme will prepare you for undergraduate degree study in:

- Performing Arts
- Acting
- Drama and Theatre Studies
- English Studies
- Communications and Media Studies

Programme Structure

The IFP in Shakespeare Studies and Performance will provide a broad and analytical understanding of Shakespeare's world and works. This predominantly practical course will enable you to explore Shakespeare's plays in London and Stratford-upon-Avon and your studies will be enriched through your engagement with visiting theatre practitioners, including performers from The Royal Shakespeare Company. You will take part in an end of course production of one of Shakespeare's plays which will be performed to a public audience in Stratford-upon-Avon.

You will study 5 courses on the programme:

The Language of Shakespeare

This course will help you to understand how Shakespeare uses language to communicate meaning and emotion. You will explore many of Shakespeare's works including his plays and sonnets with Shakespeare experts who have published widely on his works.

Although primarily concerned with textual analysis, this course will allow you to explore Shakespeare's language through practical acting workshops.

Your appreciation of language learning in Shakespearean times will be enhanced with a unique opportunity to take classes in the very room where Shakespeare himself was taught, and experience 'a day in the life' of an Elizabethan classroom.

Shakespeare: The Man and his World

The enjoyment and level of understanding of Shakespeare's works can be significantly enhanced if you know more about him and the world in which he lived. This course provides you with the context of his writing; the social and political background and an



Photo: His Excellency Mr Wen Jiabao, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, viewing the First Folio during a visit to Shakespeare's Birthplace in June 2011.

appreciation for how events in his own life may have informed and influenced his writing.

Guided visits to Shakespeare's Birthplace, Anne Hathaway's Cottage, and Mary Arden's Farm will deepen your understanding of Shakespeare's life and times. Exclusive viewings of sixteenth and seventeenth century documents and books connected with Shakespeare's life in the vaults of the world's leading Shakespeare archive will bring you into direct contact with Shakespeare's world.

Shakespeare Performance Workshop

This course will help you to develop your performance skills whilst working on extracts from many of Shakespeare's plays. You will participate in classes where the following skills will be taught: acting technique, voice, movement, dance, singing, and stage combat. In some sessions you will present your work to the rest of the group.

Performing Shakespeare

This course is designed to provide you with an opportunity to showcase your skills as a performer in

a production of one of Shakespeare's plays. You will undergo an intensive period of rehearsal prior to the performance that will enable you to fully immerse yourself in your acting role(s).

Your production will be presented in Stratford-upon-Avon to the general public, and a recording of this performance will be housed in the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust's library archive for years to come.

English and Study Skills

This course will focus on the key aspect of developing your English Language skills. In particular, the course focuses on academic English to develop your study skills in the classroom in preparation for undergraduate degree study at university. For example, you will undertake presentations to gain confidence in the classroom, always using relevant and up-to-date materials and texts. You will be able to improve your IELTS score with a focused IELTS programme.

The English course is assessed through both examination and coursework.



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The information in this brochure is believed to be accurate at the time of publication. Whilst every effort is made to ensure that courses are offered as stated in the brochure, it may be necessary to vary them or their content at short notice. The Academy cannot guarantee that the courses provided will strictly conform to the description in this brochure. Wherever possible, changes are made in the interest of improvement. The Academy reserves the right to cancel courses if there are insufficient numbers, in which case guidance will be given on other suitable opportunities.

