



Course Description: Intertextual Studies

Suitable for: Years 8-10

Prerequisites: *Poetry for Beginners* OR *Literary Techniques* (one-day crash course)

Duration: 2 hours every week for 10 weeks; **20 hours total**

About: You've probably heard of Zeus, but have you heard of Phaethon? You know about God, but do you really know what happened in the Garden of Eden? Shakespeare didn't have Netflix, so he read Greek myths and the Bible – and his plays are full of references to these stories. In this course students will read the same stories Shakespeare read and analyse how he adapted these stories in his plays and poems. After completing this course, students will be familiar with some of the stories that have had an enormous influence on English literature for thousands of years.

Student Writing Outcomes:

- Opinion pieces and partial essays based on the texts read in class;
- Analytical paragraphs based on Shakespeare's use of classical and biblical stories;
- Full essays discussing Shakespeare's use of classical and biblical stories in his tragedies and comedies;
- Creative writing based on one of the classical or biblical stories read in class; and
- Reflection statements justifying the decisions made in the creative writing.

Student Learning Objectives:

- Reviewing and consolidating an extensive list of techniques for poetry analysis;
- Understanding Shakespearean language;
- Having the tools to analyse and write about Shakespeare's plays in opinion pieces and essays;
- Exploring how one text can influence another; and
- Considering the importance of classical and biblical stories in Shakespeare's day and our day.