

Hamlet Casebook Presentation

THEA 1030 | MSCC | Spring 2026

Project Overview

Groups will read the text and view a recording of a live performance of *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare and analyze it according to the framework provided in the course document. Groups will then work together to build a singular casebook presentation that will be shared with the rest of the class.

Key Features

- Casebook Presentation
 - Must not exceed ten minutes
 - Must be presented to the class on Presentation Day
 - Must be uploaded and submitted to D2L no later than one week after your group's presentation
- Annotated Bibliography
 - Must include citations for all external sources used in the presentation
 - Must feature non-print source like images, videos clips, and audio clips
 - Submitted in two stages
 - First draft due at the project midpoint
 - Final draft due after the presentation (must be uploaded and submitted to D2L no later than one week after the presentation)
- Checkpoint Reflections
 - Reflect on the group's progress so far by commenting on your contributions as well as the contributions of each of your teammates
 - Must be handwritten in testing booklet and submitted in person on assigned reflection days
- Culminating Reflection Essay
 - Reflect on the group's final project as a completed work
 - Reflect on at least two other groups' projects and presentations
 - Must be typed and submitted via D2L no later than one week after your group's presentation

Final Project Grade Breakdown

40% for Documentation and Reflection of Group Process

- 50% for In-Class Checkpoint Reflections (Due in Weeks 2 and 4)
- 50% for Culminating Reflection Essay (Due in Week 6)
 - 50% for Reflection on Your Group's Work
 - 50% for Critical Response to Two Other Groups' Work

30% for Casebook Presentation

30% for Annotated Bibliography

- 50% for First Draft (Due in Week 3)
- 50% for Final Draft (Due in Week 6 after Presentation)

Project Timeline and Due Dates

Week 1

- March 23/24: Project Initiation
- March 25/26: Begin Play Lecture and Discussion

Week 2

- March 30/31: Conclude Play Lecture and Discussion
- April 1/2: In-Class Checkpoint Reflection #1

Week 3

- April 6/7: Group Conferences and In-Class Workday
- April 8/9: Group Conferences and In-Class Workday

Week 4

- April 13/14: Conferences and In-Class Workday
- April 15/16: In-Class Checkpoint Reflection #2
- April 17: First draft of Annotated Bibliography due in D2L

Week 5

- April 20–23: No Classes – Independent Study (*Mean Girls* Performance Week)

Week 6

- April 27/28: Conferences and In-Class Workday
- April 29/30: Presentation Day

Week 7 (Final Exam Week)

- May 6/7: Final Submissions Due in D2L
 - Presentation File (one per group)
 - Annotated Bibliography (one per group)
 - Culminating Reflection Essay (one per group member)

Casebook Presentation Requirements

- Introduction
 - Introduce everyone in the group by name
 - Briefly summarize everyone's primary contributions to the project
- “Before and After” Statement
 - Describe your group's thoughts, feelings, and opinions at the beginning of this project
 - Describe your group's thoughts, feelings, and opinions at the end of this project, highlighting anything that changed along the way
 - Include pictures or short-form video of your group working on the project together (e.g. having a watch party, reading the text together, etc.)
- Clerical Details of Your Production
 - List the names of notable cast, crew, and creative team members
 - List the names of the performance venue and its geographic location
 - Specify the date of the recording (month, day, and year)
- Professional Critic Responses (2-3 authoritative sources)
- Personal Critic Responses (each group member's overall opinions of the show)
- Favorite Moments Showcase
 - As a group, decide on two favorite moments of your specific production
 - Deliberate on what makes these moments so special to you, highlighting the use of special effects, lighting and sound, acting, stage pictures, etc.
- AI Interrogation and Critique of Favorite Moments
 - Prompt a generative AI/LLM of your choice with a description of your chosen scenes and ask it to defend the creative choices executed in those scenes
 - Compare its defense of those moments with your own opinions and highlight any notable instances of consistency and/or inconsistency
 - Specifically prompt the AI model to defend something about the performance that is not true.
 - Include screenshots of your conversation with the bot
- “Trash Bin” Summary
 - Include a summary of ideas, sources, and media examined in the early stages of the project but not included in the final product
- Conclusion: What About Today
 - Share your opinions on what makes this script and your chosen production relevant to general audiences today.

- Connect events or themes in the play to current events, hot-button issues, and political/social/cultural trends from the past year.
- Feedback Session and Q&A