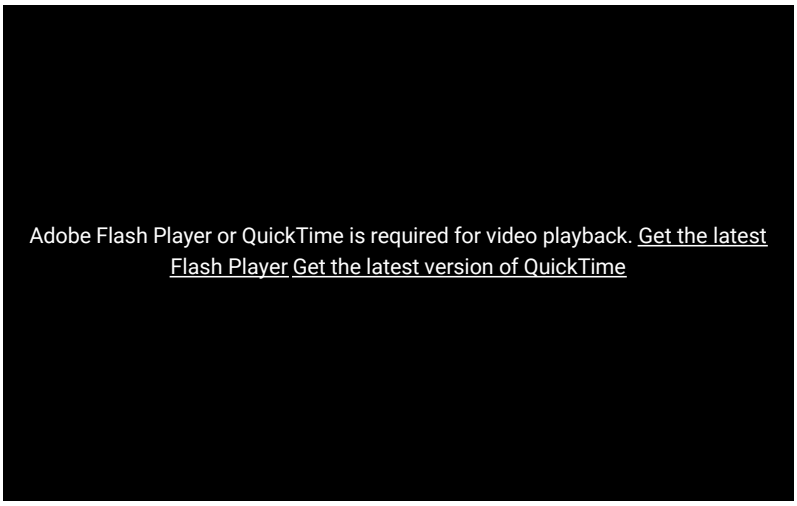
Distance learning with the Shakespeare Institute

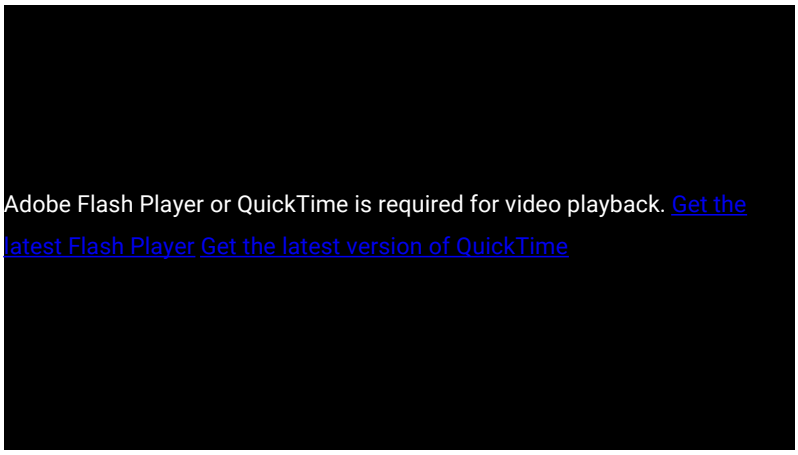


video transcript (/accessibility/transcripts/artsandlaw/calgs/distance-learning.aspx)

In addition to the many courses that we offer on site in Stratford-upon-Avon, the Shakespeare Institute also offers two of its part-time MA programmes by distance learning.

Students can study the entire **MA Shakespeare and Theatre (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/shakespeare-theatre.aspx)** by distance learning and most of the **MA Shakespeare and Education (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/shakespeare-education.aspx)** in this way – the only module they will have to study on site is the intensive Pedagogy module, which runs for a week during the Easter holidays.

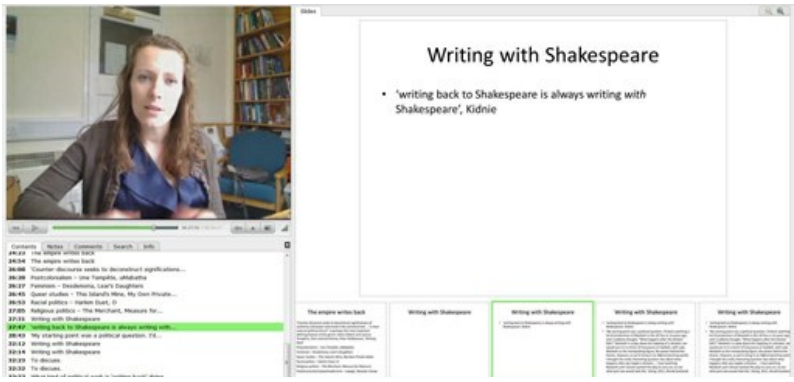
Studying at a distance is not the lonely experience it may once have been. Our distance learning modules are designed to promote student and tutor interaction through the use of print, audio, and video teaching materials and methods. Students are able to study modules in a way that fits with their schedule, but they also have the opportunity to connect with other students and tutors through online chats and discussion forums. Distance learning students are also welcome to take some of their modules on site as weekend classes if this fits with their schedule.



How it works

Our distance learning offerings involve the same amount of rigour, challenge and prestige as our onsite courses. All students studying by distance will be enrolled into our 'virtual learning environment'. When you log into you will find the core learning materials you need to study for your module, including weekly discussion questions, activities, reading lists, and lectures. Our University e-Library contains a world-class collection of ebooks and electronic journals that will support your study as a distance learning student, and you will learn how to search and use this resource as part of your core Research Skills module.

Whenever possible we source electronic copies of essential reading for modules through the University e-Library, but you will also be expected to purchase or borrow copies of essential texts that are not yet available as ebooks. Students located in the UK will be able to use their University of Birmingham student status to borrow books from UK university libraries near them, and students located abroad may also find that they are eligible for reference and borrowing privileges at university libraries near them.



Your course is structured so that every taught module is broken down into a number of meaningful sections, each of which discusses particular issues or plays. You will follow the module, one section at a time, as the materials are released on the website on the dates specified. Most modules are taught September – January or January – April, although some may be available in the summer months too. It is important that you set aside adequate time to complete the MA – the University recommends that all students (distance or onsite) allocate an average of 120-150 hours per 20 credit module in order to complete the coursework and essays to an appropriate standard. This averages to about one working day a week over a four-month module.

If you would like to find out more about distance learning options at the Shakespeare Institute, please follow the links below and also get in touch with us at **shakespeare@bham.ac.uk (mailto:shakespeare@bham.ac.uk)** / **e.sullivan@bham.ac.uk (mailto:e.sullivan@bham.ac.uk)** .

Courses

- **Shakespeare and Theatre MA/Diploma (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/shakespeare-theatre.aspx)**
- **Shakespeare and Education MA/Diploma (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/shakespeare-education.aspx)**

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