

## Multimodal Research Lesson Plan: The Shakespeare Authorship Question

### Overview:

This research- and discussion-based lesson plan engages students in a critical inquiry into the Shakespeare authorship question, while building essential academic skills. It offers flexibility in format and encourages cross-curricular collaboration.

### Learning Objectives:

1. **Source Evaluation & Information Literacy:** Students will assess the credibility of online sources and learn to verify claims generated by AI tools such as ChatGPT.
2. **Historical & Critical Inquiry:** Students will research and explore the English Renaissance as the context for Shakespeare's works, gaining insight into how history is constructed and questioned. This encourages critical thinking about what constitutes "settled history" and invites potential interdisciplinary collaboration with social studies or history departments.
3. **Presentation & Argumentation:** Students will practice presenting, debating, and discussing ideas clearly and persuasively in a collaborative academic setting.

### Lesson Format Options:

Teachers may select the mode that best suits their classroom culture and instructional goals:

- **Research → Presentation → Class Discussion**
- **Research → Structured Debate**
- **Research → Mock Trial Simulation**

Each option allows for deep inquiry, student voice, and engagement. As an optional enhancement, teachers may incorporate a "**Shakespearean Insult**" component into the discussion or debate to add humor, creativity, and exposure to Shakespeare's rich language.

The research portion of this multimodal unit, "**Research Component**," includes an "**Evaluating Online Sources Worksheet**" designed to assess the credibility of online sources and verify claims generated by AI tools such as ChatGPT.