How to Cite Shakespeare

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| ***Italicize* the title of plays**This is important so that the reader can tell the character and the play apart (Macbeth if filled with vaulting ambition – *Macbeth* is knows for examples of ambition) | *Romeo & Juliet**Macbeth**Taming of the Shrew* |
| **Use present tense (aka historical present)** | Use present tense verbs to write about the play: Hamlet stabs Polonius (vs. stabbed) |
| **Use block quote for any more than four lines of the play** | Richard III tells his troops,Remember whom you are to cope withal: A sort of vagabonds, rascals, and runaways, A scum of Britains and base lackey peasants, Whom their o'ercloyed country vomits forth To desperate adventures and assur'd destruction. (5.3.315-19)* Tab twice to indent block quote
* Punctuation goes before in-text citation (after the last word that you quote)
* Line numbers under 100 (45-47)
* Line numbers over 100 (138-42)
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| **Indicate line breaks when quoting under four lines** | Othello recalls, "Upon this hint I spake: / She lov'd me for the dangers I had pass'd, / And I lov'd her that she did pity them" (1.3.166-68). Note the withholding of final punctuation in this case until after the parenthetical citation. The slash marks **indicate line breaks** in the verse. |
| **Secondary research/sources** | When writing about what others have written on Shakespeare, use the (Author page). For example, the songs at the end of *Love's Labour's Lost* can be seen as thematically integral to the play (Goddard 54).  |
| **Works Cited page** | * The final page of your paper
* Lists full bibliographic details of your sources in alphabetical order
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Works Cited

Shakespeare, William*. Romeo and Juliet*. Edited by Roma Gill et al., Woodbury, NY, Oxford Up, 2008.