

ENL ###  
Term/Year  
Kemp

## Research Paper: Relationships

In this essay, (approximately 3-4 pages) you will choose a play we have read in class and answer a simple question: Who's the queerest? What is the oddest relationship in the play, and how does that affect what you see as the primary relationship in the play?

You may want to re-examine side plots/characters, and remember that a heterosexual pairing can also be queer. You might examine a character's relationship to another character, to the audience, or to themselves. Your evidence is not limited to their spoken lines, but can include stage directions or provocative ambiguities in stage direction. You have some freedom with your argument here, but you should establish whether you are making a historical or unhistorical argument—ie, queer by whose standards, the play's historical audience, or ours, or both?

This is a research paper—not a slash fanfiction—so your argument should

- **draw on at least one of the critical readings we have done in class**
- **be supported with at least two outside scholarly sources.**
- **define & historicize its use of 'queer'**

Objectives:

- Expanding research methods & library literacy
- Responding to the historicist debates
- Working with critical sources

To meet these objectives, this assignment will be divided into three major pieces:

### **Part 1, Library Bootcamp**

We will have some time in class to discuss library resources, but this research guide will help you navigate familiar and new avenues of research.

Worksheet, (attached) to be completed and turned in to me in class on ####.

### **Part 2, Annotated Bibliography**

Produce a working bibliography of 3 to 5 items (no more than 1 may be from class). Under each entry, include:

- A brief (one or two sentence) abstract of the main argument article or chapter
- A paragraph detailing how you believe this responds to your topic or scene, including how it would impact your argument and how you plan you use it in your paper.
- One or two specific quotes (with page number) that you might draw on for your paper.

Annotated bibliography to be uploaded to course Smartsite on ####.

These bibliographies will be shared, to create a class archive of potential resources.

### **Part 3, Essay**

After producing your annotated bibliography, choose your top 3 primary sources (1 from course reader, 2 from outside readings) to develop your claim.

Remember:

- You should be focusing on one specific relationship between two (or more) characters.
- You should balance your own textual close readings with support from your critical research.

Please be sure that your paper is in proper MLA format—1" margins, 12 pt font, in-text citations, etc. For questions about MLA format please see course resources for Style Guides.

Final Draft is due in class on ####.

Research Bootcamp<sup>1</sup>  
Library Practice and Guide:

1) Harvest UC Davis Catalog: Show me that you can use this resource by bringing me a book you have checked out, or showing me on your laptop or phone that you have checked it out.

Record here the **title** of the book, what **key terms or parameters** you searched to find that book, **and which chapter** you think will be most helpful to you and why.

2) Interlibrary Loan (ILL): Show me that you can use this resource by bringing me a book or resource you have checked out by ILL or showing me on your laptop or phone that you have requested a resource from ILL. **This need not be for this assignment or this class:** it does not matter what book it is (could even be a movie or a CD); I just want to know that you can do it.

Record the name of the resource here.

3) Databases A-Z and the Subject Guides

List two subject guides that might help you with your particular topic, and within each subject guide, a specific database that might be helpful to you.

- Subject Guide:
  - Database:
  
- Subject Guide:
  - Database:

4) Librarian Subject Specialists

- Who is the Librarian Subject Specialist for the English Department?
  
- Who is the Librarian Subject Specialist for your home department or discipline?

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<sup>1</sup> This assignment inspired by and used with permission of Tori White.