This course will focus on a selection of works from the second half of Shakespeare’s literary career (approx. 1599-1613). We will approach the texts in a variety of ways: (1) close analysis and explication of individual works; (2) discussion of a text as an example of one of the three major genres—comedy, tragedy, and Romance—that Shakespeare was primarily working in during this period; (3) focus on the work’s relationship to contemporary Elizabethan and Jacobean social, political, economic, and religious issues.

Text: *The Riverside Shakespeare*