

Why Literature ? Why Shakespeare ?

(corso già stato approvato a fine dicembre 2019, poi cancellato per covid)

Responsabili e Organizzatore del corso:

prof. Decio Augugliaro, docente di inglese presso il Liceo di Mendrisio

Data del corso: giovedì 17 marzo 2022, **una giornata (1.0 QM)**

Luogo: Liceo cantonale di Mendrisio

Destinatari: **obbligatorio** per i docenti di inglese del Liceo di Mendrisio
facoltativo per i docenti di inglese delle altre sedi SMS

Termine di iscrizione il 14.03.2022.

La lista dei partecipanti verrà consegnata alla Sezione dell'insegnamento medio superiore per la registrazione dei QM.

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Programma e orari del corso

MORNING (8.15-9.45 / 10.00-11.30)

PART ONE At a time when the study of the Humanities is under threat in many academic institutions and in the world at large, it is surely good for us to ask ourselves occasionally what we think we are doing – and why. The first half, therefore, will be dedicated to going back to basics and considering very fundamental questions such as 'Why do we study Literature?' 'What *is* Literature?' 'How useful is it?' and so on. We should consequently be better equipped to offer responses to both parents and students who regularly question the validity of studying Literature as an essential part of the teaching of English at a 'liceo'. Obviously, obtaining a Maturità involves much more than merely acquiring linguistic competence.

AFTERNOON (13.00-14.30 / 14.45-16.00)

PART TWO The second half will be devoted to a work by one of the most canonical of authors, William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Many teachers in Ticino, to their credit, regularly teach one of Shakespeare's plays, usually a tragedy, especially to OS classes. On this occasion, I hope to show that, with close reference to the roles of women, one of the Bard's most popular comedies offers more than simply a story about fairies, and remains as pertinent today as it was when it was first performed.

REQUIREMENTS: Close reading of a few pieces of non-fiction and a working knowledge of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Specific texts & extracts will be provided well in advance.