Course Content:

This course is a study of the critically acclaimed but academically controversial 3 Season Canadian television series *Slings & Arrows*. A fictionalized account of a theatre festival not entirely unlike the Stratford Festival in Ontario, the show is a comic-drama about classical theatre in late 20th-century Canada. We will study the show in its various contexts, including Shakespeare’s plays and criticism, life in advanced capitalism, the challenges and histories of 20th-century classical theatre in the Anglo-American world, contemporary television, literary theory, and much else besides.

Proposed Texts/Television:

*Slings & Arrows* (3 Seasons. Available on CBC Gem and Acorn Media); Shakespeare, *Midsummer Night’s Dream, The Tempest, Hamlet, Macbeth, King Lear* (these plays will be discussed, though not thoroughly studied in each instance); Peter Brook, *The Empty Space*; Susan Coyne, *Kingfisher Days*; Charles Taylor, *The Malaise of Modernity. Selected Essays about Shakespeare; Stratford Festival; and Literary/Cultural Criticism provided on Brightspace.*

Proposed Assignments:
A magazine-style review of Season 1 (20%); A magazine-style review of the whole series (25%); Annotated bibliography (15%); A final capstone project: critical essay or documentary podcast; or equivalent project. (40)%.