Love's Tragedy in Diverse Communities:
Othello and Romeo and Juliet

Dr. Vernon Dickson, Mr. Carlos Escobar, Dr. Andy Strycharski, & Dr. James Sutton
Florida International University
October 14, 2016
**Agenda**

8:00 a.m. - 8:15 a.m. **Registration and light breakfast**

8:15 a.m. - 9:15 a.m. **Context and rationale for PD and First Folio Exhibit feedback**

9:15 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. **William Shakespeare’s *Othello***

Special presentation by Dr. Ayanna Thompson

11:30 p.m. - 12:30 p.m. **Lunch**

12:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. **William Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet***

Special presentation by Dr. Carla Della Gatta

2:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. **Final thoughts**
How is this play relevant to issues of race, identity, and/or exile?

Most successful experience or activities teaching William Shakespeare’s *Othello*

Difficulties with teaching the play or questions you have about the play

Ideas taken from or inspired by Dr. Ayanna Thompson

Questions for Dr. Ayanna Thompson
How is this play relevant to issues of race, identity, and/or exile?
Further Readings: Dr. Ayanna Thompson


Marks, Elise. “‘Othello/Me’: Racial Drag and the Pleasures of Boundary-Crossing with *Othello.*” *Comparative Drama* 35 (2001): 101-123.
Further Readings: Dr. Carla Della Gatta


Speaker Information

Dr. Carla Della Gatta

Assistant Professor of Critical Studies, University of Southern California

Dr. Carla Della Gatta is an Assistant Professor of Critical Studies at the USC School of Dramatic Arts. She has published essays in collected editions from Oxford University Press and Palgrave Macmillan, and in journals such as Shakespeare Studies and Bulletins of the Comediantes.

Dr. Vernon Dickson

Associate Professor of English, Florida International University

Professor Dickson is the author of Emulation on the Shakespearean Stage, which explores theories and practices of imitation and emulation primarily through their enactment on the English Renaissance stage. Dr. Dickson has published articles related to Shakespeare, Hamlet, the Renaissance, exemplarity, and emulation in Renaissance Quarterly, Studies in English Literature, and The Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America.

Mr. Carlos Escobar

English Teacher, Felix Varela Sr. High, Miami-Dade County Public Schools

Mr. Escobar teaches AP English Literature at Felix Varela and has served the College Board and M-DCPS in various roles: College Board Advisor for AP English Literature and Composition, member of the AP English Literature Test Development Committee, reviewer of the redesigned SAT, and District and National mentor to new AP English teachers. Recently he co-authored the teacher’s editions of Advanced Language & Literature: For Honors and Pre-AP English Courses and Literature & Composition: Reading, Writing, Thinking.

Dr. Andy Strycharski

Instructor of English, Florida International University

Andrew Strycharski directs the film studies certificate program at Florida International University, where he teaches courses in film and in English Renaissance Literature. He received his Ph.D. in English in 2004 from the University of Texas at Austin. His publications on English Renaissance Literature include the co-edited volume Re-reading Mary Wroth (Palgrave, 2015) and numerous articles in such journals as Criticism, Studies in English Literature 1500 – 1900, and the Sidney Journal. He has won research fellowships from the Folger Shakespeare Library, the American Philosophical Association, and the Folger Institute, and he currently serves as President of the International Sidney Society.
Dr. James Sutton

Associate Professor of English, Florida International University

Dr. Sutton is an Associate Professor of English at Florida International University. He is the author of *Materializing Space at an Early Modern Prodigy House* (2005). Since earning his Ph.D. in Renaissance Studies from Yale University in 1995, he has taught courses on all aspects of early modern literature and culture, including Shakespeare and Spenser, at FIU. He also conducts research on matters of Elizabethan and Jacobean culture, focusing on the intersection of literature, architecture and design, and political life. Most recently, along with Gayle Williams and Shawn Tonner from the FIU Libraries and Klaudio Rodriguez from the Frost Art Museum, Dr. Sutton led the campaign to bring Shakespeare’s First Folio to FIU. He has now begun research on a project that will investigate the meanings and relevance of Shakespeare in contemporary Miami.

Dr. Ayanna Thompson

Professor of English, George Washington University

Dr. Thompson is Professor of English at George Washington University, and she specializes in Renaissance drama and issues of race in/as performance. Professor Thompson has served as a Trustee of the Shakespeare Association of America and as a member of the Board of Directors for the Association of Marshall Scholars.