Claire Harlan, a joint English and Theatre Arts Major, was the student curator for “Unruly Women,” an exhibit now in Merrill-Cazier Library marking the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare’s death. The exhibit was timed to coincide with the arrival of a Folger Shakespeare Library copy of the First Folio—the collected works of Shakespeare published in 1623—at the Salt Lake City Library in October.

Harlan was a student in Dr. Phebe Jensen’s Shakespeare course in Spring 2016, which organized a one-day celebration, Shakespeare @400, to mark this anniversary in April 2016. As part of that event, four English students helped curate a one-day library exhibit on the printing of Shakespeare’s plays: Harlan, Jessica Griffith, Brandon Johnson, and Evan Waechtler. Harlan was then hired by Special Collections for a summer internship, during which she conceptualized, researched, wrote, and helped design the current exhibit. Focused on “Unruly Women,” the exhibit provides a lively look at the exuberant complexities of being a woman in Shakespeare’s world and work. The library’s partial copy of the Second Folio (1632) is also on display, downstairs in Special Collections.

Although the First Folio has now left Utah, the Merrill-Cazier Library exhibit will remain up until December 5th. For more information, see this article in USU Today, Unruly Women: Women in Shakespeare's World, or step into the Merrill-Cazier Library lobby atrium for a look.