

Prof. Joyce Boro  
Winter 2012  
Wednesday 1-4 pm  
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### **ANG 3000—Senior Seminar: Shakespeare's Romances**

Shakespeare's romances are intriguing, captivating, and often baffling. Replete with magic, wonder, love, exile, reincarnation, estrangement, loss, reconciliation, and reunion, they take the audience on incredible journeys from the depths of tragedy to the joyous heights of comedy. Plots are improbable and unrealistic; time and place fail to constrain characters and events; and conclusions are surprising, symbolic, and providential. This class focuses on Shakespeare's romances, his last plays: *Pericles*, *Cymbeline*, *The Winter's Tale*, and *The Tempest*. A solid understanding of the romance genre and of how it is appropriated by Shakespeare is necessary in order to fully appreciate these plays. We will develop our sensitivity to the genre by comparing the romances to their source texts and to one of Shakespeare's comedies, viewing film adaptations, and reading some secondary criticism and theory.

#### Texts and Films:

Shakespeare, *As You Like It*, *Pericles*, *Cymbeline*, *The Winter's Tale*, and *The Tempest*

Thomas Lodge, *Rosalind*

Robert Greene, *Pandosto*

Selected criticism and shorter source texts

*The Tempest*, 2010 (110 min), directed by Julie Taymor, starring Helen Mirren

*The Winter's Tale*, 1998 (180 min), directed by Gregory Doran, starring Antony Sher

#### Evaluation

Seminar Essays (2 x 4-5 pages) 2 x 25%

Responses (2 x 5 questions) 2 x 5%

Final Essay (9-10 pages) 35% due 17 April

Participation 5%

#### Seminar Essays

You will have the chance to sign up for presentation dates on the first day of class. Essays should be circulated to the class via email 24 hours before class, i.e. by Tuesday at 1pm. This is a firm deadline. In addition to sending your essay to the class, you must attend the seminar in order to discuss your work. If you do not come to class, your assignment will not be graded. You should prepare three (3) jumping off questions that you will pose in class and you should also be ready to answer the questions that your classmates will ask you.

#### Final Essay

Your final essay should develop one of your seminar essays.

#### Responses:

You will have the chance to sign up for response dates on the first day of class. You will prepare five response questions that you will pose in class. These questions should represent a mix of responses to the essay(s) presented that day and to the assigned reading material.

### Participation:

You will be graded on your contribution to class discussions and on your involvement in group activities. This includes both speaking and active listening. It is thus essential that you: attend class regularly, arrive on time complete the assigned weekly readings and screenings, come to class ready to discuss the assigned texts and films, bring your texts to class, and are ready to respond to your classmates' seminar presentations.

### Additional Information

Academic courtesy must be maintained at all times.

All written work will be graded on content, organization, grammar, spelling, and quality of writing style.

Your work must conform to MLA guidelines. The MLA handbook is available at the library and at all major bookstores in Montreal, including the university bookstore.

Extensions will only be granted for serious reasons. Late work will be penalised at the rate of 3% per day.

I encourage you to talk to me if you have any questions or concerns about the course.

A convenient time for film screenings will be established at the start of the semester.

### Plagiarism Policy

Plagiarism – the stealing or “borrowing” of another person’s written work and passing it off as one’s own – is a very serious academic offence. Plagiarism occurs when:

- a) the work submitted was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work;
- b) an entire work (e.g., an essay), is copied from another source, or parts of the work are taken from another source without explicit reference to the author;
- c) an essay copies a sentence or paragraph of another work with minor variations.

Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without explicit acknowledgement, but also when original ideas from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography or “works cited” is insufficient to establish which portions of the student’s work are taken from external sources; formal modes of citation (i.e., page numbers and the author’s name in parenthetical references) must be used for this purpose.

The minimal disciplinary measure for cases of plagiarism is an F on the assignment, essay, or exam. Professors are required to report such cases to the Dean. Further measures can include an F in the course, suspension from the Faculty, and even the requirement to withdraw from the University.

If you are unclear on the definition of plagiarism or you are unsure about how to avoid it, please do not hesitate to ask me. Ignorance is not a valid defence.

Syllabus:

Week 1—January 11  
Introduction

Week 2—January 18  
Selected Criticism

Week 3—January 25  
*Roslind*

Week 4—February 1  
*Pandosto*

Week 5—February 8  
*As You Like It*

Week 6—February 15  
*The Winter's Tale*

Week 7—February 22  
*The Winter's Tale* and film

Week 8—March 1  
*Cymbeline*

Week 9—March 7  
No Class

Week 10—March 14  
*Cymbeline* and sources

Week 11—March 21  
*Pericles*

Week 12—March 28  
*Pericles* and sources

Week 13—April 4  
*The Tempest*

Week 14—April 11  
*The Tempest* and film