

**Carleton University  
Winter 2016  
Department of English**

**ENGL 4304A: Renaissance Drama**

*Prerequisite(s): fourth-year standing in Honours English or permission of the Department*

**Monday / 11:35am-2:30pm**  
**Location: please confirm location on Carleton Central**

**Professor Micheline White**  
**Office: 2A45 Paterson Hall**  
**Phone: 520-2600 ext. 1356**

**Email: [micheline.white@carleton.ca](mailto:micheline.white@carleton.ca)**

For urgent messages only. I do not read or respond to emails between Friday 4:30 PM and  
Monday 9:00 AM.

**Office Hours: TBD**

*\*Preliminary Outline- Subject to change*

**Topic: Shakespeare in Hollywood: How Film Directors Adapt Shakespeare for the Big Screen**

In this course we will engage in a close examination of how five dramatic works by William Shakespeare have been adapted into contemporary films. Students will read a selection of secondary criticism about these adaptations. Students will also create an eportfolio to showcase their research process and their research conclusions.

**Required Texts:** The five books are available at **ALL BOOKS at 327 Rideau Street** (between King Edward and Nelson. On the #7 bus-route, just beside the Bytown Cinema). M-Sat Open 10:00 AM-9:00 PM. Sunday 12:00-6:00. (613) 789-9544. Some movies are on reserve at the library; others are available through iTunes.

Shakespeare, *Cymbeline* (or *Anarchy*); movie directed by Michael Almereyda (2014; in iTunes)  
Shakespeare, *Othello*; movie directed by Oliver Parker (1998; available on reserve)  
Shakespeare, *Coriolanus*; movie directed by Ralph Fiennes (2012; available on iTunes)  
Shakespeare, *The Tempest*; movie by Julie Taymor (2011; on iTunes)  
Shakespeare, *Hamlet*; movie directed by Kenneth Branagh (1996; on reserve and on iTunes)

**Requirements**

3 (or 2) oral seminars presentations (25 minutes each) 10% each = TBD  
1 short seminar paper based on one of your oral presentations (1700 words) = 15 %  
1 long research paper based on one of your presentations (2700 words)= 30%

1 CU eportfolio that will show case your research and your conclusions= 15%  
Participation TBD

### **Expectations**

I am assuming that most of you have had some exposure to Shakespeare's plays but I do not expect you to be familiar with the particular plays we will study. In the weeks that follow, you are encouraged to read the plays slowly, to ask a lot of questions, and to take the initiative in seeking ways to answer those questions. I have provided a list of required secondary sources for each play and movie. I expect that you will have watched the movies very carefully and I expect you to come to seminar with **lots to say**.

### **1. Seminar Presentations**

You will give two or **three** oral seminar presentations in this course. I will distribute some general ideas, but you are strongly encouraged to choose your own topic. For all oral seminars you will be expected to demonstrate some familiarity with secondary criticism.

Your presentations will only last for **25 minutes** so you must be ruthlessly concise and efficient in making your argument.

You are free to bring laptops with powerpoints and/or video clips. You will need to bring or borrow an adapter if you are using a mac. You are free to distribute a handout but it should be minimal. And you are NOT required to have a handout.

The main function of a seminar is to exercise your ability to argue a case orally or, if you are a listener, to contribute positively to an intellectual conversation. For this reason, presenters **MUST NOT** read from a written text.

In grading the oral presentations, I will consider the quality of the content and the oral delivery.

### **2. Seminar Papers/Projects**

You will also submit written and expanded versions (1700 words and 2700 words) of **TWO** of your seminar presentations. In evaluating the written paper, I will look for a clear argument about the primary text, familiarity with secondary criticism, and elegant prose. **Students will also be allowed to propose digital projects in lieu of written papers if they so desire.** If you wish to do this topic, please consult with me beforehand.

**3. E-portfolio.** Each student will prepare an eportfolio (available through CU) to showcase your research (annotated bibliography etc), the powerpoint presentations you might use, and any other research materials. I will provide training and support.

### **4. Participation**

You are required to participate actively in every session. You must email me if you are going to be absent. Students who do not participate will **not receive a passing grade** for the participation portion of the grade.

## LATE WORK

Your presentations or papers are due in class on the dates specified. If you have extenuating circumstances, please discuss them with me in advance. **I will deduct 3% of your paper grade for each day work is late if we have not a prior arrangement.**

## UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS

### COPIES OF WRITTEN WORK SUBMITTED

Always retain for yourself a copy of all essays, term papers, written assignments or take-home tests submitted in your courses.

### PLAGIARISM

The University Senate defines plagiarism as *"to use and pass off as one's own idea or product the work of another without expressly giving credit to another."* This can include:

- Copying from another person's work without indicating this through appropriate use of quotation marks and footnote citations.
- Lengthy and close paraphrasing of another person's work (i.e. extensive copying interspersed with a few phrases or sentences of your own).
- Submitting written work produced by someone else as if it were your own work (e.g. another student's term paper, a paper purchased from a term paper "factory", materials or term papers downloaded from the Internet, etc.).
- Handing in *"substantially the same piece of work to two or more courses without the prior written permission of the instructors...involved."* (University Senate)

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course's instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They range from a mark of zero for the plagiarized work to a final grade of "F" for the course, and even suspension from all studies or expulsion from the University. For more information please go to:

<http://www2.carleton.ca/studentaffairs/academic-integrity>

### GRADING SYSTEM

Letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

|                  |                 |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| A+ = 90-100 (12) | B+ = 77-79 (9)  | C+ = 67-69 (6)  |
| A = 85-89 (11)   | B = 73-76 (8)   | C = 63-66 (5)   |
| A - = 80-84 (10) | B - = 70-72 (7) | C - = 60-62 (4) |
| D+ = 57-59 (3)   | D = 53-56 (2)   | D - = 50-52 (1) |

F Failure. No academic credit  
 WDN Withdrawn from the course  
 ABS Absent from the final examination  
 DEF Official deferral (see "Petitions to Defer")

FND “Failed, no Deferral” – assigned when the student is absent from the final exam and has failed the course on the basis of inadequate term work as specified in the course outline.

## **GRADING**

A+ Extraordinary work that greatly exceeds the requirements of a fourth year paper. This grade is rarely awarded.

A Excellent work: very insightful analysis; clear and persuasive thesis that goes beyond the ideas presented in lecture; free of any typographical or grammatical errors;

A-/ B+ Very strong work: insightful and clear, but in need of a bit of clarification, revision, or proofreading.

B/B- Good work. Demonstrates a solid understanding of the text and lectures, but requires more significant revision, clarification, or proofreading

C+ /C/C- Average to poor work. Lacks a clear or insightful thesis and requires extensive revision, clarification, or proofreading

F Unacceptable or non-existent work.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

## **REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**

### **Academic Accommodation**

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details see the Student Guide

Religious obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details see the Student Guide

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made.

Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).

## **PETITIONS TO DEFER**

If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a FINAL assignment by the due date because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply a deferral of examination/assignment. If you are applying for a deferral due to illness you will be required to see a physician in order to confirm illness and obtain a medical certificate dated no later than one working day after the examination or assignment deadline. This supporting documentation must specify the date of onset of the illness, the degree of incapacitation, and the expected date of recovery.

If you are applying for a deferral for reasons other than personal illness, please contact the Registrar's Office directly for information on other forms of documentation that we accept.

Deferrals of assignments must be supported by confirmation of the assignment due date, for example a copy of the course outline specifying the due date and any documented extensions from the course instructor.

Deferral applications for examination or assignments must be submitted within 5 working days of the original final exam.

**ADDRESSES:** (Area Code 613)

Registrar's Office 520-3500 300 Tory

Student Academic Success Centre 520-7850 302 Tory

Paul Menton Centre 520-6608/TTY 520-3937 501 Uni-Centre

Writing Tutorial Service 520-2600 Ext. 1125 4th Floor Library

Learning Support Service 520-2600 Ext 1125 4th Floor Library

## **Course Schedule (subject to revision)**

Jan : Introduction to the course

Jan: *Othello* and a discussion of the movie (Parker) and of the article by Judith Buchanan.

Jan: *Othello* (Parker)

Jan: *Coriolanus*. A discussion of the assigned articles on Coriolanus.

Feb: *Coriolanus* (Fiennes)

Feb: *Tempest* (Taymor)

Feb: break

Feb: *Tempest* (Taymor) and a discussion of the articles.

March: *Cymbeline* (Almedeya)

March: *Cymbeline* (Almedeya)

March: *Hamlet* (Brangh)

March: *Hamlet*

April 4: *Hamlet* (Branagh)