

Prof. Joyce Boro
joyce.boro@umontreal.ca
ANG 6210
Autumn 2020
Tuesday 1-4pm

Shakespeare Escapes

If you could escape your current reality and go to a new world where your problems could be solved, where would you go? An enchanted forest, a remote island, a country estate... In this class we will read Shakespearean comedies in which troubled characters venture to new worlds in order to find resolution, solace, freedom, or new opportunities. These plays are indebted to the pastoral mode, which involves an (often problematised) opposition between the urban/courtly and the rural/country, and a concomitant polarisation of artificial and natural, corruption and purity, flawed and ideal. The essential movement in pastoral is one of retreat and return: the retreat is a locus of discovery and renewal, and the return is marked by greater emotional, psychological, or spiritual insight. We will begin with an examination of the pastoral and anti-pastoral in Renaissance poetry, and then study Shakespeare's *As You Like It*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Much Ado about Nothing*, *The Winter's Tale*, and *The Tempest*.

You are expected to participate in weekly zoom discussions of the set readings/ films and in online forum discussions.

Performance activities will also be assigned.

This is an **online, synchronous** seminar. Seminars will not be recorded.

Texts:

- The Oxford Shakespeare editions will be available at the UdeM bookstore. You may also use any of these critical editions of the plays: Arden, Cambridge, Norton, [Internet Shakespeare Editions](#)
- Additional readings will be on StudiUm.
- Links to films will be provided

Films (Provisional List):

As You Like It (2019) Dir. Carlyle Stewart
As You Like It (2010) Dir. Thea Sharrock and Kriss Russman
A Midsummer Night's Dream (2015) Dir. Julie Taymor
A Midsummer Night's Dream (1999) Dir. Michael Hoffman
Much Ado About Nothing (2005) Dir. Brian Percival
Much Ado About Nothing (1993) Dir. Kenneth Branagh
The Tempest (2011) Dir. Julie Taymor
The Tempest (2018) Dir. Antoni Cimolino

The Winter's Tale (1999) Dir. Robin Lough

The Winter's Tale (2019) Dir. Rob Ashford (if we can get it)

Assignments:

Paper (8-10 pages; circulated to the seminar group)	40%
Forum posts	25%
Discussion Leader (2 x 15 minutes; 1 page of notes to be submitted)	25%
Memorisation of 10-15 lines	10%

Seminar Paper:

You will use a doodle to sign up for the week that you would like to submit your paper. Your paper will be about that week's assigned texts. Papers will be submitted to the class shared google drive on the Sunday before class, so that seminar members have time to read the paper before we meet. This paper should be 8-10 pages, double spaced, 12-pt font, MLA format. You should consult a minimum of 5 scholarly secondary sources. This assignment is worth 40% of your final grade.

Discussion Leader:

You will use a doodle to sign up for the TWO weeks that you would like to lead discussions. You are responsible for leading class discussion for 15 minutes. You should prepare a page of notes with questions and prompts that you will use to generate discussion. This page is due on the day that you chose to be Discussion Leader. Your higher graded assignment will be worth 15%, the lower will be worth 10% for a total of 25%.

Discussion Forums:

There will be a discussion forum set up for each text that we are studying. Each week you should post at least 1 discussion question on the assigned reading. These posts are due by Sunday midnight before class.

You are also required to post 2 responses to your classmates' discussion posts prior to our meeting. Thus each week, you will be writing 3 posts.

There will be an additional forum in which you will be invited to reflect upon performance activities.

Posts should be polite and constructive and should aim to generate conversation, reflection, constructive debate, and/or deepen the discussion.

Each post will be worth approximately 0,6% of your grade, adding up to 25%. All serious posts that are submitted on time will get full marks.

Week 2 (poetry):

Discussion question due by midnight Sunday Sept 6

Two responses to the questions due by 12pm Tuesday Sept 8

Week 3 (AYLI)

Discussion question due by midnight Sunday Sept 13

Two responses to the questions due by 12pm Tuesday Sept 15

Week 4 (AYLI)

Discussion question due by midnight Sunday Sept 20

Two responses to the questions due by 12pm Tuesday Sept 22

Week 5 (*MND*)

Discussion question due by midnight Sunday Sept 27

Two responses to the questions due by 12pm Tuesday Sept 29

Week 6 (*MND*)

Discussion question due by midnight Sunday Oct 4

Two responses to the questions due by 12pm Tuesday Oct 6

Week 7 (*Much Ado*)

Discussion question due by midnight Sunday Oct 11

Two responses to the questions due by 12pm Tuesday Oct 13

Week 9 (*Much Ado*)

Discussion question due by midnight Sunday Oct 25

Two responses to the questions due by 12pm Tuesday Oct 27

Week 10 (*WT*)

Discussion question due by midnight Sunday Nov 1

Two responses to the questions due by 12pm Tuesday Nov 3

Week 11 (*WT*)

Discussion question due by midnight Sunday Nov 8

Two responses to the questions due by 12pm Tuesday Nov 10

Week 12 (*Temp*)

Discussion question due by midnight Sunday Nov 15

Two responses to the questions due by 12pm Tuesday Nov 17

Week 13 (*Temp*)

Discussion question due by midnight Sunday Nov 22

Two responses to the questions due by 12pm Tuesday Nov 24

Memorisation:

Due date: October 27

Memorizing lines is a valuable interpretive activity that enables you to embody the text and make it your own. You are required to memorise 10-15 lines of text from any of the assigned plays. The lines must all be spoken by the same character. You should do a video recording of yourself reciting your lines with your eyes closed. You may also do a second more dynamic, eyes open version. Upload it to our shared google drive. This assignment is worth 10% of your final grade.

Additional Information:

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

The university guide on how to use zoom is here:

https://wiki.umontreal.ca/display/SIE/FAQ+Zoom?preview=%2F162469304%2F162469306%2FGuide_Zoom_participant.pdf

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

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.

Professors are required to report all cases of plagiarism to the Dean. The minimal disciplinary measure for cases of plagiarism is an F on the assignment, essay, or exam. 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.

Weekly Schedule:

Week 1-- September 1

Introduction

Week 2 -- September 8

Article on StudiUM

Christopher Marlowe, "[The Passionate Shepherd to His Love](#)"

Walter Raleigh, "[The Nymph's Reply to the Shepherd](#)"

Aemilia Lanyer, "[The Description of Cooke-ham](#)"

Ben Jonson "[To Penshurst](#)"

Katherine Philips, "[A Country Life](#)"

Week 3--September 15

As You Like It

Article on StudiUM

Week 4--September 22

As You Like It Films

Article on StudiUM

Week 5--September 29

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Article on StudiUm

Week 6--October 6

A Midsummer Night's Dream Films

Article on StudiUM

Week 7--October 13

Much Ado about Nothing

Article on StudiUM

Week 8--October 20

Mid-term Break

Week 9--October 27

Much Ado about Nothing Films

Article on StudiUM

Week 10--November 3

The Winter's Tale

Article on StudiUM

Week 11--November 10

The Winter's Tale

Article on StudiUM

Week 12--November 17

The Tempest

Article on StudiUM

Week 13--November 24

The Tempest

Article on StudiUM

Week 14--December 1

Performance Workshop