

# Shakespeare's Romance Plays: a Selection

**Time:** Spring 2024. Wed. 9:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

**Location:** Maryland Pkwy campus, 4350 S. Maryland Pkwy. Room to be determined.

**Instructor:** Alfred J. Drake, Ph.D.

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## Recommended Text

Greenblatt, Stephen et al., eds. *The Norton Shakespeare: Romances and Poems*. Third edition. New York: W. W. Norton, 2016. ISBN-13: 978-0393938623.

**Or, get the full set:** Greenblatt, Stephen et al., eds. *The Norton Shakespeare*. 4-vol. bundle. Third edition. New York: W. W. Norton, 2015. 978-0393265460. (Includes all of Shakespeare's plays.)

**Alternative choices:** The Arden Shakespeare and Folger Shakespeare Library editions of *Pericles*, *The Winter's Tale*, and *The Tempest* are relatively inexpensive and offer good notes.

**Course Overview:** We will cover several of the brilliant, bittersweet romance plays that Shakespeare created towards the latter part of his career. We will explore the thesis that these plays—strangely suspended as they are between sunny comedy and bleak tragedy and despite their fantastical plots and unlikely settings—may yet hew closer to “real life” than many of Shakespeare's other dramas.

## Schedule (Subject to change)

Week 1	Feb. 14	Intro to Shakespeare and to the romance genre.
Week 2	Feb. 21	<i>Pericles, Prince of Tyre</i> . Intro and Acts 1-2.
Week 3	Feb. 28	<i>Pericles, Prince of Tyre</i> . Acts 3-5.
Week 4	Mar. 06	<i>The Winter's Tale</i> . Intro and Act 1.
Week –	Mar. 13	Spring Break. No classes from March 11-18.
Week 5	Mar. 20	<i>The Winter's Tale</i> . Acts 2-3.
Week 6	Mar. 27	<i>The Winter's Tale</i> . Acts 4-5.
Week 7	Apr. 03	<i>The Tempest</i> . Intro and Acts 1.
Week 8	Apr. 10	<i>The Tempest</i> . Acts 2-3.
Week 9	Apr. 17	<i>The Tempest</i> . Acts 4-5.
Week 10	Apr. 24	The dark backward and abysm: a retrospective session.