ENGL366C: Shakespeare: Comedies, Problem Plays, and Romances

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Course description:

Maybe you love Shakespeare, and you have read all the plays you can get your hands on. Maybe you haven’t read much Shakespeare, but you feel like you should. Maybe you hate Shakespeare, but you are required to take a Shakespeare course. No matter what, you are welcome in this class. Together we will read a selection of plays ranging from the famous to the obscure. Along the way, we’ll explore why people think Shakespeare is important, inspiring, fascinating, frustrating, and powerful. You will even have a chance to investigate how other writers have turned to Shakespeare to engage with difficult questions and to amplify their own voices.

Proposed assignments:

- Short exploration assignments: 30% (3 at 10% each)
- Final research project: 45%
  - Proposal (5%)
  - Essay (30%)
  - Poster presentation (10%)
- Final exam 25%
Proposed reading list:

- Assigned plays will likely include *Comedy of Errors, Taming of the Shrew, As You Like It, The Merchant of Venice, Measure for Measure, All’s Well That Ends Well, The Tempest,* and *The Winter’s Tale.*

- You will also read one comedy, problem play, or romance of your choice that is NOT on the course syllabus for the final exam.

- Note that the bookstore will have copies of *The Complete Pelican Shakespeare* available for purchase, but students may use any high-quality complete works for this class.