

English 360  
Images of Love in European Literature  
Fall 1998  
T-Th, 3:00-4:20  
Hoover 205

Professor Wendy Furman  
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Office Hours: M,W, 10-12;  
F, 10-11; T,Th, 4:30-5

**Required Texts:**

Andreas Capellanus. *The Art of Courtly Love*, trans. John Jay Parry. New York: Columbia UP, 1990.

Milan Kundera. *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*. New York: Penguin, 1984.

Roger S. Loomis and Laura Hibbard Loomis, eds. *Medieval Romances*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1957.

Plato. *The Symposium*, trans. Walter Hamilton. New York: Penguin, 1951.

William Shakespeare. *Romeo and Juliet*, ed. John E. Hankins. New York: Penguin, 1970.

Virgil. *The Aeneid*, trans. Allen Mandelbaum. New York: Bantam, 1961.

You also will be responsible for buying and reading an anthology of shorter materials (cost \$8.00--payable by check by September 17; after that date, cost goes up to \$10.00).

**Required Work:**

1. Reading assignments to be completed before the dates for which they are assigned (i.e. in time for class discussion).

2. Prompt and regular attendance at all class sessions (including at least two evening films).

3. Three short response papers (about 2 pages each).

**Note:** Late papers will be accepted, but will be marked down one half grade for each class day after the due date.

5. One longer paper (8-10 pages), based on materials beyond those presented in the course.

6. A comprehensive final exam (identification and essay).

### Grading Factors:

1. Attendance, preparation and discussion	25
2. Short papers	30
3. Longer paper	20
4. Final exam	<u>25</u>
	100%

### Grading Options:

1. A - F
2. Credit/No Credit (non-majors only)

### Manuscript Style:

Papers are to be typed double-space in a 12-point font, and printed on a letter-quality printer. They should be handed in on separate sheets of 8 1/2 X 11 bond paper stapled in the upper left-hand corner. Margins should be one inch; paragraphs are to be indented five spaces. Spaces should not be skipped between paragraphs. Notes and bibliography must follow the *MLA Handbook*, copies of which are available in both the library and the bookstore.

Always keep hard-copies of all your work. Documents can get lost--both from my desk and from your disk, whether hard or floppy. Should this occur, I will expect you to be able to produce a copy immediately; otherwise, I will be forced to count the paper as late beginning with the day of your failure to do so. (See above for general policy on late papers.)

### The Schedule:

**Note:** All readings not listed separately as class texts are to be found in the class anthology (CA).

### I. Love in Biblical and Classical Literature

Sept. 10 General introduction to the course. Botticelli's *Primavera*, Titian's *Sacred and Profane Love*, and Galway Kinnell's "Call Across the Valley of Not Knowing," CA 4-7.

15 Love as Strong as Death: The Biblical Song of Songs (8th-3rd Century B.C.E.), CA 10-20. Performance and discussion.

17 Love as a sickness; love as a game: Greek poets--Sappho (c. 590 B.C.E.), Anacreon (c. 500 B.C.E.), and Theocritus (275 B.C.E.),

CA 22-30.

- 22 Love as the road to absolute Beauty: Plato's *Symposium* (c. 350 B.C.E.). Also see CA 31.
- 24 Love as social contract and aesthetic pleasure: Roman poets-- Catullus (84-54 B.C.E.); Horace (65-8 B.C.E.); and Ovid (43 B.C.E.-17 C.E.), CA 32-50.
- 29 Love as fatal madness: The *Aeneid* of Virgil (70-19 B.C.E.), Books I-IV and Book VI, pp. 147-48.
- Oct. 1 Love as "mortality's eclipse": the late Roman lyric, CA 52-57. Response paper # 1 due.

## II: Love in Medieval Literature

- Oct. 6 The Art of Courtly Love (1): Troubadours and Trouvères (France, twelfth century C.E.), CA 59-73; 76, 78.
- 8 *The Art of Courtly Love* (2): Andreas Capellanus (c. 1175).
- 13 The Courtly Romance: Gottfried von Strassburg's *Tristan and Isolt* (Loomis and Loomis, pp. 88-232).
- 15 *Tristan and Isolt*. Also see CA 74.
- 20 *La dolce stil nuovo*: Dante Alighieri (1265-1321) and his circle (Italy, late thirteenth century), CA 80-89.
- 22 Gothic Synthesis: Dante's *Paradiso*, CA 90-96. Response paper # 2 due.

## III: Love in the Literature of the Renaissance

- Oct. 27 Wasted Days: Francesco Petrarch (1304-1375) and the sonnets of renunciation (Italy, fourteenth century), CA 97-100.

- 29 Petrarchanism with an "other" voice: Gaspara Stampa, *CA* 103-108.
- Nov. 3 Romantic Love--the Platonic strain: Castiglione's *The Courtier* (selections from Book IV), *CA* 109-22. Also review Plato's *Symposium*, and come prepared to discuss the ways in which Castiglione has borrowed from, and revised, that foundational text.
- 5 Romantic Love--the Ovidian strain: Marlowe's *Hero and Leander* (England, late sixteenth century), *CA* 124-137.
- 10 The Sonnet (1)--Struggle: Wyatt and Surrey; Sidney; Shakespeare; Greville (England, 1540's-1590's), *CA* 136-50.
- 12 The Sonnet (2)--Synthesis: Spenser's *Amoretti* and *Epithalamion*, *CA* 152-67.
- 17 The Poetry of Marriage: Milton's "Haile Wedded Love" (from *Paradise Lost*, Book IV) and "Late Espoused Saint" (Sonnet XXIII), *CA* 168-71.  
7:30 p.m.: Viewing of at least one film version of *Romeo and Juliet*. (Location T.B.A.).
- 19 Renaissance love tragedy: *Romeo and Juliet*. Discussion of film version(s) in the context of Shakespeare's text. Response paper # 3 due.
- 24 *Romeo and Juliet*. Also review the *Aeneid* and *Tristan and Isolt* and come prepared to discuss how Shakespeare draws on, and revises, their fundamental assumptions about love.  
Proposal for final paper due.
- 26 Thanksgiving.
- Dec. 1 The poetry of seduction (profane and sacred): Donne, Herbert, Herrick, Marvell, and others (England, early seventeenth century), *CA* 173-89. Review earlier lyrics in the course to assess possible influences.

**IV (epilogue): Love in Twentieth Century Literature and Film**

Dec. 3 Milan Kundera, *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*.

8 *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*.

7:30 p.m.: Film--Wim Wenders' *Wings of Desire* (Location T.B.A.).

10 Last day of class. *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*.

Final paper due. Review for final.

Dec. 18 (Friday): Final Examination, 10:30-12:30. Make a note of this now and make your holiday travel plans accordingly!