

ENGL 4200: Early Modern Special Topic

SIMULACRE: the poetics & praxis of adaptation

Winter Quarter, 2017
Wednesdays: 4:00 – 7:50 p.m.
Sturm Hall 496

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Commonplace Book Prompt #2

For our third week of class, follow one of these prompts:

- Within the scope of our materials (noted below) choose two of the adaptations of Shakespeare's *Hamlet* and pay close attention to at least one moment in each work. In those instances, how is that work engaging *Hamlet*?
- Within the scope of our materials (noted below) choose two of the theoretical texts. How would you apply elements from those arguments to a reading of *Hamlet*?
- Choose two moments from Shakespeare's *Hamlet* and create your own adaptations of those moments.
- Choose two of the adaptations of Shakespeare's *Hamlet* and create your own adaptation of one moment from each work.
- Select at least 5 keywords from *Hamlet* and pay close attention to their etymology during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, using the Oxford English Dictionary via our Library's electronic databases: <http://libguides.du.edu/az.php>. How do the meanings for those words change over time?

Materials:

1/18 Plato, *Republic*, Books 7 – 10; Aristotle, *Poetics*; Shakespeare, *Hamlet*; Debord, *The Society of the Spectacle*; Stoppard, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* (text and film); Müller, *Hamletmachine*; Almereyda, *Hamlet 2000*; Ronk, *why why not*; Mazzoni, "On the Defense of the *Comedy of Dante*"; Kristeva, "From One Identity to Another"; Rivers, *Classical and Christian Ideas in English Renaissance Poetry* (chapters 3, 5, 9, 11, 12); Howard, "Historical Figuration: Poetics, Historiography, and New Genre Studies"