

Björklunden Seminars

“Vacation with a purpose”

JULY 14-19, 2024 AT BJÖRKLUNDEN



Shakespeare in Love: Romeo and Juliet, 1594-2024

Course Description

In conjunction with the Door Shakespeare production of *Romeo and Juliet*, this seminar will explore Shakespeare's iconic depiction of tragic love, a story that has become synonymous with modern conceptions of romantic love around the world.

We will consider the production and performance history of the play as a way of thinking about the opportunities and challenges it has presented to theatrical companies over the past 430 years.

Alongside *Romeo and Juliet*, we will study Shakespeare's reflections on love recorded in his sonnets, many of which were likely written around the same time as the play. We will also compare this relatively early play to Shakespeare's later romantic tragedy, *Antony and Cleopatra*, in order to consider how (and to what degree) Shakespeare's understanding of love changed over his career.

The seminar will culminate with a garden performance of Door Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, allowing us to reflect on the choices that this production has made in order to bring Shakespeare's classic play to life for us once again in the 21st Century.

[Register Here>>](#)

Instructor



Garth Bond

Bond has been teaching Shakespeare for over 20 years, 19 of them at Lawrence University where he is an associate professor and outgoing chair of the English department. He has also served as the director of Lawrence's Freshman/First-Year Studies program.

His research focuses on the manuscript circulation of poetry in the 16th and 17th centuries, after the advent of print. His work has appeared in *Modern Philology* and *The Ashgate Research Companion to the Sidneys, 1500-1700*, and he is a co-editor of a forthcoming edition of *The Poetry of William Herbert, Third Earl of Pembroke* (coincidentally, one of the main candidates for the "fair youth" addressed in Shakespeare's sonnet).