Course Description

Not quite his last play, but certainly the last play he wrote alone, Shakespeare's *Tempest* is often understood as the bard's farewell to the stage. *The Tempest* certainly does give a beautiful retrospective focus to the playwright's career, to his life, and to human life in general. We will discuss the play scene by scene, one act a day, for the five days of this seminar. As a group we will construct our understanding of the play out of close and careful reading of its language and in dialogue with the generations of readers who have come before us. Seminar participants are encouraged, though not required, to see the Actor's Shakespeare Project production *The Tempest*, playing at Willet Hall, United Parish, 210 Harvard Street, Brookline from December 1 through January 8. Brandeis' theatre arts faculty member, Marya Lowry, appears in this production.

Instructor

William Flesch, PhD, is a professor of English at Brandeis, where he teaches courses on Shakespeare, poetry, and film. He is the author of *Comeuppance*, a book that critic Harold Bloom lauded as a work of "skill and cunning." A recipient of multiple teaching awards and an NEH Fellowship, Billy has led fourteen previous BOLLI Seminars – all to rave reviews.

Registration for *The Tempest*:

BOLLI Seasonal Members: $185
*General Public: $250

*Annual members receive a 50% discount.
Registration is first come first served. Space is limited. Convenient parking available.
To register, please visit www.brandeis.edu/BOLLI