

TH 365.01 Theatre History III (Western) (4 cr)

Spring 2007 M,T, W,TH 10:00 – 10:50 ROOM: MC 117

Instructor: Dr. Terri L. Brown Office Hours: M,T,W,TH @ 11:00 or by appt.
Office MC 105 Phone 963-2020 Email: brownnte@cwu.edu

Catalogue/Course Description: Western Theatre History from Ibsen to the present.

This course will give one an overview of western theatre history from the inception of realism through the contemporary period. We will explore the highlights of different periods of history which will include the study of the plays and their playwrights, acting styles, staging conventions, architecture and costuming.

This syllabus and calendar are subject to change at the instructor’s discretion. Please be aware that you will be required to see both *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *Pecos Bill* this quarter. Please prepare now!

Reference Texts: Living Theatre: A History
Authors: Edwin Goldfarb and Alvin Goldfarb
Fourth Edition

Required Text: Course Packet: Plays of the Period III (This is only available at the University bookstore – Green Cover))

Supportive Texts: History of the Theatre
Ninth Edition
Authors: Oscar G. Brockett and Franklin J. Hildy

Required Supplies: Creativity, a sense of fun, willingness to participate fully, a sense of humor, and the ability to stay awake during the lectures and movies!

Course Objectives: Assessments:
At the completion of this course, the student will be able to:

Identify the main theatrical periods throughout recorded western history.	This knowledge will be evaluated through quizzes and exams, as well as class discussions and participation in several student designed projects.
Recognize and compare the individual characteristics important to each of these theatrical periods.	The class will explore existing texts defining elements from each period. The students will write, produce, and perform original works demonstrating the characteristics of different time periods.
Develop and use critical thinking and analytical skills.	Oral discussions surrounding the review and analysis of several theatrical texts selected from the defined theatrical periods will be in seminar format, enabling critical thought and discussion, and allowing students to defend and support varying styles and choices.
Apply analytical techniques to productions viewed in class and as part of the regular season.	This knowledge will be evaluated through written quizzes and/or written essays.

Teacher Certification Standards met in this course can be found at http://www.cwu.edu/~theatre/program/undergrad/ed_standards.html

Attendance Policy and Course Requirements:

- 1) You must participate in all class meetings. To participate, you must be present! You will be allowed three absences for any reason in this class. After three absences your final grade will drop ½ a grade (A to A-) for each further absence. If you are late – you may be marked absent. Three tardies will equal one absence. If you have a class before history on the other side of the campus, you must inform me now. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to get the information covered during your absence from another student.

- 2) **Late assignments will not be accepted and you may not make-up a quiz or presentation.** (If an emergency occurs, whether or not an assignment or test will be accepted will be left to the sole discretion of the instructor.
- 3) **Read the assigned material before the next class session. Be prepared to discuss it thoughtfully and thoroughly. Come to class with a few questions to explore.**
- 4) **There will be a quiz following reading assignments. Please make sure you keep up on the reading.**

PLEASE NOTE: On Quiz, Mid-term, project presentation days, or the final exam – NO CELL PHONES OR ELECTRONIC DEVICES OF ANY KIND (this includes laptop computers) WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE CLASSROOM!!!!

Your grade will be determined as follows:

Quizzes	20%
Individual reports (4 each)	60% (15% Each)
Critiques (2)	10% (5% Each)
Final Project/Exam	10%

Total	100%

Grading Scale:

93-100=A
90-92=A-
87-89=B+
83-86=B
80-82=B-
77-79=C+
73-76=C
70-72=C-
60-69=D
0-59=F

Students With Disabilities

If you have a disability that may prevent you from meeting course requirements, contact the instructor immediately to file a Student Disability Statement and to develop an Accommodation Plan. Course requirements will not be waived but reasonable accommodations will be developed to help you meet the requirements. You are expected to work with the instructor and the CWU Disability Support Specialist to develop and implement a reasonable Accommodation Plan.

Writing Assistance Is Available

All student writers are invited to meet with consultants at the University Writing Center.

Sessions typically last from 30 to 50 minutes and can include brainstorming ideas, developing research skills, organizing an essay, revising, and discussing writing and rhetoric in any discipline. The format is two writers talking about writing. It is helpful if the student brings the course syllabus, the assignment sheet, and related materials.

The center has two locations. The Hertz 103 and the he satellite center, in the Library's second-floor Fish Bowl. Students may drop by and take a chance there is an opening, or they may call 963-1296 and make an appointment.

Theatre Arts Mission Statements

University Mission;

"Docendo Discimus" (By Teaching We Learn)

Department Mission;

The Department of Theatre Arts is an ensemble of artists, scholars, educators, and practitioners located in the heart of the Pacific Northwest who:

- prepare students for advanced study and professional careers in theatre;
- promote creativity and excellence in a diverse educational environment;
- cultivate, educate, challenge and enrich audiences; and
- train and prepare students from diverse backgrounds to link art and life through experiential learning; in order to nurture skilled, thoughtful, and courageous citizens who will promote a peaceful and tolerant global community

Center for Teaching and Learning Theme; "facilitators of learning in a diverse world"

Teaching Philosophy:

The Theatre Arts Department supports and practices constructivism as a teaching philosophy. Indeed, it may be argued that it has used this philosophy in almost all of the diverse areas within the discipline since the art of theatre was created by human beings. Teachers of Theatre Arts practice tenets from the three forms of constructivism exhaustively covered in the Conceptual Framework; Developmental, Social, and Socio-cultural. As a result, we apply the views commonly and generally held by constructivist teachers; Learning opportunities are best when accompanied by high levels of active engagement with tasks that characterize them.

Formal knowledge is valued and made available to the learner, but the learner is encouraged to reflect on it and be skeptical about it, rather than simply accept it.

Multiple examples and a variety of representations of content enable learners to derive meaning.

Critical thinking, reflection, and problem solving are prized and encouraged.

Interaction and conversation with others in the learning environment can improve the learner's ability to state her case, can widen perspective, and can motivate learning.

Multiple and authentic measures of assessment provide richer insight into the learner's construction of knowledge.

Verbal explanations can and should be supplemented by experiential learning.

It should be noted that each teacher applies these precepts in diverse ways, according to their particular area within the discipline.

Tentative Schedule (please note this schedule may/will change!)-

March 27 Introduction, Go over syllabus etc., Getting to know you...

28 Turn of the Century Theatre, Buchner, READ: *Woyzeck*

29 Wagner, Realism and Naturalism (Sweden and Germany)

April 2 Henrik Ibsen, George Bernard Shaw, Emile Zola, Andre Antoine

3 Quiz on *Woyzeck*, Maxim Gorky, Anton Chekov, Konstantin Stanislavski

4 Symbolism/Idealism/Impressionism, Maeterlink, Strindberg

5 Jarry, Wedekind Watch sections of Ghost Sonata READ: *The Importance of Being Earnest*

9 Theatre Between Wars – Non Realism Reinhardt, Wilde

10 Quiz on *Earnest*, Synge, Diaghilev, Meyerhold

11 Tairov, Copeau, Belasco, Delcroze,

12 James O'Neill, Adolphe Appia, Gordon Craig READ: *The Verge*

16 Expressionism, Modernism, Futurism, Surrealism, Avante Garde, Formalism
The Provincetown Players, Susan Glaspell, Mina Loy
17 Quiz on *The Verge*, The Heterodoxy, Ernst Toller, Erwin Piscator
18 Tristan Tzara, Eugenio Barba, Bertolt Brecht
19 Bauhaus Theatre Movement, Luigi Pirandello, READ: *The Gas Heart*
Frederico Garcia Lorca *The Spurt of Blood*

23 Artaud, Cocteau, Appollinaire
24 Quiz on the plays, Giraudoux, Anouilh, The Cartel des Quatre
25 Meyerhold, Vakhtangov, Mikail Chekov
26 Guthrie, O'Casey, The Little Theatre Movement READ: *The Rimers of Eldritch*

30 Eugene O'Neill, Maxwell Anderson and Lillian Hellman
May 1 Quiz on *Rimers*, Catch – up day
2 Robert Edmund Jones, All Colored Dramatic Stock Company, Schubert Organization
3 Federal Theatre Project, The Mercury Theatre, The Group Theatre
READ: *M. Butterfly*

7 Existentialism/ Revolutionary Political theatre/Social Realism, Samuel Beckett, John
Howard Lawson, Gertrude Stein
8 Quiz on *M. Butterflys*, Adrienne Mnouchkine, Roger Planchon
9 Jean Genet, The Berliner Ensemble, The Royal Shakespeare Company
10 No Class – *Earnest* opens READ: *True West*

14 Critiques of Earnest due today!! Peter Hall, Peter Brook, Harold Pinter
15 Quiz on *True West*, La Mamma, Sam Shepard
16 Ellen Stewart, Tennessee Williams, Arthur Miller
17 August Wilson, Megan Terry, David Mamet READ: *Joe Turner's...*

21 Contemporary Performance and Postmodernism - Trevor Nunn, Dario Fo, Jerzy
Grotowski
22 Quiz on *Joe Turner*, Heinar Muller, Peter Stein
23 Richard Schechner, Amiri Baraka, Negro Ensemble Company
24 Peter Sellars, Lee Breuer, JoAnne Akilaitis READ: *The Arkansas Bear*
And A Thousand Cranes

28 Memorial Day – No class
29 Quiz on both plays, Elizabeth LeCompte, Joseph
Chaikin, READ: *Sunday in the Park*
30 Tadashi Suzuki, Anne Bogart, Robert LePage,
Augusto Boal
31 Quiz on *George*, Hwang, Sondheim, Webber

The Party's Over!...Final (project/exam) is scheduled for Tuesday, June 5 from 4:00-6:00.

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!!!!