

English 2450E 550
Modern Drama
Intersession 2022

This is an online class; we will meet on Monday, May 16 at 9:30am to determine when we will meet for our weekly tutorials from these available times: Monday-Thursday 9:30am-12:30pm

Professor: Dr. Amanda Di Ponio

Office: Huron University College, A104 (Phone 519.438.7224 c/o ext. 277)

Office Hours: by appointment in A104 or via Zoom

Email: adiponi@uwo.ca

I reply to messages during business hours Monday to Friday (9-5); if you send a message Friday after 5pm, it will be replied to Monday morning.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

(from Western's academic course calendar) A study of major directions in modern theatre and drama with special emphasis upon the plays of Ibsen, Chekhov, Strindberg, Brecht, Beckett, and Pinter. The Modern Period is marked by a number of social, political, and aesthetic tensions. How does theatre remain relevant amidst these pressures? We will look at plays from the late nineteenth onward, taking a historical approach as we try to understand the organic development of dramatic forms from the late 19th century into the mid-20th.

PREREQUISITE(S)

At least 60% in 1.0 of English 1020-1999 or permission of the Department.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Read/ Analyze/ View drama from the modern period, with an emphasis on performance practices, to understand the political, religious, moral, and philosophical substructures of the texts on the course
- Show understanding of Twentieth-Century Drama by forming interpretive arguments of the plays using close reading
- View/ Analyze recordings of live professional and amateur performance
- Place individual texts in their socio-historical and geographical context
- Communicate ideas effectively through readings, discussion, blogging, creative composition, and/or presentations and persuasive essays
- Analyze critical reception theory informing both performance (motivations, techniques) and audience reception
- Research and engage with scholarly/critical texts
- Write logically and persuasively in fluent, standard English using the appropriate conventions for scholarly-critical writing
- Design strong thesis statements and structured arguments in persuasive essays which incorporate evidence from both primary and secondary texts in support of arguments

- Incorporate evidence, from both primary, secondary, and critical theory texts in essay writing to support arguments that logically and persuasively present complex and debatable arguments
- Apply principles of quotation integration using MLA documentation
- Evaluate the relevance, reliability, and usefulness of research sources, including those obtained through the Internet

TEXTBOOKS AND COURSE MATERIALS

Course materials are provided via Course Readings available on our course website (OWL)

METHODS OF EVALUATION

Research Essay (2,500-3,000 words) 30%

Research Proposal (oral; via Zoom) 5%

Weekly Responses (prompts provided by prof.; no more than one, single-spaced page/500 words) 5 x 5% = 25%

Performance Analysis (1,000-1,500 words) 15%

Creative Assignment (various depending on selection; options provided by prof.) 15%

Tutorials 10%

*assignments are due Sunday afternoons, unless indicated otherwise

NOTE. detailed assignment instructions will be provided and posted on OWL under Assignments; students are required to consult and follow those requirements. Assignments must be submitted to our course website for plagiarism checking. Assignment due dates are specified in the lecture and reading schedule below. **Late assignments will incur a penalty of 2 marks per day**, up to a maximum of one week. After seven (7) days, the assignment will not be accepted and receive a mark of zero. Late assignments will not be appended with comments. Assignments are never accepted via email. **Extensions are never granted the day an assignment is due.** Extenuating circumstances will be considered provided students seek academic accommodation if/when necessary; see the Appendix (below).

Tutorials: The participation grade is comprised of students' attendance and participation in our designated 5 Zoom tutorials (TBD). Students are expected to come to class prepared, having read assigned materials, and willing and able to participate. Complete details of student responsibilities regarding the participation grade will be outlined in the first class on May 16.

PLAGIARISM

There is zero tolerance for plagiarism in this course.

Students must write their assignments in their own words. This is imperative given the online environment. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage, from another author, in this case including from course notes (sources will be detailed), they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing in the form of citations. This includes Internet sources. Plagiarism is a major academic offence.

Plagiarism checking:

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism-detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All

papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

plays and dates to be confirmed

Week 1

May 16-19: **meet via Zoom @9:30am**

Topic: Realism and Naturalism + course presentation: readings, objectives, assignments, etc.

Henrik Ibsen, *Hedda Gabler* (1891)

August Strindberg, *Miss Julie* (1888) + “Preface to *Miss Julie*”

Anton Chekov, *The Cherry Orchard* (1904)

Task: Tutorial 1

Response 1 (5%)

Week 2

May 23-26

Topic: Expressionism and Symbolism

Georg Büchner, *Woyzeck* (1836)

Rachilde (Marguerite Eymery), *The Crystal Spider* (1892)

Djuna Barnes, *The Dove* (1921)

Task: Tutorial 2

Response 2 (5%)

Creative Assignment (15%)

Week 3

May 30-June 2

Topic: Surrealism

André Breton, “The First Surrealist Manifesto” + “The Second Surrealist Manifesto”

Guillaume Apollinaire, *Tiresias's Breasts* (1903)

Antonin Artaud, *The Spurt of Blood* (1925)

Task: Tutorial 3

Response 3 (5%)

Week 4

June 6-9

Topic: Theatre of Protest and Anti-Heteronormative Theatre

Lady Gregory, *The Rising of the Moon* (1907)

Mae West, *The Drag* (1927)

Marita Bonner, *The Purple Flower* (1928)

Task: Tutorial 4

Response 4 (5%)

Performance Analysis (15%)

Week 5

June 13-16

Topic: Epic Theatre and Existentialist Theatre

Bertolt Brecht, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* (1944) + “A Street Scene” + “Theatre for Pleasure”

Jean-Paul Sartre, *No Exit* (1944)

Jean Genet, *The Balcony* (1956)

Task: Tutorial 5

Response 6 (5%)

Week 6

June 20-23

Topic: Theatre of the Absurd

Samuel Beckett, *Waiting for Godot* (1953)

Eugène Ionesco, *The Lesson* (1959)

Pinter, *The Dumb Waiter* (1960)

Task: Individual Consultation (5%)

Research Essay (30%)



Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations Summer 2022

Student Code of Conduct

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. While in the physical or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/sites/default/files/Res%20Life/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Revised%20September%202019.pdf>.

Prerequisite and Antirequisite Information

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not completed any course antirequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Attendance Regulations for Examinations

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Review the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/attendance.pdf.

Statement on Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf. The appeals process is also outlined in this policy as well as more generally at the following website: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf.

Turnitin.com

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

It is not appropriate to use electronic devices (such as, but not limited to, laptops, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

Statement on Use of Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”)

Personal Response Systems (“clickers”) may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else’s clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

Academic Consideration for Missed Work

Students who are seeking academic consideration for missed work during the semester may submit a self-reported absence form online provided that the absence is **48 hours or less** and the other conditions specified in the Senate policy at

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf are met.

Students whose absences are expected to last **longer than 48 hours**, or where the other conditions detailed in the policy are not met (e.g., work is worth more than 30% of the final grade, the student has already used 2 self-reported absences, the absence is during the final exam period), may receive academic consideration by submitting a Student Medical Certificate (for illness) or other appropriate documentation (for compassionate grounds). The Student Medical Certificate is available online at

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. **Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.**

Students who have conditions for which academic accommodation is appropriate, such as disabilities or ongoing or chronic health conditions, should work with Accessible Education Services to determine appropriate forms of accommodation. Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at:

<http://academicssupport.uwo.ca/>.

Policy on Academic Consideration for a Medical/ Non-Medical Absence

**(a) Consideration on Medical Grounds for assignments worth *less than 10%* of final grade:
Consult Instructor Directly and Contact Academic Advising**

When seeking consideration on **medical grounds** for assignments worth *less than 10%* of the final course grade, and if the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported absences, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. If documentation is requested, the student will need to complete and submit the [Student Medical Certificate](#). The instructor may **not** collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation.

(b) Consideration on Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email huronsss@uwo.ca.

Students seeking academic consideration for a **non-medical** absence (e.g. varsity sports, religious, compassionate, or bereavement) will be required to provide appropriate documentation where the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence have not been met, including where the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported. All consideration requests must include a completed [Consideration Request Form](#). Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor.

Please review the full policy on Academic Consideration for medical and non-medical absence at: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf. Consult [Huron Academic Advising](#) at huronsss@uwo.ca for any further questions or information.

Support Services

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation, students should email an Academic Advisor in Huron's Student Support Services at huronsss@uwo.ca. An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>.

Department Chairs, Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about individual programs. Contact information can be found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/contact/faculty-staff-directory/>.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your workload is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you are considering reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines. Please refer to the Advising website, <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/academic-advising/> or review the list of official Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm>.

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP and/or Scholarship/Bursary eligibility.

Huron Student Support Services: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>

Office of the Registrar: <https://registrar.uwo.ca/>

Student Quick Reference Guide: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/#1>

Academic Support & Engagement: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>

Huron University College Student Council: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/beyond-classroom/hucsc/>

Western USC: <http://westernusc.ca/your-services/#studentservices>

Mental Health & Wellness Support at Huron and Western

University students may encounter setbacks from time to time that can impact academic performance. Huron offers a variety of services that are here to support your success and wellbeing. Please visit <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety> for more information or contact staff directly:

Wellness Services: huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca

Community Safety Office: safety@huron.uwo.ca

Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through, <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.