



The University of Southern Queensland

## Course specification

### Description: Australian Theatre and Drama

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
THS	2005	51131	1, 2006	EXT	1.00	Toowoomba

<b>Academic group:</b>	FOART
<b>Academic org:</b>	FOA006
<b>Student contribution band:</b>	1
<b>ASCED code:</b>	100103

### STAFFING

Examiner: Kate Foy

Moderator: Darryl Chalk

### REQUISITES

Pre-requisite: THS2000

### SYNOPSIS

This course is structured to survey the multi-faceted nature and the development of Australian drama and theatre since the beginning of white settlement. Historically, the course will focus on the drama and theatre of the mid to the late 20th century, but will refer to earlier times in tracing the development of a recurring theme in Australian drama, that of identity. The course commences with an overview of Australian theatre at the beginning of the 21st century and an exploration of a contemporary play. In subsequent modules, students will be introduced to some of the earlier social, political, economic and artistic elements and key writers who have shaped Australian drama and its theatre. The course attempts to represent a diversity of "voices" in Australian drama, and will draw upon plays, reviews and other secondary materials to explore various relevant socio-political and economic issues as they relate to identification. Within this exploration, the performative possibilities of the plays will be emphasised.

### OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this course students will have:

1. a basic understanding of the history of theatre in Australia since 1788 with a particular emphasis on the period post-1955 (Assessment items 1-6 refer);
2. a sound knowledge of particular plays, theatre practitioners and periods in Australian theatre (Assessment items 1-6 refer).

### TOPICS

Description	Weighting (%)
1. Analysis of selected plays and playwrights	100.00

## **TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED**

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at <http://bookshop.usq.edu.au> click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

Buzo, A 1976, *Norm and Ahmed*, Currency, Sydney.

Ellis, B 2004, *These people*, Currency, Sydney.

Esson, L (Ed. Rees, L) 1951, *Modern short plays*, Angus and Robertson, Sydney.

Gilbert, K 1988, *The cherry pickers*, Burrasinga Books, Canberra.

Lawler, R 1981, *Summer of the seventeenth doll*, Currency, Sydney.

Purcell, L and Rankin, S 1999, *Box the pony*, Sceptre, Sydney.

Roland, B 1988, *The touch of silk: granite peak*, Currency, Sydney.

(Revised edition)

Sewell, S 2003, *Myth, propaganda and disaster in Nazi Germany and contemporary America*, Currency, Sydney.

Seymour, A 1977, *The one day of the year*, Angus and Robertson, Sydney.

Tait, P and Schafer, E (eds.) 1997, *Australian women's drama: texts and feminisms*, Currency, Sydney.

Williamson, D 2002, *The Jack Manning trilogy*, Currency, Sydney.

## **REFERENCE MATERIALS**

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

*Education resources*, "Currency Press", <http://www.currency.com.au>.

Archer, R 2005, *The myth of the mainstream: politics and the performing arts in Australia today*, Currency House, Sydney.

Capelin, S (ed) 1995, *Challenging the Centre: two decades of political theatre*, Playlab Press, Brisbane.

Carroll, D 1995, *Australian Contemporary Drama*, Currency Press, Sydney.

Fitzpatrick, P 1979, *After 'The Doll': Australian drama since 1955*, Edward Arnold Australia, Melbourne.

Gilbert, H & Tompkins, J 1996, *Post-Colonial Drama: theory, practice, politics*, Routledge, London.

Hibberd, J (ed) 1984, *Performing Arts in Australia, Meanjin*,

Holloway, P (ed) 1987, *Contemporary Australian Drama*, Currency Press, Sydney.

Irvin, E 1971, *Theatre Comes to Australia*, University of Queensland Press, Brisbane.

Jordan, R 2002, *The convict theatres of early Australia, 1788-1840*, Currency House, Sydney.

Love, H (ed) 1984, *The Australian Stage: a documentary history*, New South Wales University Press, Sydney.

Pfisterer, S (ed) 1999, *Tremendous Worlds: Australian women's drama 1850-1960*, Currency Press, Sydney.

Pfisterer, S & Pickett, C 1999, *Playing with Ideas: Australian women playwrights from the suffragettes to the sixties*, Currency Press, Sydney.

Porter, H 1965, *Stars of Australian Stage and Screen*, Rigby Press, Adelaide.

Rees, L 1987, *Australian Drama in the 1970s*, Angus & Robertson, Sydney.  
(revised enlarged edition)

Tait, P 1994, *Converging Realities: feminism in Australian theatre*, Currency Press, Sydney.

University of Queensland , , *Australasian Drama Studies*, Vol 792, no. , p10.  
(semi-annual)

## STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Directed Study	82.00
Examinations	3.00
Private Study	80.00

## ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg(%)	Due date
ASSIGNMENT 1 - SHORT ESSAY	100.00	20.00	07 Apr 2006
ASSIGNMENT 2 - ESSAY	100.00	30.00	02 Jun 2006
EXAMINATION 3 HOURS	100.00	50.00	END S1 (see note 1)

### NOTES

1. Students will be advised of the examination date when the timetable has been finalised.

## IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:  
There are no attendance requirements for this external course. However, it is the student's responsibility to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration.
- 2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:  
To satisfactorily complete an assessment item a student must achieve at least 50% of the marks or a grade of at least C-. Students do not have to satisfactorily complete each assessment item to be awarded a passing grade in this course. Refer to Statement 4 below for the requirements to receive a passing grade in this course.
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:

If students submit assignments after the due date without prior approval, then a penalty of 10% of the total marks available for the assignment will apply for each of the first FIVE working days late, after which a zero mark will be given.

- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:  
To be assured of a passing grade, students must demonstrate, via the summative assessment items, that they have achieved the required minimum standards in relation to the objectives of the course by obtaining at least 50% of the total weighted marks for all summative assessment.
- 5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:  
The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the weighted aggregate of the marks (or grades) obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.
- 6 Examination information:  
The exam for this course is a CLOSED EXAMINATION, and candidates are allowed to bring only writing and drawing instruments into the examination.
- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:  
Any deferred or supplementary examinations for this course will be held during the next examination period.
- 8 University Regulations:  
Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6. Assessment, and 5.10 Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL <http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm> or in the current USQ Handbook.

## **ASSESSMENT NOTES**

- 9 (a) The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must despatch the assignment to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the despatch date, if requested by the Examiner. (b) Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be produced within five days if required by the Examiner. (c) In accordance with University's Assignment Extension Policy (Regulation 5.6.1), the examiner of a course may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances such as documented ill-health. (d) Students who have undertaken all of the required assessments in the course but who have failed to meet some of the specified objectives of the course within the normally prescribed time may be awarded the temporary grade: IM (Incomplete-Makeup). An IM grade will only be awarded when, in the opinion of the examiner, a student will be able to achieve the remaining objectives of the course after a period of non-directed personal study. (e) Students who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment or sit for an examination at the scheduled time, may apply to defer an assessment in the course. Such a request must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation. One of the following temporary grades may be awarded: IDS (Incomplete - Deferred Examination; IDM (Incomplete Deferred Make-up); IDB (Incomplete - Both Deferred Examination and Deferred Make-up).
- 10 Students are strongly advised to maintain regular contact with their supervisor.