



The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

Description: Modern Theatre and Drama

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
THS	2008	55178	2, 2006	EXT	1.00	Toowoomba

Academic group:	FOART
Academic org:	FOA006
Student contribution band:	1
ASCED code:	100103

STAFFING

Examiner: Janet McDonald

Moderator: Kate Foy

REQUISITES

Pre-requisite: THS1000 and THS2000

SYNOPSIS

The study of dramatic texts and performance practices provides insights into human experiences and locates these experiences in the context of social history. This course examines the rise of modern theatre and drama, placing it in its socio-political context. It also provides a study of a number of representative plays, both as texts to be read and, where possible, as performances. The plays are considered in terms of the dramatic movements they exemplify. Areas of study include: the Restoration, French Neoclassicism, popular theatre and melodrama, rise of realism/naturalism, anti-realist theatre, and late 20th century theatrical experimentation.

OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this course students will have:

1. the ability to understand and to respond critically to modern drama, as text and in performance; (Assessment items, Assignment 1 and Assignment 2 refer)
2. an understanding of different modes of dramatic presentation and be able to make informed connections between the differing twentieth century dramatic aesthetics; (All assessment items refer)
3. developed communicative and analytical skills through written papers and tutorial discussion; (Assessment items, Assignment 1 and Assignment 2 refer)
4. a detailed knowledge of specific dramatic texts and performance practices drawn from the period. (Assessment item, Examination refers)

TOPICS

	Description	Weighting (%)
1.	The Modern Era: an overview	16.00
2.	Neoclassicism and early Modern theatre	16.00
3.	English Restoration and Eighteenth Century Europe	16.00
4.	Romanticism, Melodrama and early Realism	16.00
5.	Realism and Anti-Realism of the twentieth century	16.00
6.	Late twentieth century trends	20.00

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).

Dampier, A & Walch, G 1985, *Robbery under arms*, Currency Press, Sydney.

Ibsen, H trans U Ellis-Fermor 1973, *Hedda Gabler and other plays*, Penguin, Middlesex.

Worthen, WB (ed) 2004, *The Wadsworth Anthology of Drama*, 4th edn, Thomson Wadsworth, Boston, Mass.

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.

Bennett, Susan 1998, *Theatre Audiences*, 2nd edn, Routledge, London.

Braun, Edward 1982, *The Director and The Stage*, Methuen, London.

Brecht, Bertolt 1978, *Brecht on Theatre*, 2nd edn, Methuen, London.

Brockett, O 1999, *History of the Theatre*, 8th edn, Allyn & Bacon, Boston.

Brook, Peter 1972, *The Empty Space*, Penguin, Middlesex.

Carlson, Marvin 1993, *Theories of the Theatre*, Cornell University Press, Cornell.
(Expanded edition)

Case, Sue-Ellen 1988, *Feminism and Theatre*, MacMillan, London.

Dukore, BF 1974, *Dramatic Theory and Criticism: Greeks to Grotowski*, Holt, Rinehart & Winston, New York.

Esslin, Martin 1974, *The Theatre of the Absurd*, 3rd edn, Methuen, London.

Innes, Christopher 1993, *Avant Garde Theatre 1892-1992*, Routledge, London and New York.

Jones, David Richard 1986, *Great Directors at Work: Stanislavsky, Brecht, Kazan, Brook*, University of California Press, Los Angeles.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Private Study	165.00

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg(%)	Due date
ASSIGNMENT 1	25.00	25.00	28 Aug 2006
ASSIGNMENT 2	25.00	25.00	16 Oct 2006
EXAMINATION - 3 HOURS	50.00	50.00	END S2 (see note 1)

NOTES

1. Students will be advised of the official examination date after 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:
In order to satisfactorily complete the course, students must complete and submit all items of assessment, and must gain at least a passing grade, ie. 50% or better, on the exam.
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
(i) Assignments submitted after the due date, and without prior approval of an extension from the examiner, will be penalised at the rate of 10% per working day up to 5 days, after which a grade of zero will be awarded. (ii) Since it is a requirement of the course that all items of assessment must be submitted, any assignments which are beyond the 5 working day limit will not be eligible for a mark, but must be of an acceptable standard. The assignments must be submitted by the end of the semester assessment period.
- 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: (i) satisfactorily completing the examination and assignments; and (ii) obtaining at least 50% of the total weighted marks for all summative assessment items.
- 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 despatched to USQ within 24 hours if requested 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).