



The University of Southern Queensland

## Course specification

The current and official versions of the course specifications are available on the web at <http://www.usq.edu.au/coursespecification/current>.  
Please consult the web for updates that may occur during the year.

### Description: Classical Theatre: Theory and Practice

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
THS	4000	78925	2, 2008	ONC	1.00	Toowoomba

<b>Academic group:</b>	FOART
<b>Academic org:</b>	FOA005
<b>Student contribution band:</b>	1
<b>ASCED code:</b>	100103

### STAFFING

Examiner: Darryl Chalk  
Moderator: Janet McDonald

### REQUISITES

Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: BAHN or BTAH

### SYNOPSIS

A major ingredient in the Renaissance was the rediscovery of the philosophy, political theory, and artistic achievements of Athens in the fifth and fourth centuries B.C. An examination of the extant tragedies and comedies of the fifth century in comparison with relevant Renaissance playtexts provides an understanding of how the theatre served and shaped its original society and how it has continued to serve and shape, in a variety of forms, post- Renaissance societies. Enrolment is restricted to Honours students.

### OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this course students will be able to:

1. demonstrate an advanced understanding of the cultural, religious and dramatic import of the extant tragedies and comedies;
2. appreciate cultural re-interpretations of Hellenic models;
3. evaluate theatrically diverse performances of the Hellenic texts.

### TOPICS

	Description	Weighting (%)
1.	The Homeric Tradition: "Aias", "Philoketes", "Iphigenia in Aulis", "The Wasps".	20.00
2.	The Oidipous Story: "Oidipous the King", "Seven Against Thebes", "Antigone", "The Phoinikian Women".	20.00

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|----|---|-------|
| 3. | The Elektra Story: "Libations Bearers", two "Elektras", "Orestes".  | 20.00 |
| 4. | Renaissance Revisions: Shakespeare's "Titus Andronicus",<br>"Troilus and Cressida" and "Coriolanus".  | 20.00 |
| 5. | Twentieth Century Reconstructions: "Muller", "Sartre",<br>"Anouilh", "Churchill", "Brecht", "Mnouchkine", "Harrison",<br>"Berkhoff", "Soyinka", "Barton and Callendar". | 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).

The complete extant works of Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides and Aristophanes - any translation or edition. For the tragedies, however, the University of Chicago series is recommended.

### **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.

Arnott, P D 1989, *Public and performance in the Greek theatre*, Routledge, London.

Aylen, L 1985, *The Greek theater*, Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, London.

Blundell, M 1989, *Helping friends and harming enemies*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Burian, P (ed) 1985, *Directions in Euripidean criticism*, Duke University Press, Durham.

Bushnell, R 1988, *Prophesying tragedy: sign and voice in Sophocles' theban plays*, Cornell University Press, Ithaca.

Cropp, M 1988, *Electra: Euripides*, Aris & Phillips, Warminster.

Dodds, E R 1983, *On misunderstanding the Oedipus Rex*, *Oxford readings in Greek tragedy*, Oxford University Press, Oxford.

Dover, K 1972, *Aristophanic comedy*, University of California Press, Berkeley.

Easterling, P and Knox, B 1989, *The Cambridge history of classical literature*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Euben, J P (ed) 1990, *Tragedy of political theory*, University of California Press, Berkeley.

Ferguson, J 1987, *Euripides, Medea and Electra: companion to the Penguin translation*, Bristol Classical Press, Bristol.

Gardiner, C 1987, *The Sophoclean chorus: a study of character and function*, University of Iowa Press, Iowa City.

Goldhill, S 1986, *Reading Greek tragedy*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Henderson, J 1991, *The maculate muse: obscene language in attic comedy*, 2nd edn, Oxford University Press, Oxford.

- Hogan, J 1984, *A commentary on the complete Greek tragedies: Aeschylus*, University of Chicago Press, Chicago.
- Hubbard, T 1991, *The mask of comedy*, Cornell University Press, Ithaca.
- Jones, J 1971, *On Aristotle and Greek tragedy*, Chatto & Windus, London.
- Kitto, H D F 1966, *Greek tragedy: a literary study*, Methuen, London.
- Knox, B 1983, *The heroic temper: studies in Sophoclean tragedy*, University of California Press, Berkeley.
- Lattimore, R 1964, *Story patterns in Greek tragedy*, Athlone Press, University of London, London.
- Pickard-Cambridge, A 1962, *Dithyramb, tragedy and comedy*, Oxford University Press, London.  
((revised by T Webster))
- Pickard-Cambridge, A 1968, *The dramatic festivals of Athens*, Oxford University Press, London.  
((revised by J Gould and D M Lewis))
- Powell, A 1990, *Euripides, women and sexuality*, Routledge, London.
- Rabinowitz, N 1993, *Anxiety veiled: Euripides and the traffic in women*, Cornell University Press, Ithaca.
- Reckford, K 1987, *Aristophanes' old-and-new comedy*, University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill.
- Rehm, R 1992, *Greek tragic theatre*, Routledge, London.
- Rosenmeyer, T 1971, *The masks of tragedy: essays on six Greek dramas*, Gordian Press, New York.
- Rosenmeyer, T 1989, *Senecan drama and stoic cosmology*, University of California Press, Berkeley.
- Seale, D 1982, *Vision and stagecraft in Sophocles*, Croom Helm, London.
- Segal, C 1993, *Oedipus Tyrannus: tragic heroism and the limits of knowledge*, Twayne Publishers, New York.
- Segal, E (ed) 1983, *Oxford readings in Greek tragedy*, Oxford University Press, Oxford.
- Steiner, G 1986, *Antigones*, Oxford University Press, Oxford.
- Strauss, L 1966, *Socrates and Aristophanes*, University of Chicago Press, Chicago.
- Taplin, O 1979, *Greek tragedy in action*, University of California Press, Berkeley.
- Taplin, O 1977, *The stagecraft of Aeschylus*, Oxford University Press, Oxford.
- Vernant, J-P and Vidal-Naquet, P 1988, *Myth and tragedy in ancient Greece*, Zone Books, New York.
- Vickers, B 1979, *Towards Greek tragedy*, Longman, London.
- Walton, J 1980, *Greek theatre practice*, Greenwood Press, Westport, Connecticut.
- Walton, J 1996, *The Greek sense of theatre*, Harwood, Amsterdam.
- Watling, E F 1972, *Four tragedies and Octavia*, Penguin, Harmondsworth.
- Webster, T 1969, *An introduction to Sophocles*, 2nd edn, London.
- Winnington-Ingram, R P 1980, *Sophocles: an interpretation*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

## STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Private Study	133.00
Seminars	39.00

## ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg (%)	Due date
SEMINAR 1	100.00	30.00	21 Jul 2008 (see note 1)
SEMINAR 2	100.00	30.00	21 Jul 2008 (see note 2)
MAJOR ESSAY	100.00	40.00	14 Nov 2008 (see note 3)

### NOTES

1. Further details about the assessment due dates are provided to students at the first class meeting for the term. This assessment item is aligned with Objectives 1 and 3.
2. This assessment item is aligned with Objectives 2 and 3.
3. This assessment item is aligned with Objectives 1, 2 and 3.

## IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:  
Since the objectives will be equally taught by private study and by face-to-face sessions, it is strongly advised that students attend all seminars for this course. It is also the student's responsibility to study all materials 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 successfully complete an individual assessment item, a student must achieve at least 50% of the marks or a grade of at least C-. This statement must be read in conjunction with Statement 4 below.
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:  
If students submit assignments after the due date without extenuating circumstances and without prior approval, then a penalty of a maximum of 5% of the assigned mark may apply for each working day late, up to a maximum of 10 working days, at which time a mark of zero can be recorded for that assignment.
- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:  
To be assured of receiving a passing grade, a student must achieve at least 50% of the total weighted marks available for the course.
- 5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:  
The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the aggregate of the weighted marks obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.
- 6 Examination information:  
There is no exam for this course.

- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:  
Given the details under (6) above, there are no deferred exams for this course. However, if any deferred/makeup work is granted, it would have to be submitted by a date set by the examiner.
- 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>

## **ASSESSMENT NOTES**

- 9 (a) The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must lodge the assignment at the USQ. (b) All Faculty of Arts assignments must be lodged in the Faculty Assessment Centre on the Ground Floor of Q Block no later than 12 noon on the due date. (c) In the event that a due date for an assignment falls on a local public holiday in their area, such as a Show holiday, the due date for the assignment will be the next day. Students are to note on the assignment cover the date of the public holiday for the examiner's convenience. (d). 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. (e) 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. (f) 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. (g) 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).