

THEA 403 / ENGL 453 Drama and Theatre in

Aotearoa New Zealand

Trimester 1 & 2 2011

28 February to 12 November 2011

30 Points



The Intricate Art of Actually Caring by Eli Kent

TRIMESTER DATES

Teaching dates:	28 February to 14 October 2011
Mid-trimester break 1/3:	18 April to 1 May 2011
Mid-year break:	6 to 10 July 2011
Mid-trimester break 2/3:	22 August to 4 September 2011

WITHDRAWAL DATES

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

David O'Donnell david.odonnell@vuw.ac.nz, Ph. 463 6828, FT77/303, Office hours on door

Course Administrator:

Claire O'Loughlin, claire.oloughlin@vuw.ac.nz, Ph. 463 5359, FT83/202, Office hours Mon-Fri 10am-5pm

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Alternate Tuesdays starting 1 March 3:10 – 6:00PM 83FT/201

COURSE DELIVERY

This course will be delivered through fortnightly 3-hour seminars, involving discussion and presentations.

COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information or changes will be announced in class and/or posted on the course notice board at FT77, Level 3, and/or posted on Blackboard.

COURSE CONTENT

The course will offer selected topics in the theatre of Aotearoa New Zealand. A range of plays will be studied in relation to historical and contemporary theatre conventions, as well as from the point of view of a variety of critical approaches including colonial, nationalist, post-colonial, and feminist. Attention will be paid to Māori theatrical and paratheatrical forms, and to contemporary developments in syncretic and intercultural theatre.

All students should prepare for each class by reading the relevant play and any critical readings set for that session. Contribution to class discussions will not be formally assessed, but will be taken into account when the final grade is being considered.

Students are encouraged to make full use of the Robert Lord Library at 77 Fairlie Terrace. Please note that **Library materials do not leave the building**. The Green Room is also available to students in the Theatre Programme. You **are** expected to clean up after yourselves (this includes returning any mugs removed from the Green Room). If you wish to keep your own tea or coffee in the building, there is a locked cupboard for this purpose in the Green Room (see Administrator for a key). No food or beverages are allowed in the Library. A number of video tapes of New Zealand plays are held in the locked shelves in the Seminar Room; the key is available from the Administrator so that they may be viewed at any available VCR in the building. Tapes may not be taken out of the building.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students passing the course should be able to ...

- investigate the development of drama and theatre in Aotearoa New Zealand in historical, cultural and performance contexts.
- explore recurrent themes in New Zealand drama and their relation to the construction of post-colonial identity.
- develop research skills and clear critical writing about the history of New Zealand drama and theatre.
- recognise and explore the influence of European (and other) dramatic styles on the development of New Zealand drama.
- recognise and explore the influence of Māori and Pacific Island performance modes on the development of New Zealand drama, and to explore the distinct development of Māori and Pacific theatre.
- investigate a variety of critical approaches to New Zealand drama.
- develop skills in close reading of New Zealand plays in a critical context.

EXPECTED WORKLOAD

The university anticipates that you should be able to devote at least 10 hours per week to a full-year course in a 4–paper graduate programme. Therefore you should probably expect to spend, on average, about 7 to 8 hours per week (apart from class time and screenings) in reading, preparation, thinking and essay writing. At Honours level it is expected that students will attend every seminar; if you are going to miss a seminar, please contact the course co-ordinator in advance if possible.

READINGS

All undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer from 7 February to 11 March 2011, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of vicbooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. After week two of the trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from vicbooks on Level 3 of the Student Union Building. You can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to you or they can be picked up from the shop. You will be contacted when they are available.

Essential texts:

THEA 403/ENGL 453 Course Reader (**available from Student Notes**)

*Kent, Eli, *The Intricate Art of Actually Caring* (Wellington: Playmarket, 2009)

Leitch, George, *Land of the Mōa* (Wellington: VUP, 1990)

School of English, Film, Theatre, & Media Studies
THEATRE PROGRAMME COURSE OUTLINE THEA 403 / ENGL 453

- Targuse, Violet, *Rabbits*, and Andrews, Isobel, *The Willing Horse* (in course reader, see above)
- Mason, Bruce, *The Pohutukawa Tree*, 2nd ed. (Wellington: VUP, 1978)
- McGee, Greg, *Foreskin's Lament* (Wellington: VUP, 1981)
- O'Sullivan, Vincent, *Shuriken* (Wellington: VUP, 1985)
- Grace-Smith, Briar, *Purapurawhetu* (Wellington: Huia, 1999)
- * Kightley, Oscar, *Dawn Raids* (Wellington: Playmarket, 1997)
- Randerson, Jo (and Trouble), *The Lead Wait* and *The Unforgiven Harvest* (Wellington: Playmarket, 2010).
- Thomas, Mitch Tawhi, *Have Car Will Travel* (Wellington: Tawata, 2010)
- Rajan, Jacob and Lewis, Justin. *Indian Ink: Krishnan's Dairy, The Candlestickmaker, The Pickle King*. Wellington: VUP, 2005.
- * *The Intricate Art of Actually Caring* and *Dawn Raids* will be available from the Theatre Administrator.

The Handbook for SEFTMS Students (about 100 pages on assessment, analyzing poetry, grammar, glossary of critical and theatrical terms, etc.) is available on Blackboard.

ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

All assessment is internal.

Seminar Presentation	(approx. 30 minutes) and handout (max. 4 sides of A4)	25%
Essay 1	2, 500 words (due Friday 3 June, 5pm)	35%
Essay 2	3, 000 words (due Fri 14 Oct, 5pm)	40%

Further details on these assignments will be available early in the year. Please note that grades gained in individual courses are always subordinate to the overall assessment made by the full group of examiners for the Honours programme as a whole.

NB: All written assignments must be handed in to the Theatre Programme drop slot in 83 Fairlie Terrace. Please note there are no student printing facilities at Fairlie Terrace.

ASSIGNMENT COVER SHEETS

Assignment cover sheets and extension forms can be found on Blackboard or outside the Administration Office in 83 Fairlie Terrace.

PENALTIES AND EXTENSIONS

Extensions will be granted only in exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. Issues of workload do not constitute exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. If you require an extension, you must complete an extension request form (available on your course Blackboard site) prior to the assignment due date. This must be accompanied by relevant documentation (e.g. a doctor's certificate) where appropriate. Tutors cannot grant extensions.

Work submitted after the deadline will be penalised by a 2.5 percent deduction from your total mark per work day. Late work also receives only minimal comments from your marker.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

To gain a pass in this course you must:

- Complete and submit all assignments, on or by the specified dates (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work)
- Regularly attend seminars and participate in discussions

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

STATEMENT ON LEGIBILITY

You are expected to present work that meets appropriate standards. Work submitted during the course (i. e. work that is internally assessed) should be typed or prepared on a computer. Where work is deemed 'illegible', you will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) within a specified time frame.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

WHERE TO FIND MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

The following text must be included in all course outlines.

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study.

Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at

www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress. Most statutes and policies are available at

www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic), at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic.

THEA 403 / ENGL 453 COURSE PROGRAMME

Week 1	1 March	Introduction and overview of NZ theatre history
Week 3	15 March	Current NZ playwriting: <i>The Intricate Art of Actually Caring</i>
Week 5	29 March	Colonial NZ: <i>The Land of the Moa</i>
Week 7	12 April	The amateur years: <i>The Willing Horse</i> and <i>Rabbits</i>

Mid Trimester Break: Monday 18 April – Sunday 1 May 2011

Week 9	10 May	Nationalism/Bruce Mason <i>The Pohutukawa Tree</i>
Week 11	24 May	Cultural identity/ growth of professional theatre: <i>Foreskin's Lament</i>

Essay 1 due Friday 3 June at 5pm

Mid-Year Break: Friday 1 – Sunday 10 July 2011

Week 1	12 July	Historiographic drama: <i>Shuriken</i>
Week 3	26 July	Māori theatre: <i>Purapurawhetu</i>
Week 5	9 August	Pacific Island theatre: <i>Dawn Raids</i>

Mid Trimester Break: Monday 22 August - Sunday 4 September 2011

Week 7	6 Sept	Devising and playwriting: <i>The Lead Wait</i> and <i>The Unforgiven Harvest</i>
Week 9	20 Sept	New Māori theatre: <i>Have Car Will Travel</i>
Week 11	4 Oct	Towards a Pacific multicultural theatre: <i>The Candlestickmaker</i>

Essay 2 due Fri 14 October at 5pm