

THEA 401 / 501 & ENGL 451

DRAMA AND THEORY

Trimester 1 & 2 2011

28 February to 12 November 2011

30 Points

TRIMESTER DATES

Teaching dates:	28 February to 14 October 2011
Mid-trimester break 1/3:	18 April to 1 May 2011
Mid-year break:	1 July to 10 July 2011
Mid-trimester break 2/3:	22 August to 4 September 2011
Last piece of assessment due:	23 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

Course Co-ordinator: Erin Mercer Email: erin.mercer@vuw.ac.nz Ph: 463 6712

Room 310, 77 Fairlie Tce Office Hours: Posted on door or by appointment.

Course Administrator: Claire O'Loughlin Email: claire.oloughlin@vuw.ac.nz Ph. 463 5359

Room 202, 83 Fairlie Tce Office Hours: Monday-Friday 10am-5pm

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Lectures

Wednesday, alternate weeks 3:10pm – 6:00pm Seminar Room 305, 77 Fairlie Terrace

COURSE DELIVERY

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

COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Any additional information or changes will be sent by email in the first instance, so it is essential that students get an email address and check it regularly. Information may also be announced in class or posted on the course notice board at 77 Fairlie Terrace, Level 3.

COURSE CONTENT

The course will bring a selection of historical and contemporary critical perspectives to bear on a representative range of classical and contemporary dramatic texts. Topics covered will include pre-20th century dramatic theory (with focus on Classical Dramaturgy and Elizabethan Dramaturgy), and an in-depth examination of more recent theoretical approaches, including semiotic, phenomenological, psychoanalytical, feminist, postcolonial and performance theories.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students passing the course should be able...

- To develop an appreciation of various critical approaches to the art, experience, and social place of theatre and drama.
- To be able to analyse live performance and dramatic texts from a variety of critical approaches.
- To develop an awareness of the implications of these critical approaches to contemporary theatrical practise.
- To develop skills on close reading of plays in a critical context.
- To develop research skills and clear critical writing about theoretical and dramaturgical issues of drama and theatre.

EXPECTED WORKLOAD

You should be able to devote 300 hours to a full-year paper in a 4-paper graduate programme. Therefore you should probably expect to spend about 9 to 10 hours per week (apart from class time and screenings) in reading, preparation, thinking and essay writing. At Honours and Masters 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.

Set Texts

1. THEA 401/501 & ENGL 451 **Theory Reader**
2. THEA 401/501 & ENGL 451 **Play-text Reader**
 - Aeschylus, *Agamemnon*
 - Brecht, *Mother Courage and Her Children*
 - Chekhov, *The Cherry Orchard*
 - Churchill, *Cloud Nine*
 - Kushner, *Angels in America, Part I*
 - Müller, *Hamletmachine*
3. Mark Fortier. **Theory/Theatre: An Introduction**. 2nd Ed. London: Routledge, 2002 - Available from Vic Books

The **following plays** will be ordered at VicBooks, but you are welcome to use any editions of these plays:

4. LePage et al *Seven Streams of the River Ota*
5. Genet, *The Balcony*
6. Hwang, *M. Butterfly*
7. Shakespeare, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*
8. Shakespeare, *Hamlet*
9. Stoppard, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*

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 14 June, 5pm)	35%
Essay 2	3, 000 words (due Fri 23 Sept, 5pm)	40%

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.

Relationship between assessment and objectives

All assessment has the twofold objective of assessing students' progress in the course and of providing feedback to assist students to achieve the course objectives.

Note: For Honours grades gained in individual papers are always subordinate to the overall assessment made by the full group of examiners for the Honours programme as a whole.

ASSIGNMENT COVER SHEETS

Assignment cover sheets and extension forms can be found on Blackboard or outside the Administration Office in 83 Fairlie Terrace. Remember to fill in your tutor's name.

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)
- Attend at least 10 of the 12 seminars

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

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.

School of English, Film, Theatre, & Media Studies
THEATRE PROGRAMME COURSE OUTLINE THEA 401/501 & ENGL 451

THEA 401 / 501 & ENGL 451 COURSE PROGRAMME

Week 1

Week 2 9 March Introduction/Classical Dramaturgy

Week 3

Week 4 23 March Pre-20th Century Theatre Theory

Week 5

Week 6 6 April Phenomenology

Week 7

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

Week 8 4 May Semiotics

Week 9

Week 10 18 May Psychoanalytic Theory

Week 11

Week 12 1 June Theories of Actor Training

Mid-Year Break: Monday 4 July - Sunday 10 July 2011 **Essay 1 due Tues 14 June at 5pm**

Week 13

Week 14 20 July Deconstruction

Week 15

Week 16 3 Aug Cultural Materialism/Marxist Theory

Week 17

Week 18 17 Aug Feminisms and Gender Theory

School of English, Film, Theatre, & Media Studies
THEATRE PROGRAMME COURSE OUTLINE THEA 401/501 & ENGL 451

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

Week 19

Week 20 14 Sept Postcolonial Theory

Week 21 **Essay 2 due Fri 23 Sept at 5pm**

Week 22 28 Sept Postmodernism

Week 23

Week 24 12 Oct Performance Theory

Study week: Monday 17 – Sunday 23 October 2011

Examination Period: Friday 22 October – Saturday 13 November 2011