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Spring 2-1-2016

### THTR 531.01: Grad Seminar Theatre History

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**THTR 531.01 Graduate Seminar in THEATRE HISTORY II**

**UH 210 TUES 9.40-11.00 & THURS 9.40-11.00**

**Dr. Bernadette Sweeney**

**Office: MCGILL 212C**

**Email: [bernadette.sweeney@mso.umt.edu](mailto:bernadette.sweeney@mso.umt.edu) - [cohen.ambrose@umontana.edu](mailto:cohen.ambrose@umontana.edu)**

**Office Hours: Weds 1.00-2.00 Friday 11.00-12.00 and 1.00-2.00**

**or by appointment**

*Course Description:* Students will study each play, the context of each play and its period, selected scenes through performance, participate in class discussion, write 1 final research paper for formal assessment, and present 2 teaching presentations and one research presentation.

*Course Outcomes:*

On completion of this course students will:

- Have a broad knowledge of theatre history, style, context and audiences.
- Have a knowledge of chosen play texts through close reading
- Have a critically informed understanding of chosen play texts through reading and analysis of critical material
- Have an understanding of how each play performs its time, its politics and the conditions of contemporaneous production
- Have engaged with this work through script analysis, scene study, research and analysis
- Have articulated their engagement with the work through formal research and writing, through informal review and other writing, and through reflection on their own experience of the work as performers, dramaturgs, researchers and/or audience members
- Will have given a research presentation.

*Required Texts:* Norton Anthology of Drama Vol.2, Materials on Hand Outs and Moodle

***Work for Assessment:***

**Work:**

**GRADED:**

60%-- 1 research essay, approx 5,000 words.

40%-- presentations, attendance and class contribution

All papers must be printed with course details etc. on the first page, all pages numbered, and include a bibliography or works cited. This must include a range of internet and printed sources which are beyond those offered by the class [articles on moodle etc.].

**Plagiarism will be taken very seriously, and may result in course failure.**

Essays will be graded on:

- Relevance to the topic
- Evidence of original research
- Originality and creativity,
- Thorough response to the material
- Graduate level of analysis and critique
- Writing: syntax, structure of argument, coherency,
- Formatting, style and presentation, management of the task [submitted on time and in full etc.]

***Ground Rules:***

**I cannot accept late papers unless the student contacts me with a reasonable reason *before* the beginning of the class on the day the paper is due.**

**Attendance is required - each unexcused absence will result in your grade falling by a third of a letter grade. Continued absence will result in course failure. It is your responsibility to keep up with your attendance. If you are encountering any health or related issues that affect your attendance, please contact me, Bernadette Sweeney, about this as soon as possible.**

Please feel free to ask and answer questions inside and outside class. If you have any questions about how you are doing, what you want to write about, or any of the material, contact me by e-mail, or arrange to see me during office hours.

**THEATRE HISTORY II - Spring 2016 Syllabus:** (always subject to change)

**Week 1:** Jan 26, 28

Introduction:

How to write a research paper – early research ideas....

**Week 2:** Feb 2, 4

Arthur Miller's *All My Sons* (1947) [**SEE THE REP SHOW JAN 28 -30**]

**Week 3:** Feb 9, 11

Ibsen's *A Doll's House* (1879)

**Week 4:** Feb 16, 18

Founding of the Abbey Theatre: J. M. Synge's *Riders to the Sea* (1904)

**RESEARCH PROPOSALS DUE FEB 18<sup>TH</sup> [2 PAGES PLUS WORKS CITED]**

**Week 5:** Feb 23, 25

Founding of the Moscow Art Theatre: Anton Chekhov's *The Cherry Orchard* (1904)

**Group presentation #1 Stanislavsky**

**Week 6:** Mar 1, 3

Political Theatres of WWI: Susan Glaspell's *Trifles* (1916)

**Group presentation #2 Federal Theatre Project**

**Week 7:** Mar 8, 10

Political Theatres of WWII: Bertolt Brecht's *The Good Person of Szechwan*

(1938-40)

**Group presentation #3 Stella Adler**

**Week 8:** Mar 15, 17

Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot* (1953)

**Research paper draft DUE March 17 [10 PAGES PLUS WORKS CITED]**

**Week 9:** Mar 22, 24

Theatre Design After WWI Guest Lecture: Mike Fink

**Group presentation #4 Edward Gordon Craig**

**Week 10:** Mar 29, 31 REDRAFTING MEETINGS

**Week 11:** Apr SPRING BREAK

**Week 12:** Apr 12, 14, Irene Fornes' *Mud* (1983)

**Group presentation #5 Augusto Boal Theatre of the Oppressed**

**Week 13:** April 21, 23 REDRAFTING MEETINGS

**Week 14:** Apr 26, 28 Susan Lori Parks' *The American Play* (1994)

**Week 15:** May 3, 5 Marie Clements' *Tombs of the Vanishing Indian* (2011)

**Graduate Research Paper due May 5<sup>th</sup> [5,000 words PLUS WORKS CITED]**

**Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code**

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at

[http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student\\_conduct.php](http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.php).

All Theatre & Dance students must have an in-depth knowledge of the practices and procedures outlined in the School of Theatre & Dance *Student Handbook*. The *Handbook* is available online at <http://www.umt.edu/theatredance/about/handbook>.

There is inherent risk involved in many Theatre & Dance classes as they are very physical in nature. Please proceed through class, shop time, or rehearsal with caution. Always be mindful of your personal safety and the safety of others. Students participating in class/shop/rehearsal/performance do so at their own risk.

Due to safety considerations, at **no** point during a student's time spent in class or serving on a production (in any capacity) should non-enrolled persons be guests of that student **without my consent**. Presence of such unauthorized persons in a class, shop, or any backstage/off-stage area will negatively affect a student's grade.

*The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with DSS, please contact DSS in Lommasson 154. I will work with you and DSS to provide an appropriate accommodation.*

**[1] Please refer to the current schedule for relevant dates with regard to adding, dropping, and withdrawing. Please make contact with a colleague or two to find out what has been assigned if you miss class.**