

## Independent Studies in Classical Languages

The department wants to facilitate language study, and therefore offers independent study courses in Greek and Latin for dedicated students who are unable to take the regularly scheduled language classes. Students wishing to undertake an independent study in Greek or Latin must secure permission of the instructor.

## Cognate Courses

The following courses in Classical Studies are recognized as cognate in other departments:

CLA 120, CLA 127, CLA 160, CLA 210, CLA 223, CLA 261 in History

CLA 112, CLA 113, CLA 219, CLA 220 in English

CLA 219, CLA 220 in Drama

CLA120, CLA 110, CLA205, CLA206, CLA207, CLA208 in Fine Arts

CLA 250, CLA 350 in Gender, Diversity, and Equity Studies

CLA 110, CLA 113 in Religion

# Drama

## Faculty

### Rebecca Harries,

B.A. (Bishop's), M.A., Ph.D. (Toronto);  
Associate Professor

### George Rideout,

B.A. (Toronto), M.A. (Simon Fraser);  
Professor  
Chair of the Department

## Program Overview

The Department of Drama offers a program balanced between practical theatre and academic study of dramatic literature and theatre history. Our aim is to permit undergraduates to explore the subject as a liberal arts discipline and prepare them for graduate, professional, and conservatory schools.

The Department offers Major and Honours programs designed to expose students to all facets of theatre practice and study as well as provide them with the flexibility to orient their program towards a particular field of study: Dramatic Literature and Theatre History, Performance (acting, directing, and playwriting), and Production (technical, stage management, and design).

By the end of their final year, students will have had ample opportunity to work on the Department's season of productions in the Studio Theatre and Centennial Theatre (including at least three productions in the Studio, one mainstage production in Centennial during the second semester, the New Plays Festival and the student produced Theatre Activ). A number of students will also have had the opportunity to become Theatre Assistants for Centennial Theatre, receive an honorarium, and be responsible for the proper running of the facilities' operations.

## Double Major: Secondary Education and Drama (39 credits)

MAJEDR

Program requirements for students pursuing a Double Major in Secondary Education and Drama may be found under "School of Education" in the Academic Calendar. All questions concerning courses and requirements should be referred to the Chair of the School of Education.

## Honours in Drama

HONDRA

### Without Thesis (60 credits\*)

Courses as required for a Drama major: ..... 48 credits

Further courses in Drama

(excluding independent studies): ..... 12 credits

### With Thesis (66 credits\*)

Students must obtain a 75% average, as calculated from the last 60 credits in the Honour discipline (including cognates), in order to graduate with an Honours degree in Drama.

Students wishing to enrol in DRA 450 (Honours Thesis) must have 75% cumulative average when registering in FALL semester, and 75% average on required courses in thesis area of interest.

Courses as required for Drama Major: ..... 48 credits

Further courses in Drama

(excluding independent studies): ..... 12 credits

DRA 450 Honours Thesis: ..... 6 credits

*\*All Honours students must complete both DRA 331 and DRA 332. Students must also complete any Divisional Requirements of the Division of Humanities.*

## Major in Drama (48 credits) MAJDRA

In their first two years, all drama Majors must adhere to the following required courses in their program:

### 1st Year (12 credits)

**Fall:** (DRA 101) Introduction to Technical Theatre, (DRA 102)

Introduction to Theatre, (DRA 131) Acting I

**Winter:** (DRA 110) Introduction to Theatre Part II

### 2nd Year (6 credits)

**Fall:** (DRA 222) Introduction to Shakespeare

**Winter:** (DRA 201) Contemporary Canadian Theatre

**After the second year the following seminar and production courses are required for all drama Majors (9 credits):**

**Seminar Courses:** *Two* of (DRA 300) Contemporary Theatre Practice, (DRA 301) Contemporary Dramatic Theory, (DRA 302) Classical European Drama, (DRA 315) Medieval Drama, (DRA 322) Topics in Shakespeare, (DRA 319) Film Theory and Criticism

**Production Courses:** *One* of (DRA 331) Production I, (DRA 332) Production II

The remaining eighteen credits required for the Major in Drama may be taken at anytime during the student's tenure at Bishop's provided that he or she has fulfilled the stated prerequisites for the individual course.

### Required Courses (12 credits)

**One** of (DRA 211) Ritual and Theatre, (DRA 212) Theatre and the State and (DRA 230) Women and Performance

**One** of (DRA 202) Contemporary American Drama, (DRA 203) Contemporary European Drama

**One** of (DRA 170 / ENG 170) Introduction to Film, (DRA 271) Modern Drama, (DRA 273) Women Dramatists [or a cognate course]

**One** of (DRA 246) Introduction to Directing, DRA 281 Playwriting I

### Drama Electives (9 credits)

**Three** of all other drama courses (except independent studies)

Students must also complete any Divisional Requirements of the Division of Humanities.

## Minor in Drama (24 credits) MINDRA

### Required courses:

DRA 101 Introduction to Technical Theatre

DRA 102 Introduction to Theatre

DRA 131 Acting I

DRA 201 Contemporary Canadian Drama

DRA 222 Introduction to Shakespeare

15 credits

Drama electives: Three courses

9 credits

## List of Courses

Dramatic Literature and Theatre History These courses are primarily concerned with the study of drama as literature or with the study of theatre history. Some of these courses may be used to satisfy the degree requirements of the Department of English. All courses are open to non-Drama students.

### DRA 102 Introduction to Theatre: Theatre and Dramatic Literature Before 1800 3-3-0

This course provides students with an introduction to theatre history and to some of the important plays of various historical epochs. One of the focuses of the course is the socially created meaning of theatre, including interaction between audience and stage, the role of the theatre professional in society and the connections between theatre and political and religious institutions. The course will also introduce various theatrical styles. The dramas themselves are interpreted as blueprints for performance, not just as examples of literature.

### DRA 110 Introduction to Theatre Part II: Theatre and Dramatic Literature After 1800 3-3-0

This course provides students with an introduction to the theatre history of the modern age and to some of the important plays of this era. The course will also introduce various theatrical styles, such as epic theatre, theatre of the absurd and naturalist theatre. The dramas themselves will be interpreted as blueprints for performance, not just as examples of literature. Among the playwrights included in the course are Henrik Ibsen, Anton Chekhov, Luigi Pirandello, Samuel Beckett, Caryl Churchill and Heiner Müller.

### DRA 201 Contemporary Canadian Drama 3-3-0

Canadian drama from 1967 on, including the plays of Tremblay, French, Walker, Thompson and others.

### DRA 202 Contemporary American Drama 3-3-0

American playwrights and theatrical movements of the post-Viet Nam war period. Playwrights include Shepherd, Mamet, Rabe, Wasserstein.

### DRA 203 Contemporary European Drama 3-3-0

European drama since 1960 through examination of works of influential playwrights and dramatic theorists.

### DRA 211 Ritual and Theatre 3-3-0

There is a persistent and complex relationship between theatre, the sacred and magic. This course explores this relationship through the study of performances/performers and texts from a spectrum of cultures and times. Students will study theories including Aristotle, Victor Turner and Eugenio Barba. Other Texts include Aoi no Uye, A Winter's Tale and Death and The King's Horseman.

### DRA 212 Theatre and the State 3-3-0

The political theatre in both senses of the phrase: what is the relationship between the stage of state and the theatrical stage? What legislation exists to restrict public performances and representations? How have performances in a variety of cultures and historical periods variously challenged and re-instated these cultural models?

### DRA 222 Introduction to Shakespeare 3-3-0

Close study of four to six plays from the following: Richard III, Macbeth, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Henry IV pt. 1, Hamlet, Twelfth Night, Othello, The Tempest.

### WOM 230 / DRA 230 Women in Performance 3-3-0

An analysis of the role women have played in the performing arts as practitioners, creators, producers and spectators with emphasis on the modern era and western cultures. The course takes a cultural studies approach to the subject and includes readings by feminist theorists, sociologists and cultural historians.

### DRA 271 Modern Drama 3-3-0

The major European drama and movements of the period from 1875-1939, including the works of Ibsen, Strindberg, Chekhov, among others.

### DRA 273 Women Dramatists 3-3-0

Discussion and analysis of a number of plays written by women. The plays will be studied in their cultural context and from the perspective of contemporary feminist theory.

## Seminar Courses

The following are seminar and research courses restricted to third- or fourth-year students. Students will be expected to do primary and secondary research work and present such work through class seminars and research papers.

### DRA 300 Contemporary Theatre Practice 3-3-0

Critical discussion, analysis, and research of contemporary theatre practice.

### DRA 301 Contemporary Dramatic Theory 3-3-0

Critical discussion, analysis, and research of the major critical theorists and writings of the past twenty five years.

### DRA 302 Classical European Drama 3-3-0

This course covers the important drama and critical works from France, Italy, Germany, and Spain during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

### DRA 315 Medieval Drama 3-3-0

This course covers the re-emergence and development of drama in Europe from the early to late Middle Ages. The religious drama of England and the Continent will be studied, as well as early examples of secular drama.

### DRA 322 Topics in Shakespeare 3-3-0

Advanced analysis and research on specific plays, as well as on specific critical texts and productions.

## Interest Courses and Cognate Courses

### DRA/ ENG 170 Introduction to Film 3-3-0

The creation of films and what happens when we view a film are complex and fascinating phenomena. The course provides a basic understanding of the vocabulary of and approaches to narrative cinema. Each week's subject of study is applied to a number of specific films.

### CLA 219 The Greek Tragic Theatre I 3-3-0

Myth and tragedy, origin and development of the Greek theatre; representative tragedies of Aeschylus and Sophocles, in translation.

- CLA 220 The Greek Tragic Theatre II 3-3-0**  
Study of the later works of Sophocles and representative works of Euripides. (In translation)
- ENG 334 Restoration and Eighteenth-Century Drama 3-3-0**  
This course covers a wide range of English drama from Etherege through Behn to Sheridan to indicate both the shifting social tastes and the permissiveness of the theatre.
- FRA 283 Théâtre québécois 3-3-0**  
Évolution de la production dramatique au Québec depuis Marcel Dubé. Le théâtre de revendication sociale et politique, les happenings et le théâtre expérimental, le théâtre d'improvisation, le genre comique et la recherche contemporaine de nouvelles formes théâtrales. Dramaturges étudiés: Dubé, Tremblay, Meunier, Lepage, Gilles Maheux et Carbone 14, etc.
- FRA 261 Le Théâtre du XVII<sup>e</sup> au XIX<sup>e</sup> siècle 3-3-0**  
Lecture et commentaire de pièces significatives du théâtre du XVII<sup>e</sup>, XVIII<sup>e</sup> et XIX<sup>e</sup> siècles. L'étude des divers genres (comédie, tragédie, drame, vaudeville) et des diverses esthétiques (classique, romantique) permettra de se familiariser avec les grandes tendances traditionnelles du théâtre.

## Performance and Production

These courses emphasize the performance and production aspects of theatre. DRA 101 and DRA 131 are required courses for Drama students. Most courses are open to non-Drama students but enrolment may be limited.

### Acting

- DRA 131 Acting I 3-3-0**  
Acting One establishes a physical and vocal warm-up routine, develops public speaking skills, and explores the fundamentals of acting for the stage. Project work is based on individual presentations.
- DRA 132 Acting II 3-3-0**  
Acting Two continues the focus on voice and movement. Students will begin character work, research, and scene study. Projects are partner based.  
*Prerequisite: DRA 131*
- DRA 136 / FRA 136 Techniques de Jeu I 3-3-0**  
Introduction aux techniques d'interprétation d'art dramatique à partir de textes, et d'études des bases de la performance scénique. Travail en équipe sur des scènes tirées d'œuvres théâtrales modernes et contemporaines.
- DRA 233 Acting III 3-3-0**  
Approaches to text and character. The work is on a project and performance basis, some of which will be for presentation.  
*Prerequisite: DRA 132 and permission of the Department*
- DRA 234 Acting IV 3-3-5**  
Scene study and collective creation: analysis, rehearsal techniques and final presentation in Studio Theatre.  
*Prerequisite: DRA 233*
- DRA 237 Theatre Lab 3-3-3**  
The course will focus intensively on the preparation and training of the physical means of acting. Workshops will concentrate on both voice and body movement exercises.  
*Prerequisite: DRA 233 or permission of the Department*
- DRA 334 Text and Language 3-3-0**  
Students will explore the relationship between the written text and the spoken text. Source material will include prose and poetry as well as dramatic dialogue. There is no production attached to this course, but in-class presentations, open to the public, will be given on an informal basis  
*Prerequisite: DRA 233*
- DRA 439 Scene Study 3-3-0**  
Students will explore scenes from the great works of the theatre. Texts will generally be chosen from those studied in the dramatic literature courses. Three in house presentations will be given during the term.  
*Prerequisite: DRA 233 or permission of the instructor*
- DRA 440 Scene Study II - Shakespeare 3-3-0**  
A senior level acting course that bridges the gap between the study of dramatic literature and full scale production. Each student in the class will have the opportunity to take on leading roles in scenes chosen from the Shakespeare canon. In addition, we will explore one text on acting theory that addresses Shakespearean verse.  
*Prerequisite: DRA 233 or permission of the instructor*

### Directing

We offer six credits in directing. The opportunity to direct a short play is provided by our New Plays and Theatre Activ festivals.

- DRA 246 Introduction to Directing 3-3-0**  
The basic elements of directing a play, including interpretation, analysis, visual presentation, use of space, and rehearsal techniques.  
*Prerequisite: No prerequisites required*
- DRA 247 Directing Theory and Practice 3-3-0**  
Study in depth of major directorial problems. Each student directs short scenes.  
*Prerequisite: DRA 246 and permission of the instructor*

### Playwriting

Six credits of playwriting are offered. Student written plays are produced in New Plays Festival, and Theatre Activ. Enrolment is limited but a few places are open to non-Drama students.

- DRA 281 Playwriting I 3-3-0**  
A course in play appreciation and play structure as well as a practical workshop in the writing of one-act plays. Assignments include text analysis, scene writing, and the creation of a complete short play.
- DRA 282 Playwriting II 3-3-0**  
Classes take the form of standard playwriting workshop sessions. Each student will write an extended monologue, a series of dramatic sketches, and a one-act play. All work will be read and critiqued by other members of the group.  
*Prerequisite: DRA 281 or permission of the instructor*

### Technical Theatre

DRA 101 is open to all students interested in theatre production. Enrolment in subsequent technical courses is limited.

- DRA 101 Introduction to Technical Theatre 3-3-3**  
An introduction to the elements, processes, and systems of the stage environment through lectures and group tutorials.
- DRA 250 Intermediate Technical Theatre Stagecraft 3-3-5**  
This course will examine in more detail several areas of study encountered in Introduction to Technical Theatre. In order to prepare students for more advanced courses, we will concentrate on the use of sound, lighting and scene shop equipment. We will also focus on basic drafting, set construction, scene painting and rigging.  
*Prerequisite: DRA 101*
- DRA 251 Lighting Design 3-3-5**  
This course covers both the aesthetics and the techniques of stage lighting. In addition to exploring the theory and process, the students will design the lighting for Drama Department student productions.  
*Prerequisite: DRA 101 and permission of the Department*

### Design

Six introductory credits are offered in set and costume design. The two courses are offered in alternate years. Enrolment is limited. These courses are cognate courses and open to Fine Arts students.

- DRA 161 Introduction to Costume Design for Theatre 3-3-0**  
This course offers an introduction to the history, basic elements and practice of costume design. Course work will include both an investigation of the principles of design for theatre and an understanding of the practical elements of costume creation.
- DRA 162 Introduction to Scenography 3-3-0**  
This course offers an introduction to the history and development of scenography, text analysis, the principles and the process of scenography. Course work will include project-based designs as well as lecture/discussion in this field.

## Production

These courses involve a major role or function in faculty directed productions in Studio or Centennial Theatres.

### **DRA 331      Production I: Performance      3-3-5**

The course will consist of major involvement in and responsibility for Department production(s) in the areas of acting, stage management or directing. Productions will take place in the Studio Theatre.

*Prerequisites: DRA 131, DRA 132, DRA 233, DRA 234*

### **DRA 341      Production I: Technical Production      3-3-5**

This course will consist of major involvement in and responsibility for Department production(s) in the areas of design, technical direction and production. Productions will take place in the Studio Theatre.

*Prerequisites: DRA 101, DRA 131, either DRA 250 or DRA 251*

### **DRA 332      Production II: Performance      3-3-5**

The course will consist of major involvement in and responsibility for Department production(s) in the areas of acting, stage management or directing. Productions will take place in Centennial theatre; students will be required to work during Reading Week.

*Prerequisite: DRA 131, DRA 132, DRA 233, DRA 234*

### **DRA 342      Production II: Technical Production      3-3-5**

The course will consist of major involvement in and responsibility for Department production(s) in the areas of design, technical direction and production. Productions will take place in Centennial Theatre; students will be required to work during Reading Week.

*Prerequisites: DRA 101, DRA 131, either DRA 250 or DRA 251*

## Thesis

Honours students will undertake a thesis project under the supervision of one or more members of the Department

### **DRA 450F      Honours Thesis      6-1-0 or 6-0-5**

Thesis proposals must be submitted before classes begin for the academic year in which the thesis is to be completed.

Students undertaking a thesis in the area of Dramatic Literature and Theatre History will write a thesis-length research paper on a subject approved by the Department. Students undertaking a thesis in the area of Production (acting and directing) will write a research paper related to their project and submit all materials related to that project.

Before planning a production thesis, students should thoroughly familiarize themselves with the document "Criteria for Acceptance of an Honours Thesis." (available from the chair of the Department.)

## Independent Study

The Department offers a variety of independent study options for either Departmentally approved special projects or advanced work in theatre production or drama study. Students may register for a maximum of twelve independent study credits.

### **DRA 310      Independent Study: Theatre Research and History      3-1-0**

Advanced study of dramatic literature or theatre history.

*Prerequisite: DRA 101, DRA 102, DRA 131, DRA 222 and permission of Department*

### **DRA 337      Independent Study: Performance I      3-0-5**

Advanced work in major role in faculty directed show.

*Prerequisite: DRA 331*

### **DRA 339      Independent Study: Performance II      3-0-5**

Advanced work in major role in faculty directed show.

*Prerequisite: DRA 234, DRA 237, DRA 331*

### **DRA 350      Independent Study: Theatre Production I      3-0-5**

Advanced work in theatre production; major responsibility for production function in Studio Theatre show.

*Prerequisite: DRA 331 and permission of the Department*

### **DRA 351      Independent Study: Theatre Production II      3-0-5**

Advanced work in theatre production; major responsibility for production function in Studio or Centennial Theatre show.

*Prerequisite: DRA 332 and permission of the Department*

### **DRA 352      Independent Study: Stage Management      3-0-5**

Advanced work in stage management; responsibility for stage managing a faculty directed show.

*Prerequisite: DRA 250, DRA 254, DRA 331 or DRA 332 and permission of the Department*

### **DRA 363      Independent Study: Design      3-0-5**

Advanced work in set, lighting, or sound design; major responsibility for design of faculty directed show.

*Prerequisite: DRA 251 or DRA 262, DRA 331 or DRA 332 and permission of the Department*

### **DRA 365      Independent Study: Costume Design      3-0-5**

Advanced work in costume design; major responsibility for design of faculty directed show.

*Prerequisite: DRA 160 and DRA 331 or DRA 332 and permission of the Department*

### **DRA 370      Independent Study: Special Project      3-0-5**

Advanced work on a Departmentally approved special project.

*Prerequisite: DRA 331 or DRA 332 and permission of the Department*

### **DRA 380      Independent Study: Playwriting      3-0-5**

Advanced work in playwriting. Interested students must submit a completed first draft two weeks prior to registration.

*Prerequisite: DRA 282*