

English 231: History of Drama and Theater II

Fall 2004
Oxford College

Dr. Lemons, Few 103
Office Hours: 2:30-3:10 daily

Objectives:

1. to gain an understanding and appreciation of some of representative plays of the modern period.
2. to develop an understanding of the development of plays and theatrical conventions from the mid-19th century to the present and to see the influence of plays and playwrights on each other..
3. to improve one's ability to discuss and write about plays, the issues they present, and the theatrical environment, including the historical, religious, philosophical and sociological contexts of plays.

Texts:

Stages of Drama

Methods:

- Introductory remarks for most plays, particularly on the contexts; questions
- Extensive class discussion of texts
- Frequent brief, factual quizzes
- One paper
- A Midterm and a Final exam in essay format
- Play reviews of current productions or helping with our fall play
- Possible trips to theater in Atlanta
- Student-teacher conferences during office hours and by appointment

Guidelines:

1. Since the course involves active class participation, I expect you to be in class every day, **on time**. Each absence will result in one point off the final grade per absence. However, you may miss two classes without penalty. These cuts should be used for illnesses and/or whatever you believe important. You do not need to get permission for these cuts, nor tell me when or why you take them. (If I do not call roll, that does not mean I am not taking attendance.) Participation in class depends on your own personal style, but it should include: paying attention, listening, responding to the professor's and other student's comments, proposing interpretations, and answering questions. This is not a lecture class.
2. The exams, covering readings and our discussions, will consist of in-class essays, graded for writing ability as well as content. The Mid Term will cover the

first half of the course. The Final will cover the entire course, concentrating on the second half. You will not be able to use your text book or notes for the exam.

3. Quizzes are brief, factual and frequent. ***Missed quizzes cannot be made up;*** and a 0 is recorded if a quiz is not taken. The lowest two quiz grades will be dropped so that missing two classes is not a penalty. ***Tardiness means you will miss*** the quiz given at the beginning of class.

Grading Scale:

Quizzes-20%

Papers-40%

Exams (2)-20%

Participation-10%

Play work/Reviews-10%

Schedule of Assignments

Aug 26 Introduction

Aug 31 Woyzeck

Sep 2 A Doll's House

Sep 7 Miss Julie

Sep 9 The Cherry Orchard

Sep 14 Pygmalion

Sep 16 Six Characters in Search. . .

Sep 21 Homecoming

Sep 23 The House of Bernarda

Sep 28 Galileo

Sep 30 Death of a Salesman

Oct 5 Cat on a Hot Tin Ceiling

Oct 7 Play Work

Oct 14 Mid Term Exam

Oct 19 The Lesson

Oct 21 Endgame

Oct 26 Zoo Story

Oct 28 A Raisin in the Sun

Nov 2 Dutchman & Landscape

Nov 4 Absurd Person Singular

Nov 9 Death & King's Horsemen

Nov 11 "Master Harold" & the boys

Nov 16 'night, Mother

Nov 18 M. Butterfly

Nov 23 Oleanna

Nov 30 Arcadia

Dec 2 Art

Dec 3 (Friday) Paper Due at 3 PM

Dec 7 How I Learned to Drive

Dec 13 9am-12noon Final Exam