"The word theatre comes from the Greeks. It means the seeing place. It is the place people come to see the truth about life and the social situation. The theatre is a spiritual and social X-ray of its time. The theatre was created to tell people the truth about life and the social situation."
- Stella Adler

Instructor Information:
Instructor: Amanda Petefish-Schrag
Office Hours: T and R 10-11:00AM and 2:15-3:15PM. Additional hours may be scheduled by appointment.
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Course Description: Theatre history from 1800 to present.
Prerequisites: HIST 201 or equivalent
Meeting Information: Time: T R 12:40 PM - 2:00 PM Room: BLACK 1026

Course Objectives:
- Recognize the social, political, religious, and economic contexts and values of theatre performance from the 19th Century to the present day.
- Classify and connect theatrical production styles and theories throughout the periods examined.
- Identify and critique the influence of historical theatre theory and practice on contemporary production practice.
- Analyze and theorize the way cultural movements reflect and stimulate creativity and problem solving.

Methods of Instruction:
- Discussions
- Lectures
- Research and analysis
- Reading assignments and reflections
- Experiments and exercises
- Production attendance and analysis


Course Evaluation:
- Attendance 5%
- Knowledge, Comprehension, Application, Analysis 50%
  - Daily Dive (10%)
  - Play Quizzes (10%)
  - Celebrations of Knowledge (30%)
- Analysis, Synthesis, Evaluation 45%
  - Three Required Research Challenges (All Project Descriptions and Guidelines in Canvas):
    - Archival Catalog Challenge*
Blowing Up the Canon (Required)
Complete at least one of the following assignments, (may complete more):
Critic Mind Meld; Practitioner Time Travel; ___ is the New ___
* Optional if student received a C or above on this project in History of Theatre I

Attendance and Assignments: Course goals and methods necessitate class attendance. Students are allowed
three unexcused absences in the course. Each subsequent unexcused absence will lower the “Attendance”
grade by 15%. (It is possible to achieve negative points in this category.)
   Note: Arriving late to class more than once will impact your attendance grade.
An excused absence is defined as: 1) a medical emergency or illness, 2) death in the immediate family
(grandparents included), 3) university sanctioned activities. Official documentation and advance notification is
required for an absence to count as “excused.”
Assignments are due as assigned in the syllabus. Late assignments will drop one letter grade for each day they
are late.
Assignments due on the date of campus-sanctioned activity absences must be turned in prior to the absence
date. The student is responsible for making up all work missed because of absences.

Grading Scale:
A- to A= 90-100% Exceptional work: Always prepared; extensive outside-of-class preparation; self-motivated. Active,
positive contributor to class. Punctual; always present. Demonstrates significant improvements in skill and knowledge
during semester.
B- to B+ = 80-89% Good work: Always prepared; significant outside-of-class preparation, self-motivated. Punctual; always
present. Positive contributor to class. Demonstrates notable improvement in skills and knowledge during semester.
C- to C+ = 70-79% Average work: Generally prepared; adequate outside-of-class preparation; often self-motivated. Often
contributes to class. Punctual; almost always present. Shows improvement in skills and knowledge during semester.
D- to D+ = 60-69% Below average work: Often not prepared; shows little outside preparation; rarely self-motivated.
Seldom contributes to class, and/or may demonstrate negative attitude. Sometimes late; some absences. Little skill and
knowledge improvement demonstrated during semester.
F = 59% and below. Unacceptable work: Rarely prepared and lacks adequate outside-of-class preparation; not motivated.
Does not contribute to class and/or may demonstrate negative attitude. Not punctual; several absences. Virtually no
demonstrated growth in skills and knowledge.
(+ and - grades will be assigned on the following scale: percentages ending in a 0-1 will result in a ; percentages ending in
8-9 will result in a +. Example: 70-71%=C-, 73-77%=C, 78-79=C+)
Final grades will be submitted to the registrar by 10am on the Monday after final exams. After this date and time, a grade
will only be changed if there has been a mistake on the instructor’s part.

Please note: The theatre explores the full range of human experience and perspectives. Some of the assigned plays,
performances, and class discussions in this course will cover sensitive material that may be offensive to some people.
Critical analysis and discussion of class material is a vital part of achieving the course objectives, and students will be
encouraged to share their opinions and perspectives on material covered throughout the semester.

University Policy Statements: The instructor of this course abides by University policies and regulations
concerning attendance, academic honesty (including plagiarism), and all others as stated in the current
Undergraduate Academic Catalog.
**Academic Dishonesty:** All work should be your own. Cheating, plagiarism (copying or paraphrasing the ideas of others and passing them off as your own), and other forms of academic dishonesty are very serious issues. Penalties for academic dishonesty may range from failure of the assignment to dismissal from the university. Anyone suspected of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Dean of Students Office. [http://www.dso.iastate.edu/ja/academic/misconduct.html](http://www.dso.iastate.edu/ja/academic/misconduct.html)

To avoid plagiarism, document the source when using words or ideas from another person’s work, (including printed, spoken, and electronic sources). To document direct quotations in APA or MLA style, writers must:
- include quotation marks around the material or indent it within the text to indicate their use of the source;
- provide appropriate parenthetical notation;
- include the name of the author (if available) or the title (if no author is given) either in the introduction to the quotation or within the parenthetical citation.

To document a direct quotation in an oral presentation, speakers must:
- say the word “quote” to verbally replace written quotation marks; and
- include the name of the author (if available), or the title (if no author is given) either immediately before or after the quotation;
- outline oral presentations consistent with the above rules for written material. If you paraphrase facts and/or ideas of others, by fully considering the ideas, then stating them in your own words and sentence structure; you must still credit the sources.

**Disability Accommodations:** Iowa State University is committed to assuring that all educational activities are free from discrimination and harassment based on disability status. Students requesting accommodations for a documented disability are required to work directly with staff in Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to establish eligibility and learn about related processes before accommodations will be identified. After eligibility is established, SAS staff will create and issue a Notification Letter for each course listing approved reasonable accommodations. This document will be made available to the student and instructor either electronically or in hard-copy every semester. Students and instructors are encouraged to review contents of the Notification Letters as early in the semester as possible to identify a specific, timely plan to deliver/receive the indicated accommodations. Reasonable accommodations are not retroactive in nature and are not intended to be an unfair advantage. Additional information or assistance is available online at [www.sas.dso.iastate.edu](http://www.sas.dso.iastate.edu), by contacting SAS staff by email at accessibility@iastate.edu, or by calling 515-294-7220. Student Accessibility Services is a unit in the Dean of Students Office located at 1076 Student Services Building.

**Dead Week:** This class follows the Iowa State University Dead Week guidelines outlined in [http://catalog.iastate.edu/academiclife/#deadweek](http://catalog.iastate.edu/academiclife/#deadweek)

**Harassment and Discrimination:** Harassment and Discrimination Iowa State University strives to maintain our campus as a place of work and study for faculty, staff, and students that is free of all forms of prohibited discrimination and harassment based upon race, ethnicity, sex (including sexual assault), pregnancy, color, religion, national origin, physical or mental disability, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, or status as a U.S. veteran. Any student who has concerns about such behavior should contact his/her instructor, Student Assistance at 515-294-1020 or email dso-sas@iastate.edu, or the Office of Equal Opportunity and Compliance at 515294-7612.

**Religious Accommodation:** If an academic or work requirement conflicts with your religious practices and/or observances, you may request reasonable accommodations. Your request must be in writing, and your instructor or supervisor will review the request. You or your instructor may also seek assistance from the Dean of Students Office or the Office of Equal Opportunity and Compliance.

**Contact Information:** If you are experiencing, or have experienced, a problem with any of the above issues, email academicissues@iastate.edu
TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE

(Bold faced topics refer to material/assignments that must be completed before the designated class period.)

T 1/14   Discovering the Time Period; Course Overview
R 1/16   *Trifles (Glaspell) Reading and Quiz; The Historian’s Lens (Reading plays as primary source documents)*
          19th Century Theatre – Romanticism

*Theatre Case Studies: The 19th Century*

T 1/21 and R 1/23 KCACTF WEEK:
   *Uncle Tom’s Cabin (Stowe/Aikin) Reading and Quiz* (http://utc.iath.virginia.edu/onstage/scripts/aikenhp.html)
   Uncle Tom’s Cabin and Theatre Riots Daily Dive posts (see topics in Canvas);
   A.C.C. Production Submissions Due

T 1/28   Activity and Discussion: Melodrama
R 1/30   Activity and Discussion: Well-Made Play

T 2/4    Activity and Discussion: 19th Century Theatre Production
R 2/6    *A Doll’s House (Ibsen) Reading and Quiz*
          Activity and Discussion: Realism and Naturalism

T 2/11   Realism and Naturalism
R 2/13   *Ubu the King (Jarry) Reading and Quiz*
          Activity and Discussion: Early Departures from Realism

*Theatre Case Studies: Theatre in a Time of War*

T 2/18   Activity and Discussion: Theatre of the World Wars
R 2/20   Theatre of the World Wars
          *ARCHIVAL CATALOG CHALLENGE DUE*

T 2/25   *The Good Woman of Setzuan (Brecht) Reading and Quiz*
          Theatre of the World Wars
R 2/27   Theatre of the World Wars
          CELEBRATION OF KNOWLEDGE ONE Assigned (Due 3/9)

T 3/3    Theatre of the World Wars

*Theatre Case Studies: Eclecticism, Postmodernism, and Revolt*

R 3/5    Activity and Discussion: Postwar Experimental Theatre/ Eclectics
T 3/10   Activity and Discussion: Absurdism
R 3/12   Absurdism

SPRING BREAK
T 3/24  BLOWING UP THE CANON PRESENTATIONS (and PAMPLETS) DUE IN CLASS
R 3/26  Hamletmachine (Mueller) Reading and Quiz  http://members.efn.org/~dredmond/Hamletmachine.PDF
Postmodernism Scavenger Hunt

T 3/31  Postmodernism
R 4/2  Activity and Discussion: Development of American Commercial Theatre

T 4/7  American Commercial Theatre
R 4/9  Machinal (Treadwell) Reading and Quiz
Activity and Discussion: American Experiments

T 4/14  Activity and Discussion: New Stagecraft
R 4/16  Activity and Discussion: Federal Theatre Project

T 4/21  Soul Gone Home (Hughes) Reading and Quiz
Activity and Discussion: Emerging Voices in the American Theatre
R 4/23  Cloud Nine (Churchill) Reading and Quiz
Activity and Discussion: Emerging Structures and Issues
CELEBRATION OF KNOWLEDGE TWO Assigned (Due 5/5)

T 4/28  The America Play (Parks) Reading and Quiz
Activity and Discussion: Emerging Structures and Issues
R 4/30  Contemporary Issue and Controversies

Final Exam Period (Thursday, May 7, NOON) – Research Project Presentations/Q &A

*Optional Research Challenge Project Due Dates located in Canvas