

**Carleton University
Winter 2016
Department of English**

**ENGL 4605A - Theatre Production Seminar
Drama Workshop**

Prerequisite(s): ENGL 3904 or permission of the department; and prior or concurrent participation in a Sock 'n' Buskin production

Monday: 2:35 p.m. -5:25 p.m.

Location: Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Instructor: Sarah McVie

Office: 1914

Office Hours: 9-11:15AM, Mondays, or by appointment

Email: sarahmcvie@cunet.carleton.ca

*Preliminary outline- subject to change

Direction and Dramaturgy: Crafting Theatrical Moments

The theatre director and dramaturge are largely twentieth-century constructs that have become prevalent in contemporary theatre creation. This course will give students the opportunity to explore the director's craft; from extensive research related to the play to practical decisions of how to rehearse and prepare a piece of theatre for performance. Students will create a Director's Concept and stage a selected scene from a play. Dramaturgy will be examined and practiced in a collective creation project to be presented at the end of the term.

Course Objective

Students will leave this course with an appreciation for the director's role and the practical experience of staging a piece of theatre. Process will be the central focus, allowing each student to devise a unique approach to creative leadership based on historical and contemporary models of theatre practice.

Course Assessment

	Assignment	Deadline	Course Value
Participation	Attendance and commitment to process		15%
Quiz: Theatre Practice	Quiz on theatre practice based on readings and discussion in class.	February 1st	10%

Theatre Profile	Research an established theatre director and present your findings to the class. Submit a report on the subject's body of work. (500-700 words)	February 8th	20%
Director's Concept	<p>Create a director's concept for the selected play. Stage a scene from the chosen play. Lead a "mock rehearsal" in front of your peers Submit a portfolio that outlines your concept in detail. It will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) An essay on your initial impressions and the development of your concept b) A rehearsal plan c) A detailed scene breakdown identifying beats and actions. (Approx. 500 words each) d) A design concept 	<p>Concept and plan due March 7th Scenes due April 4th</p>	30%
Dramaturgy Project	Act as a creative collaborator and dramaturgical advisor for a group of students in ENLG 3904 working on a devised piece of theatre. Write a 750 word essay outlining your contribution and include a detailed description of the piece.	March 21st	25%

Course Outline

WEEK 1	Jan. 11	Discussion: The Director's Craft Assign: Theatre Profile (due Feb. 8th)
WEEK 2	Jan. 18	Discussion: Reading plays for meaning Assign: Director's Concept (due March 7th)
WEEK 3	Jan. 25	Discussion: Interpreting texts
WEEK 4	Feb. 1	Discussion: Dramaturgy Assign: Dramaturgy Project (due March 21 st) Due: Theatre Practice Quiz (in class)
WEEK 5	Feb. 8	Discussion: Acting Styles
	Feb. 15th	Reading week.
WEEK 6	Feb. 22	Discussion: The Rehearsal Room
WEEK 7	Feb. 29	Discussion: Scene Work
WEEK 8	Mar. 7	Due: Director's Concept
WEEK 9	Mar. 14	Discussion: Viewpoints
WEEK 10	Mar. 21	Due: Dramaturgy Project

WEEK 11	Mar. 28	Technical Dress Rehearsal for the collective creation in CIMS
WEEK 12	April 4	Final Performance of scenes for an invited audience

Suggested texts:

Theatre of the Unimpressed, Jordan Tannahill

A Director Prepares, Anne Bogart

Different Every Night, Mike Alfreds

The Drama Handbook: A Guide to Reading Plays, Lennard, John, and Mary Luckhurst

Academic Accommodations

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term because of disability, pregnancy or religious obligations. Please review the course outline promptly and write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist.

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities could include but are not limited to mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that your Instructor receives your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you only require accommodations for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodations to PMC by the last official day to withdraw from classes in each term.

You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at <http://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation>

Plagiarism: The University Senate defines plagiarism as presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas, or the work of others as one's own. This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source

- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else
- using ideas, quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts or ideas without appropriate acknowledgement in an essay or assignment
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another's works, and/or failing to use quotation marks
- handing in substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without

prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs

Plagiarism is a form of intellectual theft. It is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly with the course's instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include failure of the assignment, failure of the entire course, suspension from a program, suspension from the university, or even expulsion from the university.

You should familiarize yourself with the University's Academic Integrity policy online at http://www2.carleton.ca/studentaffairs/ccms/wp-content/ccms-files/academic_integrity_policy.pdf. For more detailed discussion of the issue of plagiarism and proper use of sources, consult the following website: <http://www.utoronto.ca/writing/plagsep.html>.