

**Carleton University
Winter 2023
Department of English**

ENGL 2609A: *Drama Studies: Modes and Movements*
Prerequisite(s): *second-year standing or permission of the department*

Day/Time: Tuesday/Thursday 8:35 – 9:55 a.m.

Location: SA 413

Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Instructor: Prof Janne Cleveland

Email: janneclleveland@cunet.carleton.ca

Office: 1913 Dunton Tower (DT)

Office Hours: by appointment

Important note:

For information on deadlines for withdrawal from courses, please consult the Academic Year section of the Undergraduate Calendar (<https://calendar.carleton.ca/academicyear/>).

Course Outline:

Theatre, in part through the aspect of 'liveness' absent in film, is dependent on not just the narrative content, but also, importantly, the cultural events to which the dramas respond. The development of dramatic practice, over time, produces a number of experimental strategies on the part of playwrights and performance theorists looking to engage audiences within the specific context of their times and places. This course will explore a number of developments in dramatic practice and technological advances, beginning at the end of 19th C that set up theatrical experimentation of the 20th Century. Such aesthetic movements as, Epic Theatre, Theatre of the Absurd, African American drama (among others) will be closely examined through a sampling of play texts that represent these historical and cultural responses. As well, we will examine advances in staging techniques that enabled theatre theorists and practitioners to experiment with the aesthetic movements that emerged in this period, and continue to influence contemporary theatre-making. The plays exemplify how drama reflects our worlds back to us, and through experimentations in representation, give us pause to consider what we want our worlds to look like.

Course Objectives:

1. To increase an understanding of the ways in which theatrical experimentation directly connects to the social, political, and psychological worlds we inhabit
2. To improve the skills of critical reading, analysis, and especially academic writing
3. To increase knowledge of the contexts in which these experimental styles emerged
4. To discover how these experimental performance/production/staging styles continue to influence on contemporary stages

Required Reading:

Mother Courage and Her Children Bertolt Brecht

Waiting for Godot Samuel Beckett

Hamletmachine Heiner Müller

Information for Foreigners Griselda Gambaro

Harlem Duet Djanet Sears

East of Berlin Hannah Moscovitch

Texts will be available at Haven Books

Highly Recommended:

Composition handbook (e.g., *The Broadview Pocket Guide to Writing*)

Evaluation:

Character study (15%)

Due February 3 midnight

This assignment requires you to think about the connection between the style of theatre and how the character(s) exemplify the style. You will write a short paper of **3-4 double-spaced pages** that focuses on one character from one of the plays assigned early in the term. Your analysis will connect the style of theatre (Epic Theatre or Theatre of the Absurd in either *Mother Courage* or *Waiting for Godot*) and make an argument for how and why the character you are examining is representative of that style. We will discuss the requirements of this assignment in further detail at the beginning of the term. You will be expected to properly use MLA formatting. The following link will provide you an example of the formatting requirements:

https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_sample_paper.html

Scene Study (15%)
March 3 at midnight

This assignment requires you to carefully consider the style of theatre of a particular play and explore it through a detailed analysis of **one scene**. Choose a scene from any of the plays studied up to this point (*Mother Courage*, *Waiting for Godot*, *Hamletmachine*, or *Information for Foreigners*) and in **4-5 double-spaced pages** you will prepare a **detailed analysis** of one scene and comment on how it is representative of the style in question. We will discuss the requirements of this assignment in further detail at the beginning of the term.

You will be expected to use proper MLA formatting (see link above).

Annotated Bibliography (30%)
Due March 10 at midnight

This assignment is the foundation of your final paper. From the list of essay topics provided, you will present a proposal for your final research paper that includes a thesis statement (argument), and a list of citations that you will use as evidence to support your argument. You must include **5 - 7** scholarly sources. Each source will be properly cited and annotated in **MLA format***, and will contain a **brief** summary of each article used (no more than 2 sentences), and a careful explanation of how each resource supports your position, along with how you will use it in your paper. We will go over how to do an annotated bibliography in class, but here is also a very good resource to help you:

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/614/1/>
<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

Paper workshop (10%)
April 11 in-class

This is an in-class assignment on the last day of class. You will be divided into groups, and each student will have the opportunity to present the thesis and points of argument for the final paper. Each student will be expected to offer feedback to others in the group.

Final Paper (30%)
Due April 12 midnight

A list of essay topics will be provided at the beginning of the term. This is a formal writing assignment. Using feedback from the annotated bibliography assignment, students will present a polished, carefully crafted final paper of **8 – 10** pages (excluding Works Cited page) in **MLA format** with a coherent, arguable thesis, supported by evidence from the text and scholarly sources, a conclusion that responds to and resolves the argument. The most important aspect of your paper is **critical analysis**; in other words, not just what happens in the play you are examining, but most importantly, why it happens. As well, elements of writing such as rich vocabulary, proper use of citation style, correct punctuation and grammar, and sentence structure (syntax) will be taken into account. Further, structural elements, such as the logical progression of ideas that form the basis of your argument, will be expected. This assignment is your opportunity to

demonstrate what you have learned in the course. Don't be afraid to demonstrate your excitement about your discoveries!

Quick Calendar: Assignment Overview

Date	Topic	Assignment
February 3	Character Study	Short paper
March 3	Scene Study	Short paper
March 10	Annotated Bibliography	Annotated Bibliography
April 11	Paper workshop	In-class workshop
April 12	Final paper	Final paper

Late Policy: Assignments must be submitted online through Brightspace on the due date by the beginning of class to receive full marks. There will be **no extensions** granted unless discussed prior to the due date with the instructor. No assignments will be accepted if they are more than 5 days late, with the exception of those negotiated prior to the due date. **NOTE: It is your responsibility to insure that all assignments are submitted on time. Keep a backup copy that can be submitted upon request in the event of a lost or misplaced assignment.**

All assignments will be submitted electronically on Brightspace

NOTE: All assignments must be completed in order to be eligible to pass the course. Failure to hand in all assignments may result in a grade of “F”.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

NOTE: All assignments must be completed in order to be eligible to pass the course. Failure to hand in all assignments may result in a grade of “F”. Assignments submitted after the course has ended will NOT be accepted.

PLAGIARISM

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” According to the Department examples of plagiarism include the following:

- any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else;
- 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;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- 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, or suspension from a program. For more information, please go to: <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>

Statement on Student Mental Health

As a University student you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. Here is a list that may be helpful:

Emergency Resources (on and off campus): <https://carleton.ca/health/emergencies-and-crisis/emergency-numbers/>

Carleton Resources:

- Mental Health and Wellbeing: <https://carleton.ca/wellness/>
- Health & Counselling Services: <https://carleton.ca/health/>
- Paul Menton Centre: <https://carleton.ca/pmc/>
- Academic Advising Centre (AAC): <https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/>
- Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/>
- Equity & Inclusivity Communities: <https://carleton.ca/equity/>

Off Campus Resources:

- Distress Centre of Ottawa and Region: (613) 238-3311 or TEXT: 343-306-5550, <https://www.dcottawa.on.ca/>
- Mental Health Crisis Service: (613) 722-6914, 1-866-996-0991, <http://www.crisisline.ca/>
- Empower Me: 1-844-741-6389, <https://students.carleton.ca/services/empower-me-counselling-services/>
- Good2Talk: 1-866-925-5454, <https://good2talk.ca/>
- The Walk-In Counselling Clinic: <https://walkincounselling.com>

Statement on Pandemic Measures

It is important to remember that COVID is still present in Ottawa. The situation can change at any time and the risks of new variants and outbreaks are very real. There are [a number of actions you can take](#) to lower your risk and the risk you pose to those around you including being vaccinated, wearing a mask, staying home when you're sick, washing your hands and maintaining proper respiratory and cough etiquette.

Feeling sick? Remaining vigilant and not attending work or school when sick or with symptoms is critically important. If you feel ill or exhibit COVID-19 symptoms do not come to class or campus. If you feel ill or exhibit symptoms while on campus or in class, please leave campus immediately. In all situations, you should follow Carleton's [symptom reporting protocols](#).

Masks: Masks are no longer mandatory in university buildings and facilities. However, we continue to recommend masking when indoors, particularly if physical distancing cannot be maintained. We are aware that personal preferences regarding optional mask use will vary greatly, and we ask that we all show consideration and care for each other during this transition.

Vaccines: While proof of vaccination is no longer required to access campus or participate in in-person Carleton activities, it may become necessary for the University to bring back proof of vaccination requirements on short notice if the situation and public health advice changes. Students are strongly encouraged to get a full course of vaccination, including booster doses as soon as they are eligible and submit their booster dose information in [cuScreen](#) as soon as possible. Please note that Carleton cannot guarantee that it will be able to offer virtual or hybrid learning options for those who are unable to attend the campus.

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow requirements and guidelines regarding health and safety which may change from time to time. For the most recent information about Carleton's COVID-19 response and health and safety requirements please see the [University's COVID-19 website](#) and review the [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#). Should you have additional questions after reviewing, please contact covidinfo@carleton.ca.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy: 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. For accommodation regarding a formally scheduled final exam, you must complete the Pregnancy Accommodation Form ([click here](#)).

Religious obligation: 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. For more details [click here](#).

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and

impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally scheduled exam (if applicable).

Survivors of Sexual Violence

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working, and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and where survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit:

<https://carleton.ca/equity/sexual-assault-support-services>

Accommodation for Student Activities

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation will be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. 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. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

Class Schedule *

January 10/12	Introduction: what to expect; what's in the syllabus Epic Theatre/Bertolt Brecht
January 17/19	<i>Mother Courage and her Children</i>
January 24/26	Theatre of the Absurd/Samuel Beckett
January 31/February 2	<i>Waiting for Godot</i> Character Study due February 3 midnight
February 7/9	Postmodern Drama/Heiner Müller <i>Hamletmachine</i>
February 14/16	<i>Hamletmachine</i> Scene Study due February 17

February 28/March 2	Site-specific theatre/Griselda Gambaro <i>Information for Foreigners</i>
March 7/9	<i>Information for Foreigners</i> Annotated bibliography due March 10 midnight
March 14/16	African American Drama/Djanet Sears
March 21/23	<i>Harlem Duet</i>
March 28/30	Political/historical drama/Hannah Moscovitch
April 4/6	<i>East of Berlin</i>
April 11	Paper Workshop in-class (you must attend to get marks for this assignment)
April 12	final papers due on Brightspace at midnight

***Subject to change. Check on Carleton Central for any changes.**