

### Preliminary Web Course Description

\*Please note: This is a preliminary web course description only. The department reserves the right to change without notice any information in this description. The final, binding course outline will be distributed in the first class of the semester.

### School of English and Theatre Studies

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| Course Code:<br>THST*2010 | Course Title:<br>Theatre Historical Study | Date of Offering:<br><b>FALL 2016</b> |
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| Course Instructor: A. Filewod | Course Format: Lecture |
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#### **Brief Course Synopsis:**

This course will introduce students to the historical study of theatre in a survey of the development of Western theatre from the classical period to 20<sup>th</sup> century modernism. An emphasis on the historical problem of Western theatre orients the study to the historical conditions that have produced contemporary theatre practice in Canada. Using a problem-based approach, the course will examine fundamental principles of historiography, including the question of origins and periodization, contesting models of historical change, and historically situated boundaries between theatre and other performance arts. Through discussion of these problems, the student will become familiar with the historical development of several aspects of the theatre (including acting style and the evolution of the acting profession; theatre architecture and design; and audience) in order to reach an understanding of the relationship between the art and the social conditions that shape it.

The objectives of the course are to encourage the student to develop historical perspective to approach plays of past ages, to understand the historical processes that have created our contemporary theatre and to understand theatre history as an archive of still active theatre practice.

#### **Learning Outcomes**

Successful students will have learned to:

Apply research skills to formulate problems and methodologies.

Apply effective communications skills for oral, visual and written communication

Identify global historical conditions that produce contemporary practice.

Identify period and style in dramatic texts.

Analyze and interpret primary source material.

Synthesize research findings to present historical argument, in oral and written form.

Identify the impacts of technology and architecture on theatrical techniques and dramaturgy.

#### **Methods of Evaluation and Weight:**

Mid-term assignment 25%

Bibliography assignment 15%

Unit response questions 35%

Final take-home examination 25%

Texts and/or Resources Required (e.g. Internet access, specific textbook title, lab kit, etc.)

Nagler, A.M. *A Source Book in Theatrical History* (New York: Dover) ISBN:048620515

Other information that you wish share about the course (optional):