

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: THST*3140 | Course Title: Performance and the Past | Date of Offering: Fall 2023 |
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| Course Instructor: | Course Format: Lecture |
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Brief Course Synopsis:

This version of “Performance and the Past” will focus on selected history of American plays and musicals from throughout the 20th and 21st Centuries. Students will encounter different ways that plays, playwrights, and performances challenge and engage with major social, political, and cultural issues/movements happening throughout America (and the world) over the last 100 years. Issues of race, gender, sexuality, class, migration, inequity, and other major concerns will all emerge throughout these texts and our lectures/discussion of their content.

Methods of Evaluation and Weight:

Participation in Lecture/Reading Discussions: 15%

Short In Class Presentation (Various Dates): 20%

Play/Musical Review Assignment (500 words): 15%

Final Paper Proposal w/ Annotated Bibliography (500 words): 15%

Final Paper (1500 – 2000 Words, Online End of Term): 35%

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

Final Reading List to be determined. Playwrights studied may include Lorraine Hansberry, Tony Kushner, Tennessee Williams, Suzan Lori-Parks, Eugene O’Neill, Edward Albee, Lynn Nottage, Sam Shepard, and more. We will also watch and discuss several musicals including *Rent*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, and *Into the Woods*.

This course counts towards the following distribution requirement(s) for students who registered at the University prior to the Fall of 2018:

Information about mode of delivery (synchronous/asynchronous/other details):

*Students who registered at the University of Guelph after Fall 2018 must fulfill the “new” major and minor requirements. Students who registered at the University of Guelph prior to Fall 2018 must fulfill the requirements of the

Calendar in effect when they first enrolled unless they have filed a Schedule of Studies Change Request to change to the 2018-2019 calendar. For more information, please consult the major and minor checklists at <https://www.uoguelph.ca/arts/sets/undergraduate/english/current-student-information>.