

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

Course Code: THST*6150	Course Title: Theatre Historiography	Date of Offering: Fall 2023
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Course Instructor:	Course Format: Seminar
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Brief Course Synopsis:

This graduate seminar explores how theatre and performance histories contribute to different constructions and understandings of humanity across diverse places and centuries. Students will thoroughly discuss playwrights, theatrical venues, historical source material, revisionist practices, and performance aesthetics to encounter and reconsider historical events, beliefs, characters/figures, audiences, and perceptions of the past. Examples from diverse global cultures, communities, and time periods will engage with the mutability of supposedly stable historical events through compelling performance material. We will ask questions about who writes and/or performs different histories while learning to identify key features of the political/social conditions of performances to challenge diverse accepted historical narratives.

Methods of Evaluation and Weight:

Participation in Seminar Discussions: 20%
Short Historiography Presentations x 2 @ 15% Each: 30%
Research Paper Proposal: 10%
Final Research Paper: 40%

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

Canning, Charlotte M. and Thomas Postlewait, Eds. *Representing the Past: Essays in Performance Historiography*. University of Iowa Press, 2010.

Cochrane, Claire and Jo Robinson, Eds. *The Methuen Drama Handbook of Theatre History and Historiography*. Bloomsbury, 2020.

Internet access will be required.

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>.