

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: F 22
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Course Instructor: D. O'Quinn	Course Format: Seminar
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Brief Course Synopsis:

This graduate seminar explores 1) how theatre and performance contribute to different constructions and understandings of human history and 2) how one can understand and analyze performance in historical terms. Through discussions of playwrights, historical source material, revisionist practices, as well as performance aesthetics, students will encounter historical events, beliefs, characters/figures, audiences, and perceptions of the past. Examples from diverse global cultures, communities, and time periods will be used to engage with the mutability of supposedly stable historical events as 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 as well as culturally accepted/challenged narratives. In this iteration of the course we will likely be looking at different moments of in the representation of Islam but the specific case studies have yet to be isolated.

Methods of Evaluation and Weight:

Seminar Questions/Presentations (15%)
Review Work-Up (15%)
Scenography Exercise (15%)
Final Research Project Proposal (10%)
Prospectus (20%)
Final Paper (25%)

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

Theatre Historiography: Critical Interventions (Textbook)

https://www.press.umich.edu/1546640/theater_historiography

Bial, Henry and Scott Magelssen, Eds. *Theatre Historiography: Critical Interventions*. The University of Michigan Press, 2010.

Representing the Past: Essays in Performance Historiography (Textbook)

<https://www.uipress.uiowa.edu/books/9781587299056/representing-the-past>

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

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):
We will be meeting in person.

*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>.