

CANADIAN DRAMA AND THEATRE

Fall 2016
TTh 5:30-6:45 pm
Room 2M77

Ashley Majzels
Office: 4T06
Phone: 204-258-3811
E-Mail: a.majzels@uwinnipeg.ca
Office Hours: Th 3:30-5:30 pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is dedicated to the study of Canadian plays written in the last forty years, interspersed with lectures and readings on the history of the Canadian theatre from 1606 to the present.

TEXTS

Modern Canadian Plays, ed. Jerry Wasserman, vols. 1 and 2. **4th edition**

REQUIRED READINGS NOT IN TEXTBOOK

Benjamin, Walter. 'The Task of the Translator' – widely available

Filewod, Alan. 'Receiving Aboriginality: Tomson Highway and the Crisis of Cultural Authenticity.' *Theatre Journal*, 46.3, Oct 1994, 363-73.

Sears, Djanet. *notes of a coloured girl: 32 short reasons why i write for the theatre*. - widely available

GRADING

Research Paper (due Oct 18, 2016)	20%
Introduction Essay (due Nov 15, 2016).....	40%
Final Paper (TBA)	40%
TOTAL	<u>100%</u>

Unexcused late assignments will not be accepted.

Attendance will be taken each class.

Unexcused absences are assessed a penalty; 1% will be deducted from the final grade per occurrence.

CONVERSION SCALE

For the calculation of the final grade the following conversion table will be used:

A+	90 - 100%	GPA	4.5	C+	65 - 69.9%	GPA	2.5
A	85 - 89.9%	GPA	4.25	C+	65 - 69.9%	GPA	2.5
A-	80 - 84.9%	GPA	4.0	C	60 - 64.9%	GPA	2.0
B+	75 - 79.9%	GPA	3.5	D	50 - 59.9%	GPA	1.0
B	70 - 74.9%	GPA	3.0	F	below 50%	GPA	0

Work not submitted will be graded as 0.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Sept	6	Introduction	
	8	Reading: <u>Introduction to Volume 1, <i>Modern Canadian Plays</i></u>	
	13	<u><i>Les Belles Sœurs</i></u>	
	15	Reading: <u>Walter Benjamin's <i>The Task of the Translator</i></u>	
	20	<u><i>Polygraph</i></u>	
	22	Discussion	
	27	<u><i>The Ecstasy of Rita Joe</i></u>	
Oct	29	<u><i>The Occupation of Heather Rose</i></u>	
	4	<u><i>Dry Lips Oughta Move to Kapuskasing</i></u>	
	6	Discussion – Ethics in Representation	
	11	NO CLASS – Reading Week	
	13	NO CLASS – Reading Week	
PAPER	18	Alan Filewod's <u><i>Receiving Aboriginality</i></u>	1st PAPER DUE
	20	Discussion – Canadian National Drama	
	25	<u><i>Leaving Home</i></u>	
Nov	27	Discussion – Canadian Identity	
	1	Final Date to withdraw without Academic penalty	
	1	<u><i>1837: The Farmers' Revolt</i></u>	
	3	Discussion – History Plays	
	8	<u><i>Lion in the Streets</i></u>	
	10	Discussion	
INTRO	15	<u><i>Drag Queens on Trial</i></u>	INTRODUCTION DUE
	17	Discussion - GLBTQ* theatre in Canada	
	22	<u><i>Fronteras Americanas</i></u>	
	24	Discussion – Borders	
Dec	29	<u><i>Harlem Duet</i></u>	
	1	Reading: <u><i>notes of a coloured girl</i></u>	
		Final Paper - TBA	

"THE REAL THING" LECTURE SERIES

The Department of Theatre and Film is presenting a series of six lectures which will be held during the free period (12:30-13:20) in Theatre 1T15. Please note the dates in your diary **NOW**: Wed Sept 21 (clowns Morro and Jasp), Mon Oct 17, Wed Nov 9, Wed Jan 18, Mon Feb 27, Mon Mar 13. This series will feature speakers from a range of areas in the performing arts: technical, performance, design, management, film, directing, playwriting, etc. These speakers will specifically address issues related to “the business of the business.”

Attendance for potential Theatre Honours/majors and for Film majors is optional but highly recommended.

2016 ORIENTATION ASSEMBLY

Each year in September we hold an *Orientation Assembly* to welcome students to the new term, introduce our new students to faculty and other students; provide information about the department, its various activities and those of its professors; and deliver news about what's coming up. This year our *Orientation Assembly* will be held on **Wednesday, September 14, 2016, 12:30-13:20 in Theatre, 1T15. ATTENDANCE IS COMPULSORY** for all Majors and Honours students. Those considering Honours are strongly recommended to attend. All others are welcome and encouraged to attend.

TAFSA

All students enrolled in at least one theatre or film class are automatically members of TAFSA, the Theatre and Film Students' Association, which plans a number of exciting activities each academic year. We are looking forward to regular **Performance Jams, Socials**, and the very popular **24/7 Event** during which students move into our building and five plays are written, rehearsed, produced, and presented – all in a period of 24 hours! And this year, for the first-time, TAFSA is planning a **Play Festival** (Jan 11-14). Please join TAFSA to find out more at its organizational meeting: Mon Sept 19, 12:30-1:20, Room OT10. This is a great opportunity for students to connect with other like-minded people and a way to get involved in the department events.

BUILDING SECURITY

The Asper Centre for Theatre and Film (home to the Department of Theatre and Film) is open from 8:00 am and 5:30 pm weekdays only. Students are permitted to be in the building between 8:00 am and 10:00 pm seven days per week (except statutory holidays when the University is closed) **BUT PLEASE NOTE:** outside of regular building hours, it is **MANDATORY** that everyone in the building **EITHER** carry an access card **OR** have a booking confirmation form in their possession (hard copy or electronic). **ALL EVENING STUDENTS in the building for classes MUST have an access card.** If a Security Guard checks and you do not have proper accreditation, **you may be evicted.**

These rules are in place to protect our students and our equipment; please respect them.

ELECTRONIC COURSE OUTLINE ADDENDA

Students must check our website at <http://theatre.uwinnipeg.ca/tbooking.htm> and read the menu items called *Fire Safety Instructions in the Asper Centre for Theatre and Film, Access Card/Building Use Policy AND Room Booking Instructions*. The link to the electronic *Online Room Booking Form* is also found at this location. Please read and note all instructions carefully.

GENERAL NOTES

This course outline should be considered a guideline only. Time constraints and other unforeseen factors may require that some topics be omitted or covered in less detail than indicated.

Archival records such as videotapes, sound recordings, and photographs may be made or taken during class or lab times. The University uses such materials primarily for archival, promotional, and teaching purposes. Promotional use may include display at open houses or conferences, or use in advertising, publicity, or brochures. In reading and accepting the terms in this course outline, students acknowledge consent for such use by the University. Should a student not wish to convey such consent, s/he should withdraw from this course immediately.

Cellular phones **MUST** be turned off during classes and examinations; texting is **NOT** permitted in class.

Any student attending a test or final examination may be required to present proof of identity; photo identification is preferred.

It is the student's responsibility to retain a photocopy or computer disk copy of **ALL** assignments submitted for grading; in the event of loss or theft, a duplicate copy is required.

Students with documented disabilities, or temporary or chronic medical conditions requiring academic accommodations for tests/exams (e.g., private space) or during lectures/laboratories (e.g., note-takers) are encouraged to contact Accessibility Services (AS) at 204-786-9771 or accessibilityservices@uwinnipeg.ca to discuss appropriate options. All information about a student's disability or medical condition remains confidential <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility>

Students are strongly advised to read the section of the *Academic Calendar* (found on-line at <http://uwinnipeg.ca/new-faculty-handbook/appeals-and-academic-misconduct.html>) for information on Academic Misconduct including plagiarism, and Appeals.

Students conducting research interviews, focus groups, surveys, or any other method of collecting data from any person, including a family member, must obtain the approval of the appropriate ethics committee before commencing data collection. Exceptions are research activities in class as a learning exercise. See <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/research/human-ethics.html> for submission requirements and deadlines.

All students, faculty and staff have the right to participate, learn and work in an environment that is free of harassment and discrimination. The UW Respectful Working and Learning Environment Policy may be found online at www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect.

Students may choose not to attend classes or write examinations on holy days of their religion, but they must notify their instructors at least two weeks in advance. Instructors will then provide opportunity for students to make up work examinations without penalty. A list of religious holidays can be found at <http://uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/important-notes.pdf>

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2016 is the final date to withdraw without academic penalty from courses which begin in September 2016 and end in December 2016 of the 2016 Fall Term.

STUDENT PARTICIPATION POLICY

Theatre is a communal art form in which a number of interdependent artists and crafts people co-operate to create a work of art. This fact is necessarily transferred to the learning situation, and is reflected in many of the Department's courses. Consequently, it is the Department's policy that students are required to: complete homework such as reading, line-learning, script analysis, prop lists, design drawings, etc.; attend classes; attend rehearsals both within and outside of class times; and, in short, to exhibit commitment towards the inevitably shared endeavours of our field of study.

Any student failing to fulfil these requirements is harmful to the progress of dedicated students and may, after due warning, be asked to withdraw from any individual Departmental course.

COURSE CONTENT NOTE

All Theatre and Film Classes

Dramatic Literature depicts a wide variety of human action, both elevated and base, public and private, physical and psychological, sexual and non-sexual, etc. The Department of Theatre and Film will not undertake to censor the subject matter of dramatic works.

Students who have concerns about dealing with the full range of content and style in drama/film are urged to discuss these concerns with the course instructor.