

THFM 3402-001 (3 credit hours)  
**CANADIAN DRAMA AND THEATRE**

Winter 2021 T/Th 10-11:15 (Live via Zoom)

Professor: Jessica Riley

Pronouns: she/her

[j.riley@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:j.riley@uwinnipeg.ca)

Virtual office hours by appointment

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### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is dedicated to the study of plays written in the land known as Canada over the last fifty years. This is a course about legacies: artistic, stylistic, canonical, dramaturgical, ideological, and colonial. Through an examination of plays and supplementary readings our work together will be to explore where we have come from and where we are headed in theatre in this country.

The reading for this course is demanding. Students will need to manage their time accordingly. Consistent, thoughtful, and *prepared* participation in the course is expected.

### **COURSE DELIVERY**

This course will be delivered through a combination of synchronous and asynchronous instruction, administered through Zoom and the course website on Nexus. Students will require reliable access to the Internet. We will meet together as a group at scheduled times twice a week (on **Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10-11:15 am**), via Zoom, for a combination of brief lectures and synchronous discussion. These meetings will be recorded for asynchronous access. Recordings will be available to course members only, via Nexus, until the end of the term. Students may choose to turn off personal cameras during recording. Students will have 48 hours to asynchronously contribute to online discussion threads and/or to complete activities arising from synchronous classes.

### **A NOTE RE. EMAIL**

Students have the responsibility to regularly check their UWinnipeg email addresses to ensure timely receipt of correspondence from the University and/or their course instructors.

All emails to Professor Riley must be sent to the following email address: [j.riley@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:j.riley@uwinnipeg.ca). Professor Riley will check this account at least once per day and aim to respond within 24 hours. Please note that Professor Riley does **not** regularly check Nexus mail.

### **REQUIRED TEXTS**

**The following plays are available for purchase through U Winnipeg Bookstore and elsewhere:**

*How Black Mothers Say I Love You* by Trey Anthony (Playwrights Canada Press 2017)

**Paperback** : 9781770918023 (\$17.99)

**Ebook (PDF)** : 9781770918030 (\$12.99)

*The Farm Show* by Theatre Passe Muraille (Coach House Books 1998)

**Paperback** : 9781552450123 (\$13.95)

**Ebook (PDF)** : 9781770560574 (\$12.95)

*The Gay Heritage Project* by Damien Atkins, Paul Dunn, and Andrew Kushnir (Playwrights Canada 2018)

**Paperback** : 9781770917989, 204 pages (\$22.95)

**Ebook (PDF)** : 9781770917996, 204 pages, September 2018 (\$17.95)

*The Femme Playlist* by Catherine Hernandez (Playwrights Canada Press 2018)

**Paperback** : 9781770919099 (\$18.95)

**Ebook (PDF)** : 9781770919105 (\$13.99)

*Almighty Voice and His Wife* by Daniel David Moses (Playwrights Canada Press 2009)

**Paperback** : 9780887548970 (\$15.95)

**Ebook (PDF)** : 9781770911178 (\$12.99)

*Kamloopa* by Kim Senklip Harvey (Talonbooks 2019)

**Paperback** 9781772012422 (\$16.95)

**The following plays are accessible for free through Nexus:**

*Leaving Home* by David French

*Fronteras Americanas* by Guillermo Verdecchia

*Death of a Chief* by Yvette Nolan and Kennedy C. MacKinnon

*Bioboxes* by Theatre Replacement

*Both Alike in Dignity* by Yvette Nolan and Rick Chafe

**Please note that additional required reading will be posted to Nexus.**

**GRADING**

Participation.....	10%
Final Paper (due <b>Tuesday April 13</b> ).....	35%
Play Responses (weekly: 11 x 5%).....	55%
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<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b><u>100%</u></b>

**PARTICIPATION**

The following criteria will be considered in determining participation grades:

**Preparation:** Was the student prepared for online discussion? Evidence will include verbal and/or written contributions that are timely, specific, detailed, and thoughtful.

**Quality of contributions to discussion:** Were the student's verbal and/or written comments and questions relevant? Did they promote discussion? Did the student respect others, listen well, and respond constructively?

**Consistency:** Did the student contribute to verbal and/or written online discussion regularly throughout the term?

**FINAL ESSAY**

The Final Essay will require students to write a comparative analysis drawing at least one Canadian play that is **not** on the course reading list. Students must plan to purchase or otherwise access the additional play. A detailed description of the expectations for the Final Essay will be posted to Nexus early in the term. Except in cases where alternate arrangements are made with Professor Riley, the Final Essay is due **by midnight on Tuesday, April 13**. Final Essays not submitted will be graded as 0%. Unexcused late submissions of the Final Essay will incur a penalty of 2% per calendar day.

**PLAY RESPONSES**

For each play we read this term, students will write a **detailed formal response** (worth 5% of the final grade). Detailed instructions will be posted on Nexus. Play Responses are to be submitted **via email to [j.riley@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:j.riley@uwinnipeg.ca) before class discussion begins (i.e. by 10 am)**. Responses submitted after class begins will not be accepted. In such cases, a grade of 0% will be assigned.

**DATE****TOPIC**

January 7: Introduction to the Course

January 12: Foundational Concepts Part 1

ASSIGNED READING: Excerpt from *Up the Mainstream* by Denis W. Johnston pp 3-11; "A Prayer for Rita Joe" by Yvette Nolan in *Performing Turtle Island: Indigenous Theatre on the World Stage* pp 113-129; "The Conversation: How We Talk About Cultural Diversity in Theatre" by Nikki Shaffeeullah

Jan 14: ***Leaving Home* by David French**

ASSIGNED READING: *Leaving Home* (accessible via Reserve Readings on Nexus)

**PLAY RESPONSE 1 DUE BEFORE CLASS BEGINS**

Jan 19: *How Black Mothers Say I Love You* by Trey Anthony

ASSIGNED READING: *How Black Mothers Say I Love You*

**PLAY RESPONSE 2 DUE BEFORE CLASS BEGINS**

Jan 21: *How Black Mothers Say I Love You* continued

Jan 26: *The Farm Show*

ASSIGNED READING: *The Farm Show*

**PLAY RESPONSE 3 DUE BEFORE CLASS BEGINS**

Jan 28: *The Farm Show* continued

Feb 2: *The Gay Heritage Project* by Damien Atkins, Paul Dunn, and Andrew Kushnir

ASSIGNED READING: *The Gay Heritage Project*

**PLAY RESPONSE 4 DUE BEFORE CLASS BEGINS**

Feb 4: *The Gay Heritage Project* continued

Feb 9: *Fronteras Americanas* by Guillermo Verdecchia

ASSIGNED READING: *Fronteras Americanas*

**PLAY RESPONSE 5 DUE BEFORE CLASS BEGINS**

Feb 11: *Fronteras Americanas* continued

**Feb 14-20 READING WEEK**

Feb 23: *The Femme Playlist* by Catherine Hernandez

ASSIGNED READING: *The Femme Playlist*

**PLAY RESPONSE 6 DUE BEFORE CLASS BEGINS**

Feb 25: *The Femme Playlist* continued

Mar 2: *Death of a Chief* by Yvette Nolan and Kennedy C. MacKinnon

ASSIGNED READING: *Death of a Chief*

**PLAY RESPONSE 7 DUE BEFORE CLASS BEGINS**

Mar 4: *Death of a Chief* continued

Mar 9: *Almighty Voice and His Wife* by Daniel David Moses

ASSIGNED READING: *Almighty Voice and His Wife*

**PLAY RESPONSE 8 DUE BEFORE CLASS BEGINS**

Mar 11: *Almighty Voice* continued

Mar 16: *Kamloopa* by Kim Senklip Harvey

ASSIGNED READING: *Kamloopa*

**PLAY RESPONSE 9 DUE BEFORE CLASS BEGINS**

**\*Please note: March 16 is the final date to withdraw without academic penalty**

Mar 18: *Kamloopa* continued

Mar 23: *Bioboxes* by Theatre Replacement

ASSIGNED READING: *Bioboxes*

**PLAY RESPONSE 10 DUE BEFORE CLASS BEGINS**

Mar 25: *Bioboxes* continued

Mar 30: *Both Alike in Dignity* by Yvette Nolan and Rick Chafe

ASSIGNED READING: *Both Alike in Dignity*

**PLAY RESPONSE 10 DUE BEFORE CLASS BEGINS**

April 1: *Both Alike in Dignity* continued

April 6: Final Discussion

ASSIGNED READING: TBA

## **STUDENT PARTICIPATION POLICY & COURSE CONTENT**

Theatre & Film are communal art forms in which a number of interdependent artists and crafts people cooperate 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, meetings or shoots both within and outside of class times; and, in short, 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**

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.

## **HEALTH AND ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES**

Life happens to everyone. If you are experiencing a crisis in your life, or if you have a physical or mental health issue, communicate with your Professor or Accessibility Services – let us know so we can provide support or direct you to those who can. The earlier we know, the earlier we can discuss what resources might be available. Students with documented disabilities, or temporary or chronic medical conditions requiring academic accommodations for tests/exams/presentations (e.g., private space or more time) or during lectures/labs (e.g., note-takers) are encouraged to contact Accessibility Services (AS) at 204-786-9771 or [accessibilityservices@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:accessibilityservices@uwinnipeg.ca) to discuss appropriate options. All information about a student's disability or medical condition remains confidential. If you are registered with Accessibility Services, do not assume that Accessibility Services (AS) has informed your instructor that you have registered with them. Please see <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility>. If you do not register with AS, you cannot be granted special consideration (e.g. extra time to write exams/tests, attendance issues because of physical or mental health conditions, etc.).

The University of Winnipeg promotes a scent-free environment. Please be respectful of the needs of your fellow classmates and your instructor by avoiding the use of scented products while attending on-campus lectures and labs. Exposure to perfumes and other **scented products (such as lotion)** can trigger serious health reactions in persons with asthma, allergies, migraines or chemical sensitivities. We are asking for your cooperation to create a scent-free environment **on campus** by students, faculty and staff.

## **"THE REAL THING" LECTURE SERIES**

Normally, during the FW terms, the Department of Theatre and Film presents a series of lectures held on Wednesdays during the free period (12:30-13:20). 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," and attendance

is compulsory for some courses (for example, all Honours level students must attend). This year, the series has been somewhat truncated. One lecture took place by Zoom in September, and further lectures may be added in the winter term online (by Zoom or other platform). Watch our website for information on further lectures as they are planned.

### **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. Those considering Honours are strongly recommended to attend. All others are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Our Orientation Assembly took place by Zoom in September. Occasionally during the year, other Town Hall type Department-wide meetings may be called; check our website for information as new meetings are planned.

### **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. Activities organized by TAFSA include regular **Performance Jams**, **Department parties** and **Socials** as well as **DioFest** (a new play festival featuring student written and produced plays), and **24/7** (an event in which students move into our building and several plays are written, rehearsed, produced, and presented – all in a period of 24 hours!).

Please join TAFSA to find out more at their meetings, every second Monday from 12:30-13:20 pm (by Zoom or other platform in 2020-21). Follow TAFSA at @tafsauw on Instagram. 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**

To safeguard the health of the UWinnipeg community — and support public health efforts — during the ongoing COVID-19 situation, the UW campus is closed until further notice. All academic instruction and evaluation will continue through alternate delivery.

The Asper Centre for Theatre and Film (home to the Department of Theatre and Film) is CLOSED as per Campus policy. Access for students attending in-person labs in our building will be arranged as necessary. All studios and labs are locked 24/7.

**NOTE:** It is **MANDATORY** that anyone attending labs or rehearsals in the building carry an ID card/student card to verify they are allowed to be on campus. If a Security Guard checks and you do not have proper accreditation, **you will be evicted**.

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

### **RECORDING ON-LINE CLASSES**

The instructor may choose to record a zoom or video class if there are online connectivity issues, absences, or to post to Nexus for later review.

If a lecture is recorded, students will be given notice (via the course outline or on a case-by-case basis) that their personal information may be captured; informed of how long the recording will be retained; and whether the recording will be used for evaluation of any kind. Students will also be given the option to turn off their cameras/microphones and use pseudonyms to remain anonymous (except where class participation is required).

Students with concerns or who wish to seek alternate arrangements may discuss the matter with the instructor.

Access to recordings will be limited to the academic staff, students, and others with a legitimate need. Recordings containing student personal information will not be posted publicly, but only on UW-approved servers.

**No student is allowed to disseminate recordings outside of the class or post recordings publicly. Access to the recordings will be limited to the instructor and the students.**

### **ELECTRONIC COURSE OUTLINE ADDENDA**

Students must check our website at <http://uwinnipeg.ca/theatre-film> and read the menu items called *Fire Safety Instructions in the Asper Centre for Theatre and Film* and *Access Card/Building Use Policy*.

Room bookings at the ACTF are suspended until at least December 31, 2020 and possibly longer. However, when we are able to allow students to book rooms again, links to *Room Booking Instructions* and electronic *Online Room Booking Form* can also be found on our department website. Please read and note all instructions carefully.

### **GENERAL NOTES**

- Students can find answers to frequently ask questions related to remote learning here: <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/covid-19/remote-learning-faq.html>.
- Students should check their UWinnipeg e-mail addresses daily as this is the most direct way instructors and the University will contact students, particularly during the current remote learning environment.
- 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, they should withdraw from this course immediately.

- Unless necessary for accessing class, cellular phones should 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.

- When it is necessary to cancel a class due to exceptional circumstances, instructors will make every effort to inform students via uwinnipeg email (and/or using the preferred form of communication, as designated by the instructor), as well as the Departmental Assistant and Chair/Dean. ***Students are reminded that they have a responsibility to regularly check their UWinnipeg e-mail addresses to ensure timely receipt of correspondence from the university and/or their course instructors.***
- **Regulations, Policies, and Academic Integrity:** Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the "Regulations and Policies" found in the University Academic Calendar at: <https://uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/regulationsandpolicies.pdf>. Particular attention should be given to subsections **8 ("Student Discipline")**, **9 ("Senate Appeals")**, and **10 ("Grade Appeals")**.

Please note the importance of maintaining academic integrity, and the potential consequences of engaging in plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic misconduct. Even "unintentional" plagiarism, as described in the UW Library video tutorial "Avoiding Plagiarism" (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UvFdxRU9a8g>) is a form of academic misconduct.

Similarly, uploading essays and other assignments to essay vendor or trader sites (filesharing sites that are known providers of essays for use by others who submit them to instructors as their own work) is a form of misconduct, as it involves "aiding and abetting" plagiarism. More detailed information can be found here: Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedures: <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/policies/academic-misconduct-policy.pdf> and <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/policies/academic-misconduct-procedures.pdf>.

- **Copyright and Intellectual Property.** Course materials are the property of the instructor who developed them. Examples of such materials are course outlines, assignment descriptions, lecture notes, notes on whiteboards, test questions, and presentation slides—irrespective of format. Students who upload these materials to filesharing sites, or in any other way share these materials with others outside the class without prior permission of the instructor/presenter, are in violation of copyright law and University policy.

Students must also seek prior permission of the instructor/presenter before, for example, photographing, recording, or taking screenshots of slides, presentations, lectures, and notes on the board. Students found to be in violation of an instructor's intellectual property rights could

face serious consequences pursuant to the Academic Misconduct or Non-Academic Misconduct Policy; such consequences could possibly involve legal sanction under the Copyright Policy ([https://copyright.uwinnipeg.ca/docs/copyright\\_policy\\_2017.pdf](https://copyright.uwinnipeg.ca/docs/copyright_policy_2017.pdf)).

- **Research Ethics.** Students conducting research interviews, focus groups, surveys, or any other method of collecting data from any person, including a family member, must obtain research ethics approval before commencing data collection. Exceptions are research activities done in class as a learning exercise. For submission requirements and deadlines, see <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/research/human-ethics.html>.
- **Privacy.** Students should be familiar with their rights in relation to the collecting of personal data by the University (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/privacy/admissions-privacy-notice.html>), especially if Zoom is being used for remote teaching (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/privacy/zoom-privacy-notice.html>) and testing/proctoring (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/privacy/zoom-test-and-exam-proctoring.html>).
- **Respectful Learning Environment.** All students, faculty and staff have the right to participate, learn and work in an environment that is free of harassment and discrimination. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful manner on campus and in the learning environment irrespective of platform being used.

Behaviour, communication, or acts that are inconsistent with a number of UW policies (e.g., *Respectful Working and Learning Environment Policy* at <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect/respect-policy.html>; *Acceptable Use of Information Technology Policy* at <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/policies/acceptable-use-of-information-technology-policy.pdf>) could be considered “non-academic” misconduct.

More detailed information can be found here:

*Non-Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedures:* <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/student-non-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>

And <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/student-non-academic-misconduct-procedures.pdf> .

- 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>

**VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL DATES**

The voluntary withdrawal dates for each term, without academic penalty, are:

- **FALL TERM COURSES:** November 17, 2020 for Fall courses which begin in September 2020 and end in December 2020;
- **FALL/WINTER TERM COURSES:** February 23, 2021 for Fall/Winter courses which begin in September 2020 and end in April 2021;
- **WINTER TERM COURSES:** March 16, 2021 for Winter courses which begin in January 2021 and end in April 2021.

Students are encouraged to speak to the Instructor before withdrawing to explore other options.

**Please note that withdrawing before the VW date does not necessarily result in a fee refund.**