THFM / ENGL-2703-001 (3 credit hours)

PLAY ANALYSIS

Fall 2022 T/Th 10-11:15 Room 2M72 Office hours by appointment Professor: Jessica Riley Pronouns: she/her j.riley@uwinnipeg.ca

This course is run in Treaty One territory, the ancestral lands of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples and the birthplace and homeland of the Métis Nation. As a settler, Professor Riley acknowledges the harms inflicted upon Indigenous people and the land, both historically and in the present, and affirms her solemn duty and intent to contribute meaningfully to reconciliation and to building relations grounded in mutual respect.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Play analysis is the first step in preparation for a production of a play. It is part of an artistic process, and it calls for collaborative, interpretative, and analytical skills. The fundamental challenge any play or theatre text presents to performers, directors, and designers is how to read it in a way that is useful for a staged production. In this course, we will explore strategies for approaching play-reading as artistic collaborators. Emphasis will be placed on identifying how a play *works*. Students will apply techniques for identifying the dramaturgical requirements of plays from different periods, genres, and cultural contexts, learning to engage closely with the specific demands and interpretive opportunities of each script.

COURSE DELIVERY

This course will be delivered in-person. We will meet together on **Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10-11:15 am** for a combination of lectures, group discussion, and in-class activities. Key factors for success in this course are preparedness and consistent, thoughtful participation. Timely completion of assigned reading is essential.

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: <u>j.riley@uwinnipeg.ca</u>. Professor Riley will aim to respond within 24 hours. Please note that Professor Riley does **not** regularly check Nexus mail.

REQUIRED TEXTS

A Raisin in the Sun by Lorraine Hansberry. Accessible for free via Nexus (under Reserve Readings).

Edith Can Shoot Things and Hit Them by A. Rey Pamatmat (Samuel French 2012). Available **for purchase** through the U of W bookstore and elsewhere.

Fairview by Jackie Sibblies Drury (Theatre Communications Group 2019). Available **for purchase** through the U of W bookstore and elsewhere.

The Scrubbing Project by Turtle Gals Ensemble (Jani Lauzon, Monique Mojica, and Michelle St. John). Accessible **for free** via Nexus (under Reserve Readings).

Backwards and Forwards: A **Technical Manual for Reading Plays** by David Ball (Southern Illinois University Press 2017). Available **for purchase** through the U of W bookstore or elsewhere.

Additional short, required theoretical readings will be accessible for free via Nexus.

GRADING

| TOTAL | |
|---|-----|
| Final Assignment (due Thursday December 15th) | 30% |
| Participation | |
| Tests (15% x 4) | 60% |

TESTS

Over the term, students will write four "take home" tests <u>in advance of discussion</u> of each assigned play. Tests will require students to demonstrate knowledge of the play's content and independently apply specific approaches to play analysis previously introduced in class. Tests will become progressively more challenging over the term, as students are positioned to apply more concepts and techniques for analysing the plays.

Because the tests are **take-home**, they are also **open-book**. Consequently, **a high degree of specificity and detail is expected**. Students must complete the tests **independently**. Sharing answers and/or discussing the test with classmates in advance of the submission deadline will constitute academic misconduct.

On tests days there will be <u>no in-person class</u>, as the scheduled class time set aside for the test. Tests are designed to be written during the regularly scheduled class period on the test date (i.e. 10-11:15 am; 75 minutes). However, in the interests of accessibility, tests will be posted to Nexus **24 hours in advance of the deadline for submission**. Students may write the test at **any time** within this 24-hour period but **must submit the test <u>before</u> the end of the scheduled class period (i.e. 11:15 am) on the test date.** <u>Tests submitted after the scheduled class period will not be accepted</u>. In such cases, a grade of 0% will be assigned.

Tests are to be submitted in .doc or .pdf format via email to j.riley@uwinnipeg.ca.

Please be advised that students are expected to **read the play before writing the test**; if you delay reading until the testing period begins, you will be underprepared. Plan accordingly.

PARTICIPATION

The following criteria will be considered in determining participation grades:

Preparation: Was the student prepared for discussion and in-class activities? Evidence will include verbal and/or written contributions that are 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 make verbal and/or written contributions to the course (through in class discussion and/or in-class activities involving written submissions) on a regular basis throughout the term?

FINAL ASSIGNMENT

For the final written assignment (1500-2000 words), students will apply the principles of play analysis introduced in this course to a play of their choosing.* A detailed description of this assignment will be posted to Nexus. Except in cases where alternate arrangements are made with Professor Riley, the Final Assignment is due **by midnight on Thursday, December 15**. Final Assignments not submitted will be graded as 0%. Unexcused late assignments will incur a penalty of 2% per calendar day.

*Please note that students must choose a play **other than** the four plays we read as a class. It is advised that students begin considering their play selection early in the term. Students are encouraged to consult Professor Riley, who will be happy to discuss options and make recommendations.

SCHEDULE (*subject to change*)

September 6: Introduction to the Course

September 8: Foundational Concepts

Assigned Reading: Backwards and Forwards, Introduction and Chapters 1-3 and 14

September 13: Foundational Concepts

Assigned Reading: Backwards and Forwards, Chapters 4 and 8

September 15th: <u>Test 1</u>: A Raisin in the Sun.

No in-person class today. Test must be submitted via email by 11:15 am.

September 20: Introductory Discussion of A Raisin in the Sun

September 22: A Raisin in the Sun: Analyzing the World of the Play

Assigned Reading: Elinor Fuchs' "EF's Visit to a Small Planet," accessible under ReserveReadings on Nexus

September 27: A Raisin in the Sun: Beginning to Analyze Character

Assigned Reading: Backwards and Forwards Chps 5 and 10.

September 30: Test #2: Edith Can Shoot Things and Hit Them

No in-person class today. Test must be submitted via email by 11:15 am.

October 4: Introductory Discussion of Edith Can Shoot Things and His Them

October 6: Edith Can Shoot Things and Hit Them continues

Assigned Reading: Backwards and Forwards Chapters 6, 7, 9, and 20

READING WEEK. No classes Oct 11 or 13.

October 18: Discussion of Edith Can Shoot Things and Hit Them continues: Bead diagrams

Assigned Reading: Shelly Orr's "The bead diagram: a protean tool for script analysis," accessible under ReserveReadings on Nexus

October 20: Edith Can Shoot Things and Hit Them discussion continues

October 25: Final thoughts on Edith + Midterm Reflection, Questions, and Discussion

October 27: Test #3: Fairview

No in-person class today. Test must be submitted via email by 11:15 am.

November 1: Introductory Discussion of *Fairview*

November 3: Discussion of Fairview continues

Assigned Reading: Backwards and Forwards chapters 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21 and 22

November 8: Discussion of Fairview continues

November 10: Discussion of *Fairview* continues

Assigned Reading: "To 'Scape the Serpent's Tongue" by James Ijames

November 15: Final Discussion of Fairview

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

November 17: <u>Test #4</u>: *The Scrubbing Project*

No in-person class today. Test must be submitted via email by 11:15 am.

November 22: Introductory Discussion of *The Scrubbing Project*

November 24: Discussion of The Scrubbing Project continues

Assigned Reading: Yvette Nolan's "Ceremony," from the e-book *Medicine Shows: Indigenous Performance Culture*, accessible under Reserve Readings on Nexus (pp. 39-44)

November 29: Discussion of *The Scrubbing Project* continues

December 1: Final Discussion of *The Scrubbing Project* + Last Thoughts

Final Assignment is due in TWO WEEKS: Wednesday December 15th by MIDNIGHT

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.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Human Rights and Diversity

All students are encouraged to visit the University's Human Rights and Diversity website (https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect/index.html) to familiarize yourself about your rights, the University's policies, and resources in place to support you. This site includes links to the University's Sexual Violence Policy and Procedures (https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect/sexual-violence-policy-and-procedures.html), as well as resources for getting and providing support and clear steps for disclosing or reporting sexual violence.

Sexual Violence Resources on Campus

From the UW Human Rights & Diversity website:

The University takes all disclosures and reports of sexual violence seriously; survivors of all backgrounds and experiences will be treated with dignity, respect, and care. If you have experienced sexual violence, there are trained staff to help you in whatever way suits you best."

Disclosing is telling a member of the UW Community that you have experienced sexual violence. This could be someone you trust or feel comfortable with, like a professor, coach, another staff person, or a member of the Sexual Violence Response Team (**SVRT**). A disclosure can be made in order to receive support, accommodation, or to be connected to other resources. The Sexual Violence Response Team (**SVRT**) is a small team of specially trained, well-situated staff that coordinates and organizes services for survivors in a confidential manner. For example, if you personally do not feel comfortable talking to your professors about extensions or deferring work, they would be able to arrange changes for you without telling the professor why you need accommodation.

<u>Contact SVRT by phone at 204-230-6660.</u> <u>You can find more information on disclosing here.</u> (https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect/sexual-violence/get-support.html)

Reporting is making a statement to the **Human Rights & Diversity Officer (HRDO)** with the intention of seeking remedy, sanction, or consequences through the university. Once a report is made, the **HRDO** will review your report and discuss your options. Your options could include an investigation process, or informal resolution (if you wish to resolve it without an investigation). The **HRDO** can still connect you with support, accommodation, or external organizations while the investigation is taking place.

<u>You can contact the HRDO by phone at 204-988-7508</u> or by email at https://uwinnipeg.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV 40Ni2EP1gcXjyBv)

PUBLIC HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS

Should public health and university regulations require it, the schedule and content of the course may be subject to change on short notice. Every effort will be made to inform students of these changes, to deliver the course content in the best way possible under the circumstances, and to evaluate students fairly.

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 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

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. and are open to all students. The speakers will specifically address issues related to "the business of the business."

Lectures will take place in-person in the Theatre, Wednesday 12:30 – 13:20, on the following dates:

October 5, 2022 November 9, 2022 January 18, 2023 March 1st, 2023

Guests will be confirmed shortly.

MANDATORY ATTENDANCE FOR HONOURS STUDENTS: Attendance at <u>EVERY</u> lecture is mandatory for ALL Honours students in Theatre (that is, anyone taking 4000-level courses in any area), as well as students in THFM-3110 Screen Acting, THFM-3201 Styles in Design, and THFM-3801 Production II.

All students are encouraged to attend these fun and informative lectures. Please see our department website in the Fall for information.

ORIENTATION ASSEMBLY

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 at 12:30 pm we will hold an *Orientation Assembly* in the Theatre 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. ALL STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED AND WELCOME 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. Activities organized by TAFSA include regular **Performance Jams, Department parties** and **Socials**; other events have included **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 find out more at TAFSA's meetings, held every second Monday from 12:30-13:20 pm. It's a great opportunity for students to connect with other like-minded people and a way to get involved in the department events. Visit the TFSA Instagram account at **@tafsauw** or email them at <u>tafsa.uw@hotmail.com</u>.

BUILDING SECURITY

The Asper Centre for Theatre and Film (home to the Department of Theatre and Film) is open from 8:00 am to 6 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 (students, faculty and community renters) **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 a **UW ID 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.

All studios and labs are locked outside of building hours. Evening and weekend access can be added to your student card by visiting Melinda in the Department office, 3T03.

SECURITY PHONE (General, non-emergency, Safe Walk and Safe Ride): 204-786-9272 SECURITY EMERGENCY NUMBER: 204-786-6666

The Asper Centre for Theatre and Film is equipped with an emergency-only phone to contact Security immediately in the main lobby by the House Management Office. This can be used in an emergency situation to directly connect with the UW Security Services.

Students are encouraged to visit the UW Security Services webpage for complete information about campus security and emergency procedures: https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/security/index.html

ONLINE CLASSES

Instructors whose mode of delivery includes Zoom or a similar platform will clarify expectations for appropriate remote classroom behaviour or decorum (e.g., being on time, muting/unmuting, raising hand, reacting, etc.), and make appropriate allowances in order to respect the privacy of students (e.g., clarifying need to have video on/off).

Performance classes online: No eating, chewing gum, or wearing a mask during on-line work.

RECORDING ON-LINE CLASSES

Should a class be held online, 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

Department Website: https://film.uwinnipeg.ca or https://film.uwinnipeg.ca

Please refer to the website for department information, but particularly regarding:

Fire and Safety Information for ACTF: Students must check our website and review the <u>Fire Safety</u> <u>Instructions in the Asper Centre for Theatre and Film</u> (https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/theatre-film/docs/fire-evacuation-procedures 2020.pdf) and <u>Access Card/Building Use Policy</u> (https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/theatre-film/rentals/access-card-and-building-use-policy.html).

Room Bookings for Class Assignment Work: Students may book rehearsal room space class-related work or outside projects. Priority will be given to class assignment work. Please see our website links to Room Booking Instructions and electronic Online Room Booking Form found on our department website at https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/theatre-film/rentals/access-card-and-building-use-policy.html. Please read and note all instructions carefully. Room booking availability is subject to change according to public health and university policies.

GENERAL NOTES

- Students can find answers to frequently asked questions related to the University's Covid-19
 policies for the 2022-23 year here: https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/covid-19/index.html
- Students should check their UWinnipeg e-mail addresses daily as this is the most direct way
 instructors and the University will contact students regarding such things as important information
 about health and safety, policies and registration, and Faculty will contact you about changes to
 class schedules, cancelled classes, etc.

- 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 video/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 <u>ALL</u> 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 webmail (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.
- 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 or examinations without penalty. A list of religious
 holidays can be found in the 2022-23 Undergraduate Academic Calendar,
 http://uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/important-notes.pdf

Regulations, Policies, and Academic Integrity

Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the Regulations and Policies found in the University Academic Calendar at

https://www.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 emphasize 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.

Important information is outlined in the 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.

Respectful Learning Environment

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 could be considered non- academic misconduct. See the Respectful Working

and Learning Environment Policy (https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect/respect-policy.html) and Acceptable Use of Information Technology Policy (https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-information-technology-policy.pdf). More detailed information is outlined in the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedures (https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/student-non-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, 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).

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 https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/research/ethics/index.html

Privacy

Students should be reminded of 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-test-and-exam-proctoring.html) and testing/proctoring (https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/privacy/zoom-test-and-exam-proctoring.html).

VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL DATES

The voluntary withdrawal dates, without academic penalty:

NOVEMBER 16, 2022 FOR FALL TERM COURSES which begin in September 2022 and end in December 2022 **FEBRUARY 14, 2023 FOR FALL/WINTER TERM COURSES** which begin in September 2022 and end in April 2023 **MARCH 14, 2023 FOR WINTER COURSES** which begin in January 2023 and end in April 2023

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.

CAMPUS CLOSURE DATES

The dates the University is closed for holidays, irrespective of campus closure related to COVID-19 or other public directives:

September 5 (Labour Day)
September 30 (Truth and Reconciliation Day)
October 10 (Thanksgiving Day)
November 11 (Remembrance Day)
December 23, 2022 through January 2, 2023
February 20 (Louis Riel Day)
April 07 (Good Friday)