COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

NOTE: ANY CHANGES TO A CSD MUST GO THROUGH ALL OF THE RELEVANT
APPROVAL PROCESSES, INCLUDING LTPC.

Academic School/Department: Communications, Art and Social Sciences

Programme: BA Performance and Theatre Arts

FHEQ **Level:**   4

Course Title: Introduction to Drama: The Play's the Thing

Course Code: THR 4210

Course Leader:

Student Engagement Hours: 120
Lectures: 23
Seminar / Tutorials: 12
Theatre Visits: 10
Independent / Guided Learning: 75

Semester: Fall, Spring

Credits: 12 UK CATS credits
6 ECTS credits
3 US credits

Course Description:

This course introduces students to the study of dramatic texts and the concepts
needed to analyse them within their historical, cultural, and political contexts.
Different types of theatrical genre are examined and a variety of theoretical
approaches are considered as students develop their critical analysis skills.
Attendance at various performances in London are an important aspect of this
course.

Prerequisites: none

Aims and Objectives:

The aim of this course is to introduce students to a wide range of play texts to equip
students with the tools to analyse drama as text and in performance, both verbally
and in writing.

Programme Outcomes: 4Ai; 4Aii; 4Ci; 4Ciii; 4Diii
(Literature Prog Outcomes: 4Ai ; 4Bi ; 4Ci ; 4Cii ; 4Dii)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification.

This is located at the archive maintained by the Academic Registry and found at: http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/academic-schools/academic-registry/program-and-course-specifications.aspx

Learning Outcomes:
By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- Demonstrates a broad understanding of cultural and political contexts of specific plays, and an awareness of current debates in contemporary theatre studies
- Demonstrate the ability to analyse a range of texts and the critical application of theory to those texts
- Demonstrate the ability to carry out defined investigative strategies, assess the reliability of sources and communicate effectively in essay form
- Demonstrate the ability to use a range of information communication technology skills to carry out specific research tasks.

Indicative Content:

- The relationship of critical theory to theatre texts
- The development of theatre texts through different historical periods
- The historical, political, and cultural contexts of plays
- The development of key debates in contemporary theatre and the performing arts
- Theatre visits to see plays in performance
- The application of critical approaches to evaluating the success or failure of specific performances of plays

Assessment:

This course conforms to the Richmond University Theatre Assessment Norms approved at Learning and Teaching Policy Committee found at: http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/academic-affairs/academic-standing.aspx.

Teaching Methodology:
Lectures, class discussions, theatre visits and video.

Bibliography:

See syllabus for complete reading list

Indicative Text(s):

Balme, C. B., *The Cambridge Introduction to Theatre Studies.* Cambridge: CUP, 2008
Brown, J. R., ed., *The Oxford Illustrated History of Theatre.* Oxford OUP, 2001
Erye, Richard, and Nicholas Wright*, Changing stages: a view of British and American theatre in the twentieth century.* London: Bloomsbury, 2000
Fortier, M., *Theory/Theatre: An Introduction*. London: Routledge (2nd ed), 2002

Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus

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Change Log for this CSD:

Major or Minor Change?	Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or LTPC)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry
Major	Rewrite of Programmes Outcomes	LTPC 30/5/14	
Major	Rewrite of Learning Outcomes	LTPC 30/5/14	
Minor	Updating of Indicative Texts	LTPC 30/5/14	
Major	Rewrite of Indicative Content	LTPC 30/5/14	
Major	Change of Title	LTPC 28/11/2014	
Major	Change of Course Description	LTPC 28/11/2014	
Minor	Change of wording in Aims	LTPC 28/11/2014	
Minor	Change of wording in LO	LTPC 28/11/2014	
Major	Change of Indicative Content	LTPC 28/11/2014	
Minor	Revision of Indicative Texts	LTPC 28/11/2014	
Major	Change of Assessment Norms		