

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

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:	Dr. Nicola Mann
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; 4Cii; 4Diii
(Literature Prog Outcomes: 4Ai ; 4Bi ; 4Ci ; 4Cii ; 4Dii)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification. This is maintained by Registry and located at:

<https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

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 University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board.

Teaching Methodology:

Lectures, class discussions, theatre visits and video.

