

Syllabus

DRAM3291H–Script Analysis for Honors Students

Fall 2007

MWF 2:30-3:20

Rm. 201 Fine Arts Building

Instructor:

Dr. Farley Richmond

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Office hours: To be announced

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Course Description:

Plays are often thought of as “blueprints” for productions. But before a production of a play may be conceived and constructed, a thorough knowledge of the “blueprint” is necessary whether you are a performer, director, or designer. Playwrights may even benefit by carefully analyzing other writers’ blueprints. The purpose of this course is to introduce you to a particular analytical approach to how a play works. Granted, there are many different ways to approach a play. The way that is introduced in this class is particularly useful to theatre practitioners, if you are willing to use it without cutting corners. Pay close attention and apply and reapply the principles and methods that you learn and you will be surprised at the positive results you get every time you use them. From time to time reference will be made to film and television scripts but because of the constraints of time we cannot examine this rapidly growing body of literature in any detail.

Attendance Policy:

Class attendance is mandatory. A good part of your grade (10%) depends on class attendance and participation. Make good use of the time in this class to interact with your peers and with me concerning the topic at hand. Work will not be accepted late unless there is a compelling reason for the lateness that is accompanied by a legitimate medical explanation.

Evaluation:

10% Participation and Attendance.

30% Written critical evaluation of three productions in the departmental season. They are: *Sordid Lives*, *War of the Worlds*, and *Urinetown, the Musical*. Check their dates online at drama.uga.edu. Click on the production calendar for dates and times of the shows.

30% Exams

30% Final Project and/or Final Exam (details to follow)

Required Texts:

The following texts will be used for this class.

Wise, Jennifer and Craig S. Walker. *The Broadview Anthology of Drama: Plays from the Western Theatre*. Concise Edition. Toronto: Broadview Press, 2005.

Ball, David. *Backwards and Forwards: A Technical Manual for Reading Plays*. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 1983.

Aug.	17	F	Introduction and Assignments
	20	M	Act I <u>Hedda Gabler</u>
	22	W	Act II “
	24	F	Act III & IV “
	27	M	Act I <u>The Importance of Being Earnest</u>
	29	W	Act II “
	31	F	Act III “
Sept.	3	M	Labor Day Holiday
	5	W	Act I <u>The Tempest</u>
	7	F	Act II “
	10	M	Act III “
	12	W	Act IV “
	14	F	Act V “
	17	M	Act I & II <u>Uncle Tom’s Cabin</u>
	19	W	Act III & IV “
	21	F	Act V & VI “
	24	M	1 st Exam
	26	W	Act I <u>Cat on a Hot Tin Roof</u>
	28	F	Act II “
Oct.	1	M	Act III “ and <u>Sordid Lives</u> Paper Due
	3	W	Discuss <u>Sordid Lives</u>
	5	F	Complete discussion of <u>Cat</u>
	8	M	<u>Play</u>
	10	W	“
	12	F	“
	15	M	<u>The Rez Sisters</u> and <u>War of the Worlds</u> Paper Due
	17	W	“
	19	F	“
	22	M	“
	24	W	2 nd Exam
	26	F	Fall Break Holiday
	29	M	TBA
	31	W	“
Nov.	2	F	“

	5	M	“
	7	W	“
	9	F	“
	12	M	“
	14	W	“
	16	F	“
	19	M	“ and <u>Urinetown</u> Paper Due
	21	W	Thanksgiving Holiday
	23	F	“
	26	M	TBA
	28	W	“
	30	F	3 rd Exam
Dec.	3	M	TBA
	4	Tu	“ (Friday schedule) Last Day of Class
	7	F	Reading Day