

DRAM 6510
INTRODUCTION TO GRADUATE STUDIES IN DRAMA
FALL 2009

Professor David Z. Saltz
Phone: 2-2091 (w)
Office: Fine Arts Building 203B
Email: saltz@uga.edu
Office hours: Tues., Thurs, Friday, 10:00 am–11:00 am; or by appointment

Objective

This course will provide an overview of the skills, resources and critical perspectives necessary to conduct practical and scholarly research in drama and dramatic media at the graduate and professional level.

Requirements

1. **Journal Overview.** You will select two current journals that focus on the dramatic arts from a list distributed in class, and present a short critical presentation to the class about those journals: their critical biases (stated or unstated), audience, the kind of authors they attract, and your assessment of their overall quality and usefulness. This report should be based both on a careful scrutiny of recent issues, and a sampling of back issues going back to the journal's inception. Hence you should be in a position to describe the way the journals have evolved over time. Please submit a one-page summary of your report to me following your presentation.
2. **Criticism and Production Review.** This short paper (5 pages max.) should provide an overview of critical, theatrical and (if relevant) cinematic interpretations of a play. You may alternatively select a non-dramatic work (e.g. a novel or myth) that has been adapted more than once into a play or film. Choose a work about which there is a substantial body of criticism (e.g. plays by Beckett, Tennessee Williams, Shakespeare, the ancient Greek playwrights, etc.). Outline contrasting interpretations of the texts, clearly describing the central issues in contention and the key representatives, scholars, directors, actors, of each interpretation. Be sure to put the interpretations you discuss in historical perspective (e.g. the Oedipal interpretation of Hamlet became prevalent both in criticism and production in the 1930s and later provoked a backlash). Having gained mastery over the history of interpretation of the work, conclude your paper with a paragraph (no more) that outlines what you see as a potential avenue for new research, either an idea for a critical essay or the seed of a new concept for a stage production or film.
3. **Annotated Bibliography.** The bibliography for your paper must contain *at least* 12 different sources, all of which must be cited explicitly in the body of your paper. (Ph.D. students must cite at least 20 sources.) In some cases you may make extensive use of a single source (e.g. a book describing the production history of *Richard III*), but in other cases you may use the source only for a single fact, quote or image. Add a short annotation to each bibliographic entry (a sentence or two) describing how the source was useful to you. Both the bibliography and the **paper** itself should adhere strictly to MLA style guidelines.
4. **Criticism Presentation.** You will give a presentation to the class about your criticism and production review. In this presentation, you should condense your review of the literature, outlining the main issues as they have evolved over time but citing only a couple of the most prominent names and avoiding the subtitles of the debates.

Grade Breakdown

Participation	20%
Journal Overview	20%
Criticism/Production Review	30%
Bibliography	20%
Review Presentation	10%

Text

Chicago Manual of Style, 15th Edition. Non-circulating copies of this book are available in the Common Room and the reference room of the library. The book is widely available at bookstores for those students who wish to have their own copy. Also see: www.libs.uga.edu/ref/citation.html.

CLASS SCHEDULE (SUBJECT TO REVISION)

August 18

University and Professional Standards for Scholarly and Creative Research

August 25

Library Research: Electronic and Print Resources (Kristin Nielsen in Main Library Instruction Lab, first floor before elevators on the right)

September 1

Theater as an Academic Discipline

September 8

Library Research: Hargrett Rare Book Library (meet in Main Library Instruction Lab)

September 15

Overview of Research Methods (web, library research, archival and field research)

September 22

Overview of Critical Paradigms

September 29

Critical Paradigms (cont.); scholarly publishing

October 6

Journal reports

October 13

Journal reports

October 20

Professional Associations and Conferences

October 27

Chicago and MLA Style

November 3

Advanced Word Processing Workshop

November 10

Literature review presentations

- Draft of paper due

November 17

Literature review presentations

November 24-Thanksgiving

December 1

Summing Up

Tuesday, December 15, 3:30

- Final draft of paper due