

Department of Theatre Arts

COURSES THAT SATISFY THE DRAMATIC LITERATURE REQUIREMENT

The following is a comprehensive list of dramatic literature courses from the UI course catalog as of Fall 2019. Any of these courses will be accepted in fulfillment of the Dramatic Literature Requirement in the Theatre Arts Major for students declaring the Theatre major Fall 2016 and after.

See below for a longer list to fulfill the requirement for students who declared a Theatre major prior to Fall 2016. All courses are 3 s.h.

THTR:1410 Musical Theatre History

American musical theatre's form, function, evolution; major composers (Berlin, Gershwin, Rodgers and Hammerstein, Sondheim), lesser-known and contemporary writers; roots of the rock musical, future of musical theatre, how musicals reflect their own eras and cultural attitudes of their times; readings, recordings, videos. Ability to read music not required.

THTR:2320 Playwriting in a Global World

Students read and analyze the works of a diverse range of American and International playwrights and documentarians, learn fundamental skills of reading, hearing, imagining, and writing for local and global stages, with emphasis on a broad range of voices, styles, and stories. GE: Diversity and Inclusion.

THTR:2405 Staging Americans: U.S. Cultures Through Theatre and Performance

Role of American theatre as a complex tapestry of race, gender, sexuality, and disability; examination of plays and performance outside primarily white-male canon; contemporary social practice and cultural politics in local and national contexts. GE: Values, Society, and Diversity.

THTR:2450 Animals and Performance in American Culture

Role of animals in various forms of cultural expression in the United States from the 19th to the 21st centuries; along with visual and literary arts, special emphasis will be placed on live performance (e.g., circus and theatre) because of how it highlights embodied and affective modes of communication that inform our connections to animals; relationship of cultural forms involving animals (real and imagined) to the lived experience of animals in the wider historical and social context; how animals shape human ideas about race, ethnicity, class, gender, sexuality, and construct notions of "Americanness."

THTR:3401 Topics in Dramatic Literature

Topics in dramatic literature, including specific authors, periods, and movements; sample topics include Ibsen and Strindberg, Chekov, Brecht and the Brechtian, and Avant-Garde Theatre.

THTR:3402 Shakespeare the Dramatist

Exploration of a number of Shakespeare's greatest works; close textual analysis supplemented with historical, theoretical, theatrical, and philosophical considerations; special attention given to Shakespeare's dramatic method and relation of his dramaturgy to profession of theater-making.

THTR:3415 Cultural Diversity and Identity *NO LONGER OFFERED AS OF FALL 2018

Nature of personal and cultural identity within a pluralistic society; race, ethnicity, national identity, class, sexuality, and gender as categories of cultural difference.

THTR:3421 Performing Autobiography

Write and perform original pieces stemming from personal experiences and interests; readings and videos; genre of contemporary autobiographical performance as established artists have developed it; improvisational performance and writing exercises to foster deeper reflection on personal experiences; final staging of students' original work. Recommendations: RHET:1030.

THTR:4401 American Women Playwrights: 1776-Present *NO LONGER OFFERED AS OF FALL 2017

English majors may apply this course to the following area and/or period requirement. AREA: American Literature and Culture. PERIOD: 18th/19th-Century Literature, or 20th/21st-Century Literature.

THTR:4402 Dramas of the Spirit

Western and nonwestern dramatic texts that enact or describe journeys of the human spirit; textual analysis, investigation of the notion of spirit and its relation to dramatic form. Prerequisites: THTR:2411 and THTR:2410 and THTR:2402.

THTR:4420 Dramatic Theory

Theoretical questions of interest to dramatists and philosophers in western and nonwestern traditions; metaphysics of play; theories of character, psyche, self; narrative and nonnarrative dramatic forms. Prerequisites: THTR:2402 and THTR:2410 and THTR:2411.

THTR:4630 London Performance Study

English majors may apply this course to the following area and/or period requirement. AREA: Literary Theory and Interdisciplinary Studies. PERIOD: 20th/21st-Century Literature.

The courses below will fulfill the Dramatic Literature requirement for students who declared a Theatre major prior to Fall 2016. These will not fulfill the requirement for students who declared a Theatre major Fall 2016 and after.

THTR:3276 Medieval Drama

English majors may apply this course to the following area and/or period requirement. AREA: Medieval and Early Modern Literature and Culture. PERIOD: Early Literatures Through 17th Century.

THTR:3277 English Renaissance Drama

English majors may apply this course to the following area and/or period requirement. AREA: Medieval and Early Modern Literature and Culture. PERIOD: Early Literatures Through 17th Century.

THTR:3287 Shakespeare

English majors may apply this course to the following area and/or period requirement. AREA: Medieval and Early Modern Literature and Culture. PERIOD: Early Literatures Through 17th Century.

THTR:3403 Free-Style Writing: Poetry, Plays, and Performances

Creative writing lab experience in reading, writing, and performing poetry and short plays; expansion of students' horizons of the self; arc of innovation in African American literature from Harlem Renaissance to present, with texts from Langston Hughes and Zora Neale Hurston to Saul Williams and Jill Scott; role of the artist in society and as outsider and insider; shifting perspectives on race, gender, class; musical influences and models, from blues to house music; sensuality, spirituality; artistic reflections on the cultural moment; effects of these on literary form and performance style; students create and perform a work for an audience.

THTR:3410 African American Theatre I *NO LONGER OFFERED AS OF FALL 2017

Works by African American playwrights and relevant historical documents, Africa through Black Renaissance; themes, history, sociopolitical context; artists forging theatrical paths under oppressive conditions; exploration through discussion, performance; literature-based course, workshop approach.

THTR:3411 African American Theatre II *NO LONGER OFFERED AS OF FALL 2017

Works by African American playwrights and relevant historical documents, Black Renaissance to present; themes, history, sociopolitical context; artists forging theatrical paths under oppressive conditions; exploration through discussion, performance; literature-based course, workshop approach.

THTR:3440 American Drama Since 1900

American playwrights and plays after 1900. English majors may apply this course to the following area and/or period requirement. AREA: American Literature and Culture. PERIOD: 20th/21st-Century Literature.

THTR:3462 African American Drama

English majors may apply this course to the following area and/or period requirement. AREA: American Literature and Culture. PERIOD: 18th/19th-Century Literature, or 20th/21st-Century Literature.