

introduction to introduction to theatre

Spring 2018

Instructor: Anastasia Nikolopoulou

*Office Hours. Thursday 11.00-1.00 (School of Humanities, Kallipoleos 65 1st floor)
and by appointment*

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This course is a historical survey of Western drama from the Roman theatre to the nineteenth century. We will explore the aesthetic, social, and cultural aspects of theatrical performance in the context of theatre architecture, theatre audiences, and politics.

Requirements

Mid term in class exam 30% ; Final in class exam 40%;

Creative Project-- choices: film, theatre play/scene, poster or creative journal; group or individual projects (poster and creative journals due on the day of the final exam; films and theatre scenes will be presented to the class by the last week of the semester) 20%.

Participation 10%

All assignments are obligatory

Absences: More than three absences in class could affect your performance as you will be missing lectures that cannot be accessible elsewhere.

If you are facing medical or other problems that might oblige you to miss classes communicate with me as soon as possible. .

KEEP COPIES OF YOUR ASSIGNMENTS ON DISK

Each of these assignments will be stored on your computer and an extra USB or diskette, so if they are lost or misplaced you should be able to retrieve them again.

You cannot complete the course without completing all of these assignments. Being absent on the day of the mid-term or the final exam without medical justification could result in failing the course. All assignments are required.

Policy:

*--Regular attendance in class and participation in discussions. More than three absences will need to be justified through medical or other proof. **HABITS YOU MUST TRY TO FORGET:** forgetting your books and/or course packet at home, bringing the wrong books,*

coming to class late. The schedule is subject to change so you need to check with your classmates if you miss a class.

HABITS YOU MUST ACQUIRE in order to succeed in this course:

Read the material in advance, keep notes, contact me or your adviser on any difficulties you may be facing in your studies, email me questions, and stay in tune with classmates who need support. Any updates on the course will be communicated to you through the email. Make sure you check your email at least twice a week.

INCOMPLETE EXAM. A new dept policy restricts the permission for incomplete exams only to those who can provide written documentation sufficient to justify the permission for an incomplete, such as a medical reason.

*BOOKS and packet are available at Parga bookstore (UCY campus)
Copyright fee will be included in the packet cost where it applies.*

I recommend you to buy the specific editions that we have ordered through Parga.

Required:

Wickham, A History of the Theatre (excerpts, packet)

Corneille, Le Cid (book, Parga)

Lillo, The London Merchant (packet)

George de Scudery, Observations on Le Cid (1637) (excerpts, packet)

Jean Chapelain, "The Opinions of the French Academy" (1638) (excerpts, packet)

Ms Wood, East Lynne (excerpts, packet)

Ibsen, Doll's House (book, Parga)

Terence, Phormio (book, Parga)

Schedule of events-- Some classes marked with an asterisk will be rescheduled due to administrative meetings

January 16 Introduction, Greek theatre, space and aesthetics

Greek theatres, <https://youtu.be/vNAM3PzGcow>

Masks, history, making, Peter Hall 2002, (Theatro Texnis 1982)

https://youtu.be/jToXIJQZC_g

https://youtu.be/_yl5qm-UFks, <https://youtu.be/pFFzxd7b9c>

Roman Comedy

Jan 19 Terence *Phormio*, Greek Theatre background; Wickham, 31-42

Roman Theatre in Fiesole, <https://youtu.be/gOuxUgolzso>

January 23 Terence *Phormio*

Jan 26 *Phormio* (cont); Alison Sharrock, *Reading Roman Comedy. Poetics and Playfulness in Plautus and Terence* (handout)

January 29 Wickham, Roman Theatre, 43-55, *Phormio* (cont).
Theatre of Orange, <https://youtu.be/2GPAkK2rupY>, reconstruction
<https://youtu.be/6HxsnVukHjw>

Jan 30 *Phormio* (cont); Sharrock (cont).

French Neoclassical Theatre

Feb 2 Corneille, *Le Cid*

Feb 6 Corneille, *Le Cid* (cont)

*****Feb 9 Wickham 145-157, *Le Cid*, George de Scudery (1637) Observations on *Le Cid*, 211-217 (packet);**

****Feb 13 (TBA)**

El Cid film, <https://youtu.be/PbAUfov4BGc>
El Cid, film (in 15+ parts) <https://youtu.be/3v35s9RpRgg>

*****Feb 16** Corneille, continued; Jean Chapelain (1638) “Observations of the French Academy,” 220-227;

Eighteenth Century Domestic Drama

Feb 20 Lillo, *The London Merchant*, Wickham, 158-168

Feb 23 Lillo (cont)
Crime and Punishment in Georgian Britain, <https://www.bl.uk/georgian-britain/articles/crime-and-punishment-in-georgian-britain>

Feb 27 Lillo (cont)
18th century Acting https://youtu.be/_WqOWbR1JEI

March 2 Lillo cont

Nineteenth Century Working Class Melodrama

March 6 John Walker, *Factory Lad; 1832*, Hays and Nikolopoulou, “Melodrama” (handout)

March 9 Factory Lad (cont)

Charlie Chaplin, *Modern Times*, <https://youtu.be/OkZYmzfGFhI>,
<https://youtu.be/qsIYKB3OMwY>

Nineteenth Century Domestic Melodrama

March 13, *East Lynne*; Wickham, 181-201

March 16 Review for Mid Term Exam topics

March 20 *East Lynne* (cont)

March 23 Mid Term Exam

March 27 *East Lynne* (cont); Martha Vicinus “‘Helpless and Unfriended:’ Nineteenth-Century Domestic Melodrama”

East Lynne, <https://youtu.be/csiw8tKHgv4>

Melodramatic acting, <https://youtu.be/Kkp4bsgMIeY>

Modern Drama

March 30 Ibsen, *Doll's House*

Doll's House, <https://youtu.be/dX110UmwNbg>

April 2-15 Easter Break

April 17 Ibsen, *Doll's House*, Toril Moi, “‘First and Foremost a Human Being’: Idealism, Theatre, and Gender in *A Doll's House*.” (handout)

April 20 Ibsen, *Doll's House*

April 24 Reviews and Presentations

April 27 Reviews and Presentations

May 4 final exam topics, Q and A session