

English 265: Drama

Dr. John Freeman
231 Briggs (McNichols Campus)
Phone Number: 993-1085
E-mail address: freemajc@udmercy.edu
Office Hours: M W 10:00-12:00 a.m. and by arrangement

Required Text:

- 1) The Bedford Introduction to Drama (ed. Jacobus)

Available at the Outer Drive Bookstore.

Course Goals

This course provides a wide range of readings in drama, from early Greek to contemporary American productions. Apart from reading and studying the plays, students will be introduced to five major critical approaches to plays: New Criticism and structuralism, feminism, and psychoanalytical. Class time will be devoted to helping students master these approaches. In the two required essays, students will apply structuralist and feminist approaches to selected works.

Writing Requirements

- 1) In-class work, study questions, quizzes (20%)
- 2) Two essays (70%)
- 3) Final exam (10%)

Attendance Policy

This class demands your most careful participation and diligence. Mastery of the critical approaches will be of utmost importance in writing quality essays. Historically, students who attend class and participate in work shops do much better than those who do not. In-class work and quizzes cannot be turned in later nor will out-of-class assignments be accepted after they are due. Quizzes are often based on the lecture for the preceding class. You should come to class having prepared that day's reading. Out of respect for your classmates and instructor, students should come to class on time and remain for the whole period.

Plagiarism Policy

Students are expected to turn in their own work, with proper attribution of others' ideas (through proper use of quotation, page referencing, and end-notes). Any work falling short of these standards will receive an "F."

Syllabus for English 265

First Week

Wed., 9/9 Introduction to course

Fri., 9/11 Review of Bressler (Chapter 3: "New Criticism");
also, "My Last Duchess" (pp. 153-54).

Second Week

Mon., 9/14 Trifles (Bressler, pp. 155-70)

Wed., 9/16 Bressler (Chapter Five: "Structuralism")

Fri., 9/18 Oedipus Rex (112-126)

Third Week

Mon., 9/21 Oedipus Rex (126-End)

Wed., 9/23 Claude Levi Strauss, "From 'The Structural
Study of Myth'" (pp. 169-72).

Fri., 9/25 Finish discussion of Oedipus Rex

Fourth Week

Mon., 9/28 The Piano Lesson (1536-58)

Wed., 9/30 The Piano Lesson (1538-End; also, 1581-85).

Fri., 10/2 Viewing of The Piano Lesson

Fifth Week

Mon., 10/5 Viewing of The Piano Lesson

Wed., 10/7 Viewing of The Piano Lesson

Fri., 10/9 Everyman (256-77)

Sixth Week

Mon., 10/12 Twilight: Los Angeles (1677-1702)

Wed., 10/14 Twilight: Los Angeles

Fri., 10/16 Discussion of outline for Essay #1.

Seventh Week

Mon., 10/19 Bressler, Chapter Eight: "Feminism."

Wed., 10/21 A Doll House (670-83). Essay #1 Due.

Fri., 10/23 Midterm exam.

Eighth Week

Mon., 10/26 A Doll House (633-83)

Wed., 10/28 A Doll House (683-End)

Fri., 10/30 Pygmalion (824-43)

Ninth Week

Mon., 11/2 Pygmalion (843-63)

Wed., 11/4 Pygmalion (864-76)

Fri., 11/6 Pygmalion

Tenth Week

Mon., 11/9 Oleanna

Wed., 11/11 Oleanna

Fri., 11/13 Oleanna

Eleventh Week

Mon., 11/16 Bressler, Chapter Nine: "Marxism" (114-26)

Wed., 11/18 The Cherry Orchard (788-821)

Fri., 11/20 Bressler, Chapter Seven: "Psychoanalytic Criticism" (87-101)

Twelfth Week

Mon., 11/23 Hamlet (Act I)

Wed., 11/25 Hamlet (Act II). Essay #2 Due.

Thirteenth Week

Mon., 11/30 Hamlet (Act III)

Wed., 12/2 Hamlet (Act IV)

Wed., 12/4 Hamlet (Act V)

Fourteenth Week

Mon., 12/7 The Glass Menagerie (1027-1044)

Wed., 12/9 The Glass Menagerie (1044-End)

Fri., 12/11 Finish The Glass Menagerie. Class evaluations.

