

MODULE SPECIFICATION FORM

Module Title: 20th Century European Drama	Level: 6	Credit Value: 20
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Module code: (if known) HUM 673	Semester(s) in which to be offered: 1 /2	With effect from: September 2009
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Existing/New: Existing	Title of module being replaced (if any):
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Originating Subject: Humanities	Module Leader: Elen Mai Nefydd
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Module duration (contact hours/ directed/directed private study): 200 hours (60 hours contact,140 directed self study)	Status: core/option/elective (identify programme where appropriate):	Core to B.A (Hons) Theatre, Television and Performance but also available as an elective within University
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Percentage taught by Subjects other than originating Subject (please name other Subjects):
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Programme(s) in which to be offered Undergraduate Humanities Provision	Pre-requisites per programme (between levels):	Co-requisites per programme (within a level):
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Module Aims: .To introduce students to significant developments in theatrical theory and practice in Europe from the beginnings of Naturalism and Realism to the mid 1960's.
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.To explore concepts of modernism, modernity and the avant-garde in relation to drama.
 .To develop appropriate methods of analysing texts within a social, political and ideological context.

Expected Learning Outcomes

At the end of this module, students should be able to:

1. Understand and discuss the characteristic techniques and thematic concerns associated with some key theatrical movements from the late nineteenth century to the 1960's
2. Critically evaluate the concept of national and European drama through sustained discussion of individual works and dramatists as well as through discussion of key movements.
3. Critically evaluate the contribution of some of the major figures in the development of modern European drama, and discuss the significance of their innovations in dramatic form and theatrical performance.
4. Analyse the relationship between written and theatrical performance using an appropriate critical vocabulary.

Knowledge and Understanding:

Students will be able to pinpoint significant development in 20th century European Drama and have the ability to analyse texts, formal discussion and reflect on various historical movements and manifestos.

Transferable/Key Skills and other attributes:

Communication skills will be developed in seminar discussions.

Improving own learning and performance through feedback

Information technology skills will be evident in the students' individual research

Research skills

Team work through working in groups and engaging in discussions

Assessment: please indicate the type(s) of assessment (eg examination, oral, coursework, project) and the weighting of each (%). **Details of indicative assessment tasks must be included.**

Oral and Written coursework will take place in the assessment of this module.

Assessment	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting	Duration (if exam)	Word count or equivalent if appropriate
1:	1 and 2	Oral presentation	40%	20 mins	
2	3 and 4	Written Essay	60%		3,000 words

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

The module will be taught mainly by formal lectures and tutor-led seminars with a consideration of each play on an individual basis over two weeks, supplemented by lectures on key developments and themes within the period. There will be some use of close reading

and analysis of scenes from core texts in workshop mode.

Syllabus outline:

This module will consider a range of dramatic theatrical movements which have marked the history of European theatre since the late nineteenth century. It will focus briefly on naturalism/realism in the work of leading playwrights like Ibsen, Chekhov and Strindberg, before moving on to major twentieth century movements such as Expressionism and Epic Theatre, through the study of Brecht and Piscator, Theatre of Cruelty through the study of Artaud, Symbolism and Surrealism through Lorca and the Theatre of the Absurd through the study of Pirandello and Ionesco.

Bibliography

Essential reading:

Fischer-Lichter, E History of European Drama and Theatre (Routledge 2004)

Ibsen, H Hedda Gabler (Penguin Classics 1961)

Ionesco, E The Chairs (Faber and Faber 1998)

Pirandello, L Six Characters in Search of an Author (Penguin 1996)

Other indicative reading:

Brandt, G (ed) Modern Theories of Drama (Oxford University Press 1999)

Finney, G Women in Modern Drama: Freud, Feminism and European Theatre at the turn of the century (Cornell University 1989)

Pfister, M The Theory and Analysis of Drama (Cambridge University Press 1991)

Willet, J (ed) Brecht on Brecht (London, Methuen)

Williams, R Drama from Ibsen to Brecht (Penguin 1973)

