

ENG 105
Prof. Wonham
wonham@uoregon.edu
191 ANS, M,W,F 1:00-1:50

Office Hours:
Wed., 3:00-6:00 PM
PLC 274

ENG 105

Introduction to Drama

Course Description: This course is an introduction to one of the major genres in literary studies. Students will read, discuss, and analyze plays from a variety of periods and national traditions in order to become familiar with the major styles, techniques, and conventions that characterize dramatic literature. Because this is a course on drama as literature, we will emphasize the interpretation and analysis of dramatic texts, but students will also explore the performative dimensions of dramatic art. As a basic introduction to a major genre in the field of literary studies, this course satisfies the university's Group Requirement in the Arts and Letters category. ENG 105 will encourage students to develop analytical skills that will allow them to think, write, and speak intelligently about dramatic art.

Degree Requirements Satisfied by ENG 105: Gen Ed (A&L); ENG Major II: Lower-Division Elective

Learning Objectives: Students in the course will improve their skills in the following areas:

- 1) they will read literary and cultural texts with discernment and comprehension and with an understanding of their conventions;
- 2) they will draw on relevant cultural and/or historical information to situate dramatic texts within their cultural, political, and historical contexts;
- 3) they will write focused, analytical essays in clear, grammatical prose;
- 4) they will employ logic, creativity, and interpretive skills to produce original, persuasive arguments;
- 5) they will employ primary and/or secondary sources, with proper acknowledgment and citation, as they contribute to a critical essay's thesis.

Papers, Exams, Quizzes: Students will write 8 weekly critical responses to the assigned reading. These responses will be approximately 1-2 pages of formal prose (double-spaced, typed, and printed) and should be carefully edited and proofread. There will be a mid-term exam in class on Friday, Nov. 4, and final exam on Wednesday, December 7, at 2:45 pm. Students should also be prepared for unannounced reading quizzes.

Grading: The written responses will combine to account for 40% of the final grade. Each of the two exams will be worth 20%, and the final 20% of the final grade will be determined by performance on quizzes and in class discussion.

8 written responses: 40%
 mid-term exam: 20%
 final exam: 20%
 quizzes and class participation: 20%

Attendance: Students are permitted three unexcused absences during the term. Each subsequent unexcused absence will result in a 1/3 reduction of the final grade (i.e., a B+ becomes a B). There will be no make-up dates for quizzes missed due to absence or tardiness. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped in the calculation of grades, so one missed quiz (i.e. one zero) will not affect the final grade.

Plagiarism: Students who hand in written material that is not their own will receive an F for the course, and a report will be submitted to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards to determine if additional sanctions should be imposed.

Required Readings: The following required texts are available at the Duckstore:

Oscar Wilde, *The Importance of Being Earnest*
 Dan LeFranc, *The Big Meal*
 Tennessee Williams, *A Streetcar Named Desire*
 Anton Chekov, *The Cherry Orchard*
 Sarah Ruhl, *The Clean House*

Schedule of Assigned Readings

Week 1

Mon., Sept. 26: Introduction to the Course
 Wed., Sept. 28: Oscar Wilde, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Act 1, Part 1
 Fri., Sept. 30: Wilde, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Act 1, Part 2

Week 2

Mon., Oct. 3: Written Response #1 Due
 Wilde, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Act 2, Parts 1 and 2
 Wed., Oct. 5: Wilde, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Act 3, Part 1
 Fri., Oct. 7: Wilde, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Act 3, Part 2

Week 3

Mon., Oct. 10: Written Response #2 Due
 Dan LeFranc, *The Big Meal*
 Wed., Oct. 12: Dan LeFranc, *The Big Meal*
 Fri., Oct. 14: Dan LeFranc, *The Big Meal*

Week 4

Mon., Oct. 17: Written Response #3 Due

Dan LeFranc, *The Big Meal*

Wed., Oct. 19: No Class—attend preview of *The Big Meal* at Oregon Contemporary Theatre, West Broadway, Eugene, 7:30 pm*

Fri., Oct. 21: Dan LeFranc, *The Big Meal*

Week 5

Mon., Oct. 24: Written Response #4 Due

Tennessee Williams, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Scenes 1 and 2

Wed., Oct. 26: Tennessee Williams, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Scenes 3, 4, and 5

Fri., Oct. 28: Tennessee Williams, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Scenes 6 and 7

Week 6

Mon., Oct. 31: Written Response #5 Due

Tennessee Williams, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Scenes 8 and 9

Wed., Nov. 2: Tennessee Williams, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Scenes 10 and 11

Fri., Nov. 4: Mid-Term Exam in class

Week 7

Mon., Nov. 7: Written Response #6 Due

Film version of *A Streetcar Named Desire*

Wed., Nov. 9: Film version of *A Streetcar Named Desire*

Fri., Nov. 11: Anton Chekov, *The Cherry Orchard*, Act 1

Week 8

Mon., Nov. 14: Written Response #7 Due

Anton Chekov, *The Cherry Orchard*, Act 2

Wed., Nov. 16: Anton Chekov, *The Cherry Orchard*, Act 2

Fri., Nov. 18: Anton Chekov, *The Cherry Orchard*, Act 3

Week 9

Mon., Nov. 21: Anton Chekov, *The Cherry Orchard*, Act 3

Wed., Nov. 23: Anton Chekov, *The Cherry Orchard*, Act 4

Fri., Nov. 25: No Class—Thanksgiving Break

Week 10

Mon., Nov. 28: Written Response #8 Due

Sarah Ruhl, *The Clean House*, Act 1

Wed., Nov. 30: Sarah Ruhl, *The Clean House*, Act 2

Fri., Dec. 2: Review

FINAL EXAM: 2:45 pm, Wednesday, December 7

***for anyone who cannot attend the October 19 preview of *The Big Meal* at Oregon Contemporary Theatre, there will be a second preview performance on Thursday, Oct. 20, at 7:30 pm. All students must attend at least one of the two performances.**