ENG 105: Intro to Drama  
Bodies in Theater  
Chelsea Henson  
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CRN 22437  
195 ANS  
6-0531  
MWF 10-10:50am  
PLC 241  
Office hours: MWF 8:30-9:30am or by appointment  

Your ongoing enrollment in this course indicates you have read this syllabus and accept its requirements and expectations.

Course Description and Goals: This course will serve as an introduction to the study of drama from a variety of historical and cultural contexts. We will cover a wide range of plays that span a period of more than two millennia, beginning in Ancient Greece and ending in the early twenty-first century. Along the way, we will become familiar with literary terms and devices, explore what sets drama apart from other prominent literary genres (poetry and prose), and work to gain an understanding of the purpose of drama and dramatic performance for various cultures through time. Through critical writing assignments and a planned and staged performance, students will explore various aspects of the dramatic tradition, from textual meaning to close reading to performance practice. We may read as many as 1-2 plays per week, as per the course schedule, and each student will cooperate with 2-3 classmates to plan, stage, and perform an excerpt of one of the plays we read over the course of the term.

NOTE: This course satisfies credits toward the Arts and Letters category General Education requirements; however, these credits do not count toward the English Major.

Required Texts:  
Second Shepherds’ Play; Mankind; Mucedorus. Must be printed from course Blackboard site.  
* Regular access to Blackboard and your UO email inbox (Required texts, study questions, assignment guidelines, and class/assignment updates will be delivered electronically)

Course Requirements and Grading:  
Participation and Quizzes (10%): You must complete the reading by the beginning of class on the day it is listed. You are also expected to be an active member of the classroom. While there will be a lecture component to the class, most of class time will be spent in group discussion. You will be expected to share comments or ask questions on a regular basis. You are expected to arrive to class on time and stay the entire 50 minutes. You are required to bring the assigned texts to class. Any texts provided on Blackboard should be printed out and brought to class on the assigned day. Frequent tardiness or inattentiveness will seriously impact your participation grade. Additionally, I reserve the right to count you as absent in light of tardiness, early departures or clear lack of preparation for class. Quizzes will be frequent and may or may not be announced. They will be administered during the first ten minutes of class. Missed quizzes cannot be made up. We may also work in small groups during class for which you will earn participation credit.

Midterm (15%) and Final (20%) Exams: The exams will consist of multiple choice, passage identification, and essay questions. The questions will come from our reading assignments, class discussions, quizzes, lectures, and study questions. Specific issues raised by in-class performances may also appear. The first exam will take place during week 5. The final exam will take place during finals week.
Close Reading Assignment (5%), Paper 1 (15%), & Paper 2 (20%): No outside research is permitted without my advance approval. You will write two formal papers: a short 3-4 page paper during the first half of the term and a longer paper of 5-6 pages during the second half. These will be based on close reading of texts assigned in class. To develop your close reading skills, you will also complete a brief 1½ - 2 page close reading assignment due in Week 3. I will provide detailed descriptions for these assignments as due dates approach. All written work must be submitted in two forms: a printed hard copy is due in class and an electronic version must be submitted via Blackboard to SafeAssign – a plagiarism-checking program – by the time class begins on the day the assignment is due.

Format: All work must be typed. All assignments in excess of one page must be stapled or paperclipped. Folding, tearing, or other elaborate corner origami will not be accepted in lieu of legitimate fastening devices. Your documents should have one-inch margins on all sides, be double-spaced, and be written in an acceptable academic font (Times New Roman, Courier, Arial). You must use 12-point font for all writing, including your title. Center your title but do not use bold face, italics, or put quotation marks around it. Cover pages are unnecessary. Double-sided printing is encouraged. If you foresee that you will have difficulty meeting these requirements, please see me before the assignment is due. I reserve the right to refuse work that is improperly formatted. If your work is refused for formatting reasons, you must turn in a corrected version by noon the next day to receive credit for the assignment.

Performance (15%): One of the essential elements separating drama from other forms of literature is its intention to be performed. To attend to this integral part of dramatic literature, you will plan, stage, and act out a performance of approximately 10 minutes from one of the plays we will read. You should attend to character, setting, props (if applicable), and staging. Costumes, sets, and memorization of lines are not required, but you may include them if you wish to enhance your performance. Grading for this assignment will be based on your engagement and evidence of preparation and effort in your performance. It is likely all members of your group will take the role of a character in the scene or scenes you choose, but if there are more group members than characters, or if you do not wish to read lines, you may participate in other ways, including directing or staging, or submitting discussion questions based on your group’s performance. Each participant must prepare a written explanation of about 1-2 pages detailing your role in the performance, why or how your group chose to make the staging and character decisions it made, and how those choices enhanced or influenced the meaning of the excerpt you performed. Performance dates are indicated on the schedule of assignments, and I will pass around a sign-up sheet during the second week of class. One in-class planning session will be offered early in the term so you may meet your group and begin your preparations. You are encouraged to meet with your group early and often, and you are welcome to come to my office hours individually or with your group for help on this assignment.

Attendance: You are allowed 3 unexcused absences per term. If you exceed this amount, your final grade will be lowered by one third of a grade for each absence exceeding this allotment (i.e. from B- to C+). For an absence to be excused you must have extenuating circumstances and contact me at least one hour before class (exceptions to this deadline will be granted at my discretion). If you will miss class due to a university-sanctioned activity, you must provide me with written notice signed by your coach or faculty sponsor before the absence. If you are absent more than 6 times, whether excused or unexcused, you will automatically receive a grade of F for the course. Please be prepared to contact a fellow student for lecture notes in the event of an absence. I will not respond to emails requesting information about lectures missed due to unexcused absences. You are welcome to visit me in office hours to discuss information you missed during class. I will not post or otherwise distribute lecture slides.
Cell Phones & Electronic Devices: If you carry a cell phone (and who doesn’t), ipod, or other personal electronic device with you, make sure it is turned off or silenced during class. It is disrespectful to me and to your peers to utilize these devices during class. Since your participation grade depends on your treating the rest of the class with respect, allowing your phone to ring or otherwise using it during class will hurt your grade. Laptops may not be used during class unless you have received my permission. If you receive my permission to use your laptop for notes, be prepared to email me a copy of your notes immediately after every class.

E-mail and Blackboard: The best way to contact me is via e-mail. You will receive a response much faster this way than by calling me. Additionally, I make extensive use of the class’s Blackboard website and your UO e-mail account to provide information regarding the course. I expect you to have regular access to your UO e-mail account and to Blackboard throughout the quarter. If you e-mail me a question that is easily answered by perusing the syllabus or assignment guidelines, you may not receive a response. Please review the syllabus and assignment guidelines before e-mailing me with questions.

Accommodations: If you have a disability (physical, learning, psychological, or otherwise) that you think may affect your performance in this class, please see me during the first week of the term so we can make arrangements, if necessary, for your full access to all classroom activities.

Late Work: No late work will be accepted. If you are absent the day an assignment is due, you are expected to contact me before class regarding your absence to make arrangements or to slip the work under my office door before class time. Exceptions may be made for extenuating circumstances; see or contact me immediately if something happens which prevents you from completing an assignment on time.

Academic Honesty: All work submitted for this course must be your own and must be written exclusively for this course. The use of sources (ideas, quotations, paraphrases) must be properly documented. Please consult Rules for Writers or a similar handbook for a definition of plagiarism and information on documentation, and refer to the Student Conduct Code on the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards website:
http://studentlife.uoregon.edu/StudentConductandCommunityStandards/StudentConductCode/tabid/69/Default.aspx
In case where academic dishonesty has been clearly established, the award of an F for the final course grade is standard practice. Please see me if you have any questions about your use of sources.

Incompletes: Incompletes will only be granted in cases of documented emergencies that interfere with the completion of one major portion of coursework. If you are forced to take an incomplete you have one calendar year to make up the incomplete before it automatically changes to a grade of F.

*** Extra Credit: There is one extra credit opportunity for this class. If you would like to earn extra credit, you may choose and attend one theatrical performance from a legitimate performance group (at UO, LCC, local theater, show in Portland or Ashland, etc.) during the course of the term. You will complete a 1-2 page performance review, which you will turn in with a program from the performance at any time after seeing the show. See UO’s University Theater page (http://pages.uoregon.edu/theatre/) or LCC’s theater department website (http://www.lanecc.edu/perarts/theatre/index.htm) for possibilities. Other legitimate theatrical performances are of course acceptable as well.
This extra credit may be applied to your choice of assignment, or to make up one unexcused absence. You may only receive extra credit once. If I do not see evidence of effort or suspect you have not actually attended a performance, I reserve the right to refuse to grant extra credit for this assignment.
Schedule of Assignments
(All plays, unless otherwise noted, are listed by title and appear in The Norton Anthology of Drama Shorter Edition. This schedule may be adjusted depending on our progress. Such alterations will occur at my discretion and will be announced during class and on Blackboard)

M 1/9: Introductions
W 1/11: Greek and Roman drama; Lysistrata lines 1-308
F 1/13: Lysistrata lines 309-753

M 1/16: MLK day – No class
W 1/18: Lysistrata lines 754-1169 (end)
F 1/20: Introduction to medieval drama; Dulcitius

M 1/23: Second Shepherds’ Play lines 1-452
W 1/25: Second Shepherds’ Play lines 453-770 (end)
F 1/27: Close reading due; Mankind lines 1-343

M 1/30: Mankind lines 344-726
W 2/1: Mankind lines 727-914 (end)
F 2/3: Mucedorus Prologue, Induction, Scenes i-vii; Performance planning session

M 2/6: Paper 1 due; Mucedorus scenes viii-Epilogue (end)
W 2/8: Review for Midterm
F 2/10: Midterm

M 2/13: The Rover Prologue, Acts 1-2; Performance
W 2/15: The Rover Act 3
F 2/17: The Rover Acts 4-5; Performance

M 2/20: The Importance of Being Earnest Act 1; Performance
W 2/22: The Importance of Being Earnest Act 2
F 2/24: The Importance of Being Earnest Act 3; Performance

M 2/27: A Streetcar Named Desire Scenes 1-4
W 2/29: A Streetcar Named Desire Scenes 5-6; Performance
F 3/2: A Streetcar Named Desire Scenes 7-8; Performance

M 3/5: A Streetcar Named Desire Scenes 9-11; Performance
W 3/7: M. Butterfly Act 1
F 3/9: M. Butterfly Acts 2-3; Performance

M 3/12: Paper 2 due; A Number; Performance
W 3/14: A Number; Performance
F 3/16: Review for final exam

Final Exam: Friday, March 23rd, 10:15am-12:15pm