

**University of Winnipeg Department of Theatre and Film**

THFM-3402-050 – CANADIAN DRAMA (3 Credit Hours)

Fall 2018  
Tues/Thurs 5:30 – 6:45 pm  
Room 4M41

Instructor: Brad Simkulet  
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“And what you do is you go into where your anger is, if you're writing anger; you go into where your hatred is, if you're writing hatred; you go into where your joy is, if you're writing joy. You find the source of the energy that draws hatred, anger, joy, etc., etc., etc. That's what you have to find. That's what you do as an actor and that's what you do as a writer. And you bring people to the page.”

~~Timothy Findley

**Required Texts:**

*Elizabeth Rex*, Timothy Findley  
*Modern Canadian Plays*, ed. Jerry Wasserman, vols. 1 and 2. 5<sup>th</sup> edition

**Course Description:** This course is dedicated to the study of Canadian plays written in the last forty years, interspersed with lectures and readings on the history of the Canadian theatre from 1606 to the present.

**GRADING**

Presentation Assignment (flexible) .....	20%
Research Paper (due Oct 18, 2018).....	25%
Analysis Essay (due Nov 8, 2018) .....	25%
Final Paper (due Nov 28, 2018) .....	30%
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b><u>100%</u></b>

Unexcused late assignments will not be accepted.

**Attendance will be taken each class.**

Unexcused absences are assessed a penalty; 1% will be deducted from the final grade per occurrence.

**GRADE EQUIVALENTS**

A+	90-100	B	70-74	F	<50
A	85-89	C+	65-69		
A-	80-84	C	60-64		
B+	75-79	D	50-59		

Work not submitted will be graded as 0.

**Reminder: SAVE ALL YOUR WORK**

**Tentative Schedule**

Week 1 (Sept 4&6):

- 4 -- Housekeeping / Syllabus
- 6 -- Getting to know each other / Assignments

Week 2 (Sept 11&13):

- 11: *Les Belle Souers*, Michel Tremblay
- Reading: Introduction to Volume 1, *Modern Canadian Plays*
- 13--Reading: Walter Benjamin's *The Task of the Translator*

Week 3 (Sept 18&20):

- 18 -- *Polygraph*, Robert Lepage & Marie Brassard
- 20 -- *Billy Bishop Goes to War*, John MacLachlan Gray with Eric Peterson

Week 4 (Sept 25&27):

- 25 -- *Balconville*, David Fennario
- 27 -- *7 Stories*, Morris Panych
- Reading: TBA

Week 5 (Oct 2&4):

- 2 -- Essay Workshop
- 4 -- *Blood Relations*, Sharon Pollock (1980)
- Reading: TBA

Week 6 (Oct 7-15):

- Reading Break. Be kind to yourselves.

Week 7 (Oct16&18):

**OCT 16<sup>th</sup> -- Research Paper Due Date**

- 16 -- *Dry Lips Oughta Move to Kapuskasing*, Tomson Highway
- 18-- *Lion in the Streets*, Judith Thompson

Week 8 (Oct 23&25):

- 23 -- *Goodnight Desdemona (Goodmorning Juliet)*, Ann-Marie MacDonald
- 25-- *Elizabeth Rex*, Timothy Findley

Week 9 (Oct 30&Nov 1):

- 30 -- *Elizabeth Rex* screening
- Reading: LGBTQ TBA
- 1 -- *Elizabeth Rex* discussion

Week 10 (Nov 6&8):

- 5 -- *Drag Queens on Trial*, Sky Gilbert
- 7 -- *Age of Arousal*, Linda Griffiths

**NOV 8<sup>th</sup> -- Analysis Paper Due**

Week 11 (Nov 13&15):

- 12 -- *Street of Blood*, Ronnie Burkett
- 14 -- *The Adventures of Ali & Ali and the aXes of Evil*, Marcus Youssef, Guillermo Verdecchia, and Camyar Chai
- Reading: Multiculturalism (TBA)

Week 12 (Nov 20&22):

- 19 -- *Scorched*, Wajdi Mouawad
- 21 -- *Harlem Duet*, Djanet Sears

Week 13 (Nov 27&29):

- 26 -- *Kim's Convenience*, Ins Choi
- 28 -- Wrap-up

**NOV 28 -- Final Paper due**

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### DATES FOR FALL TERM COURSES

Tuesday, September 4 – lectures begin

Sunday, October 7 – Saturday, October 13 – Reading Week

Monday, October 8 – University closed for Thanksgiving

Sunday, November 11 – University closed for Remembrance Day

Monday, November 12 – final date for withdrawal without academic penalty from Fall term courses

Monday, December 3 – lectures end

Please note in particular, the date for **withdrawal without academic penalty** from this course:

**Monday November 12, 2018.** Ceasing to attend class does not constitute formal withdrawal from the course. Withdrawing from a course does not necessarily result in a fee refund.

### IN CASE OF CLASS CANCELLATION

Should I need to cancel a class due to exceptional circumstances, I will make every effort to inform you via webmail or nexus, as well as via the Departmental Assistant so that class cancellation forms can be posted outside the classroom.

### FORMAT OF WRITTEN WORK

All work submitted for evaluation must be typed and delivered as a hard copy. I prefer papers to be handed in during class, but I will accept papers in my departmental mailbox (3T04) as long as they fall within my acceptance policies. (See below.) If you use my mailbox, it is in your best interest to have Melinda (3T03) or a member of the department timestamp your submission and sign it before you put it there. **I ask that you submit assignments in hard copy, not by email, except under exceptional circumstances and then only with prior permission.**

### NO EXAM

There is no final exam in this course.

### PRIVACY

Most assignments will be handed in and handed back in class. If assignments are to be handed in or returned in another manner, and you are concerned about others having access to your work, you should attach to your assignment an 8 1/2 x 11 envelope with your name on it that can be sealed. If the envelope is stamped and self-addressed, your assignment will be mailed to you. If you do not attach an envelope, it is assumed you have waived your concerns in this area.

### AVOIDING COPYRIGHT VIOLATION

Course materials are owned by the instructor who developed them. Examples of such materials are course outlines, assignment descriptions, lecture notes, test questions, and presentation slides. Students who upload these materials to filesharing sites, or in any other way share these materials with others outside the class without prior permission of the instructor/presenter, are in violation of copyright law and University policy. Students must also seek prior permission of the instructor /presenter before photographing or recording slides, presentations, lectures, and notes on the board.

### AVOIDING PLAGIARISM

Students should take a look at the University of Winnipeg library video tutorial “Avoiding Plagiarism” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UvFdxRU9a8g>

## **AVOIDING ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

Uploading essays and other assignments to essay vendor or essay trader sites (filesharing sites that are known providers of essays for use by others who submit them to instructors as their own work) involves “aiding and abetting” plagiarism. Students who do this can be charged with Academic Misconduct.

As a student at the University of Winnipeg, you need to understand what academic misconduct is. The University believes in academic integrity and will penalize students who commit academic misconduct. Here’s what you need to do:

- **Read** the University of Winnipeg Course Calendar (Regulations & Policies section) to find out
  - what academic misconduct is
  - the procedures the University uses to investigate academic misconduct
  - the possible penalties.
- **Know** what cheating and plagiarism mean
  - cheating means getting someone else to do your work for you and handing in that work as your own
  - plagiarism means presenting someone else’s words and ideas as your own; it includes
    - **using the exact words you found in a source in your paper and not putting quotation marks around these words;** even if you include a citation and a reference entry, this is plagiarism
    - **changing a few words in a passage from a source, putting the passage in your assignment, and not using quotation marks;** again, even with a citation and a reference entry, this is plagiarism
    - **rewording a passage from a source and putting the passage in your assignment, but not showing in any way that these are not your ideas;** this includes not introducing the passage in a way that shows it comes from something you have read and not including a citation or a reference entry
    - **handing in the same assignment in two or more classes without having the permission of all of the instructors.**
- **Learn** how to avoid plagiarism
  - ask for information from your instructor or from the staff in the Tutoring Centre
  - use the reference manuals that are available in the University Library
  - read the information on plagiarism on the University Library’s website
  - find and use online resources that teach about documentation, such as the Online Writing Lab (OWL) at Purdue University (<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/1/>).
- **Understand** the consequences of any form of academic misconduct
  - your instructor can report you to the Departmental Review Committee and the Senate Committee on Academic Misconduct
  - the Senate Committee can decide that you have committed academic misconduct and penalize you
  - the incident and your penalty will be on your file until you graduate.

### **"THE REAL THING" LECTURE SERIES**

The Department of Theatre and Film is presenting a series of six lectures which will be held on Wednesdays during the free period (12:30-13:20) in Theatre 1T15. Please note the dates in your diary **NOW**: Sept 19<sup>th</sup> (Donna-Michelle St. Bernard, playwright and arts administrator), Oct 17<sup>th</sup>, Nov 14<sup>th</sup>, Jan 16<sup>th</sup>, Feb 27<sup>th</sup>, Mar 13<sup>th</sup>. This series will feature speakers from a range of areas in the performing arts: technical, performance, design, management, film, directing, playwriting, etc. These speakers will specifically address issues related to “the business of the business.”

Attendance for potential Theatre Honours/Majors and for Film Majors is optional but highly recommended.

### **HEALTH AND ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES**

Life happens to everyone. If you are experiencing a crisis in your life, or if you have a physical or mental health issue, communicate with your Professor or Accessibility Services – let us know so we can provide support or direct you to those who can. The earlier we know, the earlier we can discuss what resources might be available. Students with documented disabilities, or temporary or chronic medical conditions requiring academic accommodations for tests/exams/presentations (e.g., private space or more time) or during lectures/labs (e.g., note-takers) are encouraged to contact Accessibility Services (AS) at 204-786-9771 or [accessibilityservices@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:accessibilityservices@uwinnipeg.ca) to discuss appropriate options. All information about a student's disability or medical condition remains confidential. If you are registered with Accessibility Services, do not assume that Accessibility Services (AS) has informed your instructor that you have registered with them. <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility>

### **2018 ORIENTATION ASSEMBLY**

Each year in September we hold an *Orientation Assembly* to welcome students to the new term, introduce our new students to faculty and other students; provide information about the department, its various activities and those of its professors; and deliver news about what's coming up. This year our *Orientation Assembly* will be held on **Monday, September 10, 2018, 12:30-13:20 in Theatre, 1T15. ATTENDANCE IS COMPULSORY** for all Majors and Honours students. Those considering Honours are strongly recommended to attend. All others are welcome and encouraged to attend.

### **TAFSA**

All students enrolled in at least one theatre or film class are automatically members of TAFSA, the Theatre and Film Students' Association, which plans a number of exciting activities each academic year. We are looking forward to regular **Performance Jams** and **Socials** as well as **DioFest** (a new play festival featuring student written and produced plays), and the very popular **24/7 Event** during which students move into our building and several plays are written, rehearsed, produced, and presented – all in a period of 24 hours! Please join TAFSA to find out more at its organizational meeting, tentatively scheduled for Mon Sept 17, 12:30-1:20 pm, Room OT10. This is a great opportunity for students to connect with other like-minded people and a way to get involved in the department events.

### **BUILDING SECURITY**

The Asper Centre for Theatre and Film (home to the Department of Theatre and Film) is open from 8:00 am and 5:30 pm weekdays only. Students are permitted to be in the building between 8:00 am and 10:00 pm seven days per week (except statutory holidays when the University is closed) **BUT PLEASE NOTE:** outside of regular building hours, it is **MANDATORY** that everyone in the building **EITHER** carry an access card **OR** have a booking confirmation form in their possession (hard copy or electronic). **ALL EVENING STUDENTS in the building for classes MUST have an access card.** If a Security Guard checks and you do not have proper accreditation, **you may be evicted.**

These rules are in place to protect our students and our equipment; please respect them.

### **ELECTRONIC COURSE OUTLINE ADDENDA**

Students must check our website at <http://uwinnipeg.ca/theatre-film> and read the menu items called *Fire Safety Instructions in the Asper Centre for Theatre and Film*, *Access Card/Building Use Policy* **AND** *Room Booking Instructions*. The link to the electronic *Online Room Booking Form* is also found at this location. Please read and note all instructions carefully.

### **GENERAL NOTES**

This course outline should be considered a guideline only. Time constraints and other unforeseen factors may require that some topics be omitted or covered in less detail than indicated.

Archival records such as videotapes, sound recordings, and photographs may be made or taken during class or lab times. The University uses such materials primarily for archival, promotional, and teaching purposes. Promotional use may include display at open houses or conferences, or use in advertising, publicity, or brochures. In reading and accepting the terms in this course outline, students acknowledge consent for such use by the University. Should a student not wish to convey such consent, s/he should withdraw from this course immediately.

Cellular phones **MUST** be turned off during classes and examinations; texting is **NOT** permitted in class.

Any student attending a test or final examination may be required to present proof of identity; photo identification is preferred.

It is the student's responsibility to retain a photocopy or computer disk copy of **ALL** assignments submitted for grading; in the event of loss or theft, a duplicate copy is required.

Students are strongly advised to read the sections 8, 9, and 10 of the *Academic Calendar* for information on Academic Misconduct including plagiarism, and Appeals, (found on-line at: <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/regulationsandpolicies.pdf>).

Students conducting research interviews, focus groups, surveys, or any other method of collecting data from any person, including a family member, must obtain the approval of the appropriate ethics committee before commencing data collection. Exceptions are research activities in class as a learning exercise. See <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/research/human-ethics.html> for submission requirements and deadlines.

All students, faculty and staff have the right to participate, learn and work in an environment that is free of harassment and discrimination. The UW Respectful Working and Learning Environment Policy may be found online at [www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect](http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect).

Students may choose not to attend classes or write examinations on holy days of their religion, but they must notify their instructors at least two weeks in advance. Instructors will then provide opportunity for students to make up work examinations without penalty. A list of religious holidays can be found at <http://uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/important-notes.pdf>

When it is necessary to cancel a class due to exceptional circumstances, instructors will make every effort to inform students via uwinnipeg email (and/or using the preferred form of communication, as designated by the instructor), as well as the Departmental Assistant and Chair/Dean so that class cancellation forms can be posted outside classrooms. ***Students are reminded that they have a responsibility to regularly check their uwinnipeg e-mail addresses to ensure timely receipt of correspondence from the university and/or their course instructors.***

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2018** is the final date to withdraw without academic penalty from courses which begin which begin September 4 and end December 3, 2018 (2018-19 Fall Term).

Please note that withdrawing before the VW date does not necessarily result in a fee refund.

### **STUDENT PARTICIPATION POLICY**

Theatre is a communal art form in which a number of interdependent artists and crafts people co-operate to create a work of art. This fact is necessarily transferred to the learning situation, and is reflected in many of the Department's courses. Consequently, it is the Department's policy that students are required to: complete homework such as reading, line-learning, script analysis, prop lists, design drawings, etc.; attend classes; attend rehearsals both within and outside of class times; and, in short, to exhibit commitment towards the inevitably shared endeavours of our field of study.

Any student failing to fulfil these requirements is harmful to the progress of dedicated students and may, after due warning, be asked to withdraw from any individual Departmental course.

### **COURSE CONTENT NOTE**

Dramatic Literature depicts a wide variety of human action, both elevated and base, public and private, physical and psychological, sexual and non-sexual, etc. The Department of Theatre and Film will not undertake to censor the subject matter of dramatic works.

Students who have concerns about dealing with the full range of content and style in drama/film are urged to discuss these concerns with the course instructor.