

## The Birth of the Modern: Drama and Performance after the Renaissance

Dr. Kimberly Jannarone  
**THEA 61C**  
TA: Peyman Shams

*kmj@ucsc.edu* (831) 459-3490  
Tu/Th 1:00PM-4:30pm TA Offices J102  
*pshams@ucsc.edu*

### Overview

This course surveys the history of theater and performance from the early modern era to the contemporary moment. Live performance reflects and shapes the thoughts and attitudes of the people who develop it; we will, therefore, discuss the political, social, religious, and historical situation of the texts. The history of performance is filled with ideas, questions, and conflicts that resonate in our daily lives. This course will help you see the parallels between our world and that of other cultures through the study of performance.

### Course Objectives

- To *acquire* knowledge of performance histories
- To *critically engage* performance in terms of structure, form, style, and historical, political, and cultural contexts
- To *articulate* how performance has operated as a place for socio-cultural debate and the means by which it has done so
- To *communicate* critical interpretations of performance through written and verbal analyses

**Required Text:** *The Wadsworth Anthology of Drama, Revised Edition, 6th Edition*, ed. W.B. Worthen (ISBN-10: 049590323X; ISBN-13: 9780495903239). Referred to as "W."  
The 6th edition is available to buy or rent at the Bay Tree Bookstore and on reserve at the McHenry Library. It is also readily available for purchase online. *Note to theater majors and minors: this textbook will be used for each of the 61 Series classes.*

### Weekly Schedule

*Readings are due prior to the meeting.  
Read the introduction to the play as well as the play text.  
Bring the day's readings to class.*

#### **Week One: Modernity's Discontents**

6/24 The Birth of the Modern Era; Dada, & Surrealism (W & Canvas)  
6/26 Jarry, *Ubu Roi* (W)\*; Jannarone, "Puppetry and Pataphysics" (Canvas)  
Read the dada and Surrealism readings on Canvas to catch up from Tuesday.

#### **Week Two: Critiques of Society**

7/2 Büchner, *Woyzeck* (W)\*; Fuchs, "Visit to a Small Planet" (Canvas)  
Ibsen, *A Doll's House* (W)  
7/4 HOLIDAY

#### **Week Three: Reason vs Emotion**

7/9 Brecht, *Mother Courage and Her Children* (W); Essays (W 1075-84)

"Writing Strategies and Style Guidelines"; "Paper Assignment"; "Paper Thesis and Outline Assignment" (Canvas)

7/11 Artaud, *Jet of Blood*; excerpts from *The Theater and Its Double*; Jannarone, *Artaud and His Doubles* (excerpts) (W 1084-90 & Canvas)

#### **Week Four: Gender Binaries and Pluralities**

7/16 Shepard, *True West* (W)

**Paper thesis and outline due**

7/18 Fornes, *Fefu and Her Friends* (Canvas)

#### **Week Five: The Future**

7/23 Kushner, *Angels in America* (W) **Guest Lecture: Dor Cosby Atkinson**

7/25 **Final Paper due on Canvas.**

*\*Plays marked with an asterisk indicate that the original language text is available to you as a PDF or in a weblink on Canvas. I encourage you to read the original if you are fluent in the language.*

#### **Grading and Assignments**

Attendance/Preparation/Participation	20%
Short Assignments	25%
Paper Thesis and Outline	10%
Final Paper	45%

**Attendance/Preparation/Participation:** Read the assigned materials, bring the assigned text to class, and think and speak about the work. Please respect yourself and your classmates and come to class prepared. Class is boring if you haven't done the reading—it's like being stuck in a conversation about people you don't know. But when you do know those people, and have been thinking about them, and have questions, and engage in debates about them... then, you're learning and exercising your own critical and imaginative capabilities.

**Short Assignments:** We will have short assignments throughout the quarter, either in class or as response papers. They are there to get you thinking about the work on your own.

**Paper Thesis and Outline:** Submit a thesis and outline for your final paper. Detailed guidelines for constructing a thesis and writing an outline are available on Canvas.

**Final Paper:** Write a 4-5-page paper on one of the texts studied in the class. Combine your study of the text with your own critical engagement and rhetorical skills. More details on the paper are available on Canvas.

#### **Grading Scale**

**A** = Work that demonstrates mastery of the course material and effectively communicates that mastery. "A" work is cogently organized, appropriately researched, and clearly presented. It

demonstrates deep engagement with the material, keen critical thinking skills, a high degree of understanding and originality, and an excellent presentation.

**B** = Work that shows a solid comprehension of the course material, a good understanding of the course's concepts and theories, and a capability to communicate these ideas by providing evidence of critical analysis and evaluation.

**C** = Acceptable work that reflects familiarity with and understanding of the course material. The student may not have demonstrated any larger synthesis of the material, or may need more work on completion of written and other assignments.

**D** = Minimally acceptable work. The student has demonstrated only a limited understanding of the material, and the professor cannot attest that the student has acquired the critical skills the class hoped to teach. A "D" is not a passing grade for Theater Arts majors or minors.

**F** = Work that does not demonstrate sufficient mastery of the course material. Or, the student has not contributed enough work for a reasonable evaluation. Or, the student's work was fraudulent or dishonest in some way.

### **Class Policies**

#### **Emails and Office Hours**

I check emails on the weekdays, and I'll always strive to answer your message within 48 hours. I love helping you craft and brainstorm your work, so if you send me a draft of an assignment at least two days in advance, I will read it.

#### **Class Discussion**

During our weekly meetings, we'll be engaging with issues, including violence and sexuality, that some may experience as profoundly personal or raw. So we will cultivate and inhabit an atmosphere of respect. This begins with active engagement. It involves listening, questioning, and being honest. We don't have to agree on everything! But we must respect disagreement and welcome it a part of the creative and learning process.

### **Resources and Guidelines**

#### **Writing Assistance**

Students are expected to come to class with a basis in composition, sentence structure, grammar, and formal writing strategies. The instructor and teaching assistants can help with developing student writing, but it is up to you to be pro-active in your college writing career. Visit this website: <http://www2.ucsc.edu/lss/>. They offer special skills courses and can help you get a tutor.

**Academic Integrity** is the cornerstone of a university education. Academic dishonesty diminishes the university as an institution and all members of the university community. It tarnishes the value of a UCSC degree. All members of the UCSC community have an explicit responsibility to foster an environment of trust, honesty, fairness, respect, and responsibility. All members of the university community are expected to present as their original work only that

which is truly their own. All members of the community are expected to report observed instances of cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty in order to ensure that the integrity of scholarship is valued and preserved at UCSC. In the event a student is found in violation of the UCSC Academic Integrity policy, he or she may face both academic sanctions imposed by the instructor of record and disciplinary sanctions imposed either by the provost of his or her college or the Academic Tribunal convened to hear the case. Violations of the Academic Integrity policy can result in dismissal from the university and a permanent notation on a student's transcript. For the full policy and disciplinary procedures on academic dishonesty, students and instructors should refer to the Academic Integrity page at the Division of Undergraduate Education.

### **DRC Accommodations**

The Disability Resources Center reduces barriers to inclusion and full participation for students with disabilities by providing support to individually determine reasonable academic accommodations. If you have questions or concerns about exam accommodations or any other disability-related matter, please contact the DRC office, located in Hahn 125 or at 831-459-2089 or [drc@ucsc.edu](mailto:drc@ucsc.edu).

### **Counseling/Psychological Services**

College is stressful, and stress can be damaging. Be careful! All of us must find ways of coping to complete our work. If you feel yourself getting overwhelmed psychologically, please contact Counseling and Psychological Services at 459-2628; online at <https://caps.ucsc.edu/>; and in person at Student Health Center, East Wing 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor; hours 8:00am to 5:00pm. If you feel your emotional condition may interfere with your work, please make the arrangements you need. We are committed to doing what we can to support your successful completion of the class, but the primary responsibility for taking care of yourself is yours.

### **Online Course Evaluations**

The Theater Arts Department collects feedback from students at the end of each course in the form of Online Course Evaluations (OCEs). You will receive an email with links and information when the evaluation is available. You may also log in to the evaluations site directly at <http://evaluations.ucsc.edu>. Student submissions are anonymous. Instructors may only review the data after all grades have been submitted. Please give serious thought to your comments. OCEs form part of the faculty member's personnel file, and they are reviewed by colleagues and administrators. Your comments may be used to improve future offerings of the course.

### **Title IX**

The university cherishes the free and open exchange of ideas and enlargement of knowledge. To maintain this freedom and openness requires objectivity, mutual trust, and confidence; it requires the absence of coercion, intimidation, or exploitation. The principal responsibility for maintaining these conditions must rest upon those members of the university community who exercise most authority and leadership: faculty, managers, and supervisors.

The university has therefore instituted a number of measures designed to protect its community from sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual violence, and other related prohibited conduct. Information about the Title IX Office, the online reporting link, applicable campus resources, reporting responsibilities, the UC Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment

and the UC Santa Cruz Procedures for Reporting and Responding to Reports of Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment can be found at [titleix.ucsc.edu](http://titleix.ucsc.edu).

The Title IX/Sexual Harassment Office is located at 105 Kerr Hall. In addition to the online reporting option, you can contact the Title IX Office by calling 831-459-2462.