

SYLLABUS - Spring 2006

ENLT 122 Introduction to Drama
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Office Hours: TR 10:00-11:30
and by appointment

Required Texts

Barnet, Sylvan, et al, eds. Types of Drama. 8th ed. New York: Longman, 2001.
Fugard, Athol. "MASTER HAROLD" and the boys. [On reserve: library]
Williams, Tennessee. The Glass Menagerie. [On reserve: library]

Course Requirements

1. Three short papers, printed, of approximately 3-5 pages. The first essay will be your version of an argument outlined in class concerning the play Trifles. The second will concern your own examination of Miss Julie, The Good Woman of Szechuan, or "MASTER HAROLD" and the boys. The third will involve your analysis of Death of a Salesman, The Glass Menagerie, or True West. These essays will be due on February 15, March 24, and April 26 (See CALENDAR OF EVENTS). Late papers will be grudgingly accepted, but one grade will be subtracted for each day that the paper is late. Neglecting to turn in a paper before the last class meeting will earn you an F for the course. One extension per semester may be granted if you see me before the paper's due date with a good reason. More information on the form of these essays will be given during the Paper Clinic on February 10.

2. One Final project. This assignment will concern your version of the staging of a scene from either The Real Thing or Fences, the last two plays we will read this semester. You will perform this scene for the class during one of the last three meetings of the semester, and a group representative will give a short talk afterwards. One member of each group who may not feel comfortable acting may serve as the group's director and present the oral report which summarizes the group's intentions and discoveries.

3. One exam, a midterm, to be held on March 8. You will be asked to read a short play before class and to consider four essay topics also distributed prior to the exam. In class, you will be required to choose one of the topics and to write a short essay. There will be no final exam (the final project takes its place).

4. Daily Assignments, printed, will be due at the end of every class concerned with a particular play.

A. At the first class, you will be asked to turn in a list of five possible topics for analysis within the play.

B. At the second class, you will be required to submit a list containing at least five pieces of textual evidence concerned with a particular topic.

C. At the third class, you will be obliged to hand in a brief outline of an essay based on at least five pieces of textual evidence concerned with the topic you have been examining.

You may receive a maximum of five points per assignment for carrying out these tasks properly, and your final grade in this area will be based on your total number of points. Late assignments may be turned in within one week of their due date, but they will receive only half credit. Failing to turn in more than six assignments will be considered justification for course failure.

5. Classroom participation is absolutely essential to your success in this course. Nearly all of the time, we will either discuss the plays as a large group or break into smaller groups to examine individual topics. If you are the type of student who merely wishes to take notes on a professor's lecture and spit them back on an exam, this course is not for you.

6. I will take attendance at every class, and after six absences, I will subtract one full grade from your final grade for each absence. You must also prepare for class by completing all reading assignments on time, or else the discussions will be of no use to you.

Computation of Grades

Paper #1	10%
Paper #2 and #3	20% each
Daily assignments	30%
Midterm	10%
Final project	10%

Course Structure - In coordination with the daily assignments, we will spend 3 class periods on each play:

1. Having read the play, you will come to class prepared with questions and possible paper topics that we will discuss. At the end of the class, you will commit to a single topic that you will investigate for the following class.

2. You will meet together in small groups to discuss the evidence you have gathered on a particular topic. The goal will be to arrive at a thesis that can serve as the basis for the outline for a paper that you will prepare for our next class.

3. You will meet in the same small groups to compare and contrast the brief outlines you have written. Your task during this class will be to come up with a single outline for a paper on your topic that your entire group can live with. My role during the second and third classes is to be available for whatever consultation you may require.

Formal writing for undergraduate literature courses in the English department should follow Modern Language Association guidelines, as found for example in the current edition of Joseph Gibaldi's MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, available in the campus bookstore.

This syllabus is subject to change and may be updated as the semester progresses.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1/30	Go over syllabus	4/10	<u>The Real Thing</u> [Spring Break 4/12-18]
2/1	Intro: Read <u>Types</u> , 1-17	4/19	" " "
		4/21	" " "
2/3	<u>Trifles</u>		
2/6	"	4/24	Follow-up clinic
2/8	"	4/26	Final project discussion - Paper #3 due
		4/28	No Class – Dr. Friedman out of town
2/10	Paper Clinic		
		5/1	<u>Fences</u>
2/13	<u>A Doll's House</u>	5/3	"
2/15	" " " Paper #1 due	5/5	"
2/17	" " "		
		5/8	Final Projects
2/20	<u>Miss Julie</u>	5/10	" "
2/22	" "	5/12	" "
2/24	" "		
2/27	<u>The Good Woman of Setzuan</u>		
3/1	" " " " "		
3/3	" " " " "		
3/6	Follow-up clinic		
3/8	Midterm		
3/10	<u>"MASTER HAROLD" and the boys</u>		
3/13	" " " " "		
3/15	" " " " "		
3/17	<u>Death of a Salesman</u>		
3/20	" " " "		
3/22	" " " "		
3/24	Video analysis - Paper #2 due		
3/27	<u>The Glass Menagerie</u>		
3/29	" " "		
3/31	" " "		
4/3	<u>True West</u>		
4/5	" "		
4/7	" "		