

# Curriculum Proposal Signature Sheet

## THTR / ENLT 277: American Drama, 1968 - 2001

### Type of Proposal

#### Program

- New
- Changes within Major
- Changes within Cognate \*
- Changes in Minor or Track
- Changes in Concentration\*
- Program Deletion

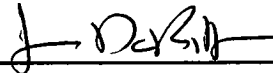
#### Course

- New
- Changes in Course taken only by Majors
- Changes in Course required of Non-Majors\*
- Changes in Course open to Non-Majors
- Deletion of Course taken only by Majors
- Deletion of Course required of Non-Majors\*
- Deletion of Course open to Non-Majors

Dept. of English & Theatre

Review and Approval **7 Oct 2010**

Signature of Sponsoring Chair(s)/Date



**3 Nov 2010**

\* For starred items Chairs of affected Departments/Programs must sign below *before* Dean's review

#### Dean's Preliminary Review

- Proposal:  Complete  
 Satisfies U of S Curricular Requirements  
 Consistent with College Goals/Mission

Additional preliminary comments below

Dean's Signature/Date



11/4/10

CAS

CPS

SOM

GRAD

DHC

#### Preliminary FSCC Disposition:

- Committee recommends approval (*new program proposals require a Recommendation from the full Senate*)
- Proposal will require minimal review: Anticipated FS Meeting Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- Proposal will require significant review: Anticipated FS Meeting Date: \_\_\_\_\_

FSCC Chair Signature/Date \_\_\_\_\_

Issues: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*New Course*

Course Title: **American Drama, 1968 - 2001**

Course Number: **THTR / ENLT 277** Date Of Initial Offering: **2012 - 13 a.y.**

Rationale for course level:

**The course is aimed at English &/or Theatre majors &/or minors. It presumes some prior college-level study of drama.**

Credit Hours: **3** Format:  lecture  lab  other: Frequency:  annual  each semester  alternate years

Prerequisites: **ENLT 140 (English Inquiry) or the equivalent\***

**or THTR 110 (Intro to Theatre)**

Rationale for pre-requisites (if pre-requisites are listed)

**The standard prerequisite\* for 200-level ENLT courses is "ENLT 140 or the equivalent," which means any ENLT with a number between 120 & 179. Since this course is aimed partly at Theatre majors & minors, we also want to have our intro-level THTR course count as a prerequisite.**

Catalog Description (50 word maximum)

**This course focuses on exploring and encountering literature that has shaped recent & contemporary American theatre. Some recurring issues include the end of the Cold War, the AIDS epidemic, national identity, the counter-culture, the Vietnam war, ethnic identities, sexual identities, gender issues, and the demise of the American dream.**

Similar Courses being offered at the University

**None**

Discuss Extent of overlap with existing courses

**None**

Special Resources Required

**None**

Characteristics (check any/all that apply):

Major:  Required  Elective

GE :  submitted to CCC  will be submitted to CCC **Nov 2010**  Area Free only

Humanities (CL)

Interdisciplinary:  YES  NO Team Teaching:  YES  NO

Exclusively For Special Programs/Concentrations:  NO  YES (Name) \_\_\_\_\_

Home College:  CAS  PCPS  KSOM  GRAD

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Required Attachments:

- Syllabus with student learning objectives, assessment/evaluation mechanisms, and outline of topics
- Description of, or example of, readings/papers/projects/examinations
- Assessment/evaluation based course improvement mechanisms

## THTR/ENLT 277: American Drama 1968 - 2001

*This course will satisfy Area A-3 (American Literature since 1950) requirement for the English major. It will also serve as a dramatic literature elective for the Theatre major. It is also Cultural Diversity Intensive. Prerequisite: English Inquiry or the equivalent (ENLT 120 - 179) or THTR 110. Prior study of dramatic literature is recommended.*

### I. Texts

Goldman, <i>The Season</i>	Vogel, <i>How I Learned to Drive</i>
Van-Itallie, <i>The Serpent</i>	Wilson, <i>Ma Rainey's Black Bottom</i>
Shepard, <i>Cowboy Mouth</i>	Mamet, <i>Glengarry Glen Ross</i>
Shepard, <i>Black Dog Beast Bait</i>	Kushner, <i>Angels in America</i>
Sondheim & Furth, <i>Company</i>	Parks, <i>Venus</i>
Rabe, <i>Streamers</i>	Rivera, <i>Marisol</i>
Fornes, <i>Fefu and her Friends</i>	Larson, <i>Rent</i>
Shepard, <i>Buried Child</i>	Iizuka, <i>36 Views</i>

Selections from: Spalding Gray, John Leguizamo, Karen Finley, Holly Hughes, Peggy Shaw, Eric Bogosian

This reading list is representative. The instructor should substitute according his or her own interests. The reading list for the course should reflect both the diversity of the American theatre community & the diversity of American culture as a whole.

### II. Catalogue Copy:

This course focuses on exploring and encountering literature that has shaped theatre in the United States at the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Some recurring issues include the end of the Cold War, the AIDS epidemic, national identity, the counterculture, the Vietnam war, ethnic identity, sexual identity, gender issues, and the demise of the American dream.

### III. Course Requirements:

Midterm, Response Papers, Final Exam.

### IV. Justification for Course, for Course Number, and Prerequisites:

The new historical areas required by the English Major require the development of courses in American Literature since 1950. In an effort to bring the curriculum of the Theatre program in line with these areas, this course would satisfy the A-3 cognate area in the English Major. As a course that requires previous exposure to dramatic literature and/or theatre history, this course should be listed at the 200 level. Additionally, under the proposed new theater curriculum the course (American Drama 1916 to 1968) that precedes this one would be numbered at the 200 level.

*The course will be revised & fine-tuned each time it is offered in response to relevant student evaluations & informal conversations with students & colleagues concerning individual works &/or the course as whole.*

# THTR/ENLT 277: AMERICAN DRAMA 1968 TO 2001

M, W 3 TO 4:15 / CLP 225

Office: CLP 118

Office Hours: MW 1 to 3, and by appointment

Hank Willenbrink

x4353

[willenbrink2@scranton.edu](mailto:willenbrink2@scranton.edu)

*This course will satisfy Area A-3 (American Literature since 1950) requirement for the English major. It will also serve as a dramatic literature elective for the Theatre major. It is also Cultural Diversity Intensive. Prerequisite: English Inquiry or the equivalent (ENLT 120 – 179) or THTR 110. Prior study of dramatic literature is recommended.*

<b>I. Texts</b>	Goldman, <i>The Season</i>	Vogel, <i>How I Learned to Drive</i>
	Van-Itallie, <i>The Serpent</i>	Wilson, <i>Ma Rainey's Black Bottom</i>
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**II. Objectives:** This course is designed so that students can explore and encounter dramatic literature that has shaped theatre in the United States at the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. As such, it follows the major themes in America post 1968: Vietnam, Black Power, Women's Liberation, Marriage & Family, AIDS, Counter-Culture, The American Dream, and the American Diaspora. The readings in this class are arranged in chronological order, showcasing how these themes and ideas evolve with the passing years. Students enrolled in this course will gain an understanding of the landscape of theater in the last half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and hone their critical skills by engaging with these works. This will be accomplished through discussion, research, and essay writing.

**III. Format:** This course will mix formal lectures and discussion.

## **IV. Requirements:**

1. You will be asked to write a short (one and a half page) response paper to each play covered in class. This paper will be due to me prior to the day that we finish discussion of the play. In these papers you must demonstrate a close reading of the work and develop your own thoughts, opinions, and arguments about each play.
2. I expect everyone enrolled in this class to participate in discussions. This includes demonstrating not only being up to date on the reading & demonstrating knowledge of the assigned work, but also showing the ability to expound on what you have written in your response papers.
3. The work for the class will include both a mid-term & a final exam. Your midterm will be on March 16. Your final exam is TBD. Both of these exams will test your knowledge of works discussed and in-class discussions. The exams will be cumulative.
4. You are only allowed to miss three classes per semester. Any additional absence *regardless of reason* will result in a deduction from your final grade. After four absences an A will become an A-, after five an A will become a B, after six an A will become a C, after seven absences you fail.
5. Your final grade will be tabulated as follows: 40% response papers, 30% Final exam, 20% Midterm exam, 10% Participation

## **V. Reading and Discussion Schedule:**

The syllabus will include a schedule that covers all due dates, reading assignments, and exam dates. I will attempt to stick to the schedule as it is laid out on the first day of class; however, it is up to you to stay up-to-date with changes in assignments which are announced in class. Please contact me if you have any questions.