

FW 2022-23

AP/EN 4140 3.0M (W)	Contemporary Drama
Course Director:	Marcia Blumberg Office: I am working from home because of Covid. Phone at home 416-445-1568 e-mail: blumberg@yorku.ca email me to check for telephone contact if necessary at any time.
Time:	Thursday 2.30pm – 5.30pm
Delivery Format:	ONLINE
Description:	<p>Provoking Drama: Contemporary concerns in the international political arena</p> <p>Provocative, sensational, scandalous: these adjectives often describe theatrical art that shocks and confronts the societal status quo while also intensely challenging formal norms. This course engages with playwrights who have in the past 3 decades conceived of drama as politically and aesthetically interventionist in the <i>contemporary</i> theatre of global politics. Specifically, we will investigate the politics/theatre of conflict, war, and torture in plays from Britain, Canada, Chile, Ireland, Poland, Scotland, South Africa, and the USA. The course analyzes cultural and political contexts, specificities of time and place, aspects of race, class, gender, and power differentials, to interrogate theatrical, formal, thematic, and theoretical issues that speak with urgency to the times in which we live. We will compare the shock value of the plays when they premiered and today. We shall ask such questions as: What ideas and conflicts are confronted? What formal, political, and ethical issues are tested?</p>
Category:	B
Historical Requirement:	N/A
Requirements:	Course requirements & grade breakdown. Explanations will appear on Eclass.

	<p>Assignment 1 Theatre review (4 pages) = 15% Due latest Mar 6 by email.</p> <p>Assignment 2 Annotated Bibliography = 10% Choose 1 text from the semester. Due on morning of class by email. You can use this for resources for your essay.</p> <p>Assignment 3 Comparative research essay (10 pages) =35%. Due April 8, 2023.</p> <p>Response papers. 3 out of 11 texts (3 pages each). Due on the Wednesday night by 8pm before the class the next day. (total 30%). For this assignment there is no extension or make up possible. Any text chosen for a response cannot be used for the essay. Please note: Ding Dong the Wicked and New World Order are not usable for this assignment or your essay</p> <p>Engaged Class participation. = 10%</p> <p>Drop Deadline March 17.</p>
<p>Reading List:</p>	<p>Gregory Burke, <i>Black Watch</i>(Faber); Caryl Churchill, <i>Far Away</i>(CK), <i>Ding Dong The Wicked</i> (online); Ariel Dorfman, <i>Death and the Maiden</i> (Penguin USA); Yael Farber, <i>Mies Julie</i> (Oberon Modern Drama, London); Janus Glowacki, <i>Antigone in New York</i> (Samuel French); David Hare, <i>Stuff Happens</i>(Faber); Martin McDonagh, <i>The Pillowman</i> (DPS); Harold Pinter, <i>Mountain Language</i> (DPS), <i>New World Order</i> (CK); Wallace Shawn, <i>Aunt Dan and Lemon</i>(DPS); Jane Taylor, <i>Ubu and the Truth Commission</i>(CK); Judith Thompson, <i>Palace of the End</i>(Playwrights Canada Press); The course kit contains a few plays as well as readings. Scott Reserves have copies of old Course Kits and texts that are not available online.</p> <p><i>CK=Course Kit; DPS=Dramatists Play Service</i></p>
<p>Open To:</p>	<p>Year 3 & 4</p>