

FW 2023-24

AP/EN 4140 3.0 (F)	Contemporary Drama
Course Director:	Sheetala Bhat
Time:	Monday, 11.30-2.30pm
Delivery Format:	SEMINAR
Description:	<p>This course will focus on the figure of the “Drama Queen” in contemporary drama. Students will study representations of womxn characters in 21st century drama and dramatic adaptations. We will particularly investigate the pejorative use of drama in common parlance as “exaggeration” and “drama queen” as a womxn who likes attention or conflict, to unpack the relationship between theatricality, performance, and gender. The “drama queens” in the plays that we will read not only take centerstage as characters, but also offer provocative challenges to political, ethical, and aesthetic norms. Students will learn how the plays’ imaginations of womxn characters are entangled with historical discourses around race, sexuality, gender, nationality, and indigeneity in the 21st century. We will study plays from the U.S., the U.K., Canada, and India.</p> <p>** For this course students will be expected to attend a show of Nikki Shaffeeullah’s <i>A Poem for Rabia</i> at Tarragon Theatre in Toronto on 24 October 2023 (Tuesday). The show starts at 7:30pm and is approximately 2 hours long. Tickets for the show as well as a round-trip TTC ticket will be covered for those enrolled.</p>
Category:	Category B
Historical Requirement:	N/A
Requirements:	<p>Theatre review 1 (15%) Annotated bibliography (10%) Research essay (30%) Class presentation (15%) Participation (15%) Creating a “drama queen” (creative assignment) (15%)</p>
Reading List:	<p>Trey Anthony, <i>Da Kink in My Hair</i> Lisa Kron, <i>Fun Home</i> Sharanya Ramprakash, <i>Akshayambara</i> Alice Birch, <i>Anatomy of a Suicide</i> Rabindranath Tagore, <i>Chitra</i> (2017 adaptation) Aleshea Harris, <i>Is God Is</i> Kim Senklip Harvey, <i>Kamloopa</i></p>

	Young Jean Lee, <i>Straight White Men / Untitled Feminist Show</i> Sharifa Yasmin, <i>The Devils Between Us</i> Nikki Shaffeeullah, <i>A Poem for Rabia</i>
Open To:	Years 3 and 4