Credit Hours: 3

Catalog Course Description: Critical tools for perceptive reading of play texts. Writing emphasis course.

How Program Site will be incorporated into the course: Ireland has a strong drama tradition that is linked to its legends and history and that also incorporates the heritage of Western drama. Irish playwrights, such as Nobel Prize winners George Bernard Shaw, William Butler Yeats, and Samuel Beckett, have influenced world drama. Introduction to Drama begins with the origins of drama in ancient Greece, includes Shakespeare, and ends with Realism and the Irish theatre. While tracing the history of drama in general, the course will have a particular focus on Ireland beginning with the Irish National Theatre movement of the late 19th century, whose purpose was to preserve and popularize Ireland’s culture, and which resulted in the flowering of Irish drama in the works of Oscar Wilde, J. M. Synge, Brian Friel, Marina Carr and others. Our excursions in Ireland will enable us to explore the history (Iron Age structures, Celts, Vikings, St. Patrick, resistance to British control, the famine, struggle for independence) and culture (Irish countryside and locales, legends and folk tales, illuminated manuscripts, Gaelic language, Irish music and dance) that inspired the plays.

Suggested excursions: Dublin—theatre performance (schedule permitting), backstage tour of Abbey Theatre, Trinity College and library (Book of Kells), Dublin Castle, St. Patrick’s Cathedral, National Gallery, Dublin Writers Museum, Merrion Square and Georgian House; Thurles—Nenagh Heritage Center, Holy Cross Abbey, Ballynahow Castle, Farney Castle, Rock of Cashel; Galway—Galway Cathedral, Aran Islands visit.

Prerequisites: ENGL 1020


I. Week/Unit/Topic Basis:

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<th>WEEK / UNIT #</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Introduction to Drama – Tragedy and Comedy in Ancient Greece, Oedipus, Medea, Lysistrata, Aristotle; Rebirth of Drama in the Middle Ages – Second Shepherds’ Play, Everyman</td>
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<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Renaissance – Shakespeare, Hamlet; Neoclassical Drama – Tartuffe; 19th Century Realism - Ibsen</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Irish Drama - Irish National Theatre, Shaw, Wilde, Yeats, Lady Gregory, Synge, O’Casey, Beckett, Friel, Carr</td>
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II. Course Goals:
The course will:

A. Guide students to an understanding of the major themes and concerns of playwrights from the ancient Greek period to the twenty-first century.

B. Develop students’ understanding of drama as a form of creative expression responding to both cultural and universal concerns.

C. Expand student knowledge of the literary techniques of drama and the critical approaches that clarify its nature and meaning.

D. Foster the ability to write effective and thoughtful responses to the literature, demonstrating understanding, critical analysis, and appreciation of the works studied.

III. Expected Student Learning Outcomes*
Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:

A. Recognize drama as a unique genre; identify and explain its major themes and traditions. A, B, C

B. Employ various critical approaches to understanding drama. C

C. Identify dramatic terms and techniques. C

D. Analyze a play according to structure, visual impact, and dialogue. C

E. Identify and discuss sociological and psychological factors in plays. A, B, C

F. Identify and discuss mythology in dramatic works of the period. A, B, C

G. Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between life and literature by relating biographical information about the authors to their works. A, B

H. Trace the development of drama from the ancient Greeks to the present. A, B, C

I. Evaluate the historical and political context of a play. A, B

J. Write responses and analytical papers in response to dramatic works. D

K. Write insightful, appropriately developed, mechanically correct answers to essay test questions concerning the works studied. D

*Letters after performance expectations reference the course goals listed above.

IV. Evaluation:

A. Testing Procedures: Sixty percent of the final grade will be based on tests.

B. Laboratory Expectations: NA

C. Research Paper: NA

D. Other Evaluation Methods: The remaining 40% of the grade will be based on projects such as papers and journals (such as a daily journal, reading quizzes or responses, museum or site reports, character analysis, play report, analytical essay) and performance related assignments (such as memorizing a speech, presenting a scene). Students are also expected to participate in class discussions of assigned readings.
E. Grading Scale: Please note that some TnCIS member institutions do not accept + and - grades, therefore all TnCIS grading scales must consist of only A, B, C, D, F letter grades.

A = 90 - 100
B = 80 - 89
C = 70 - 79
D = 65 – 69
F = Below 65

V. Policies:

A. Attendance Policy:

Attendance is of utmost importance in study abroad courses. There are no unexcused absences permitted. Unexcused absences are grounds for removal from the program. Being in class on time is also very important. Frequent tardiness will be considered an absence and appropriate action will be taken. Absences due to illness must be reported immediately to the program director.

B. Academic Dishonesty:

Academic misconduct committed either directly or indirectly by an individual or group is subject to disciplinary action. Prohibited activities include but are not limited to the following practices:

- Cheating, including but not limited to unauthorized assistance from material, people, or devices when taking a test, quiz, or examination; writing papers or reports; solving problems; or completing academic assignments.
- Plagiarism, including but not limited to paraphrasing, summarizing, or directly quoting published or unpublished work of another person, including online or computerized services, without proper documentation of the original source.
- Purchasing or otherwise obtaining prewritten essays, research papers, or materials prepared by another person or agency that sells term papers or other academic materials to be presented as one’s own work.
- Taking an exam for another student.
- Providing others with information and/or answers regarding exams, quizzes, homework or other assignments unless explicitly authorized by the instructor.

In addition to other possible disciplinary sanctions that may be imposed as a result of academic misconduct, the instructor has the authority to assign either (1) an F or zero for the assignment or (2) an F for the course.

VI. Instructional Hours:

Instructional time spent in a formal classroom setting and during excursions will total a minimum of 37.5 hours for this course.