
THEATER IN PARIS in Spring 2019 (CL2075)

Course Code	CL2075	Professor(s)	Adrian Harding
Prerequisites	None	Office Number	G108
Class Schedule	TF: 15:20-16:40 in SD-4	Office Hours	Tuesday & Friday 11h30-12h00
Credits	4	Email	aharding@aup.edu
Semester	Spring 2019	Office Tel. Ext.	675

Course Description

This course essentially happens in the theatres of Paris, exploring the city's fabulous resources to study the long and coherent history of Western theatre, of which contemporary practitioners are strongly aware even as they subvert and innovate. It involves theatre visits and exchanges with practitioners and scholars of theatre from other institutions. Typically we have the opportunity to see different ways of integrating music, dance and "physical theatre," innovative explorations of classic dramatic texts from European and non-European traditions, radical reinterpretations of psychic and cultural history, old masters of the avant-garde and usually one of the brightest troupes of a younger experimental school. We have theatre that directly questions today's ethical and political dilemmas, collective theatre and director-driven theatre, machine theatre and theatre based around great individual actors. Text as support for performance is subjected to different degrees of stress and we usually get to examine closely the collaboration between author and director.

In the classroom we move through different areas of thought about what we are seeing, including the anthropology and sociology of performance, comparative cultural analyses in the history of theatre, as well as formal analysis of the aesthetics and semiotics of performance, theatre and drama. Our readings cover major theorists and practitioners of theatre and performance from the eighteenth till the twenty-first centuries. Our work on the body and meaning in performance, on expression and gesture, on the kinesics of body motion communication, will lead to a reflection on the relation of theatre and cinema that is likely to run through the semester.

The course is taught in French, though not exclusively. Theatre performances are often in English. Papers may be written in French or English.

Course Learning Outcomes

To learn to analyze a variety of types of performance, theatre, drama.
To learn to relate writing and physical performance
To learn to recognise historical and cultural contexts of performance
To learn to do research in a multi-artistic contemporary context

General Education

The general education program at AUP consists of four requirements: Speaking the World, Modeling the World, Mapping the World, and Comparing Worlds Past and Present.

This course can be used to fulfill the Mapping the World requirement and as such has the following learning outcomes:

1. To learn to analyze a variety of types of performance, theatre, drama
2. To learn to relate writing and physical performance
3. To learn to recognise historical and cultural contexts of performance
4. To learn to do research in a multi-artistic contemporary context

Course Outline

The schedule will be revisited as the class progresses

Textbooks

Title	Author	Publisher	ISBN	Required
Theory of the Modern Stage	Eric Bentley (ed.)	Penguin	9780141189185	Yes
The Empty Space	Peter Brook	Penguin	9780141189222	Yes
Performance Theory	Richard Schlechter	Routledge	9780415314558	Yes

In Contact with the Gods?	Maria Delgado & Paul Heritage (eds)	Manchester University Press	9780719047633	Yes
Paradox of the Actor	Denis Diderot	CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform	9781514652350	Yes
The Actor and the Target	Donnellan, Declan	Nick Hern Books	9781854598387	Yes

Attendance Policy

Students studying at The American University of Paris are expected to attend ALL scheduled classes, and in case of absence, should contact their professors to explain the situation. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of any specific attendance policy that a faculty member might have set in the course syllabus. The French Department, for example, has its own attendance policy, and students are responsible for compliance. Academic Affairs will excuse an absence for students' participation in study trips related to their courses.

Attendance at all exams is mandatory.

IN ALL CASES OF MISSED COURSE MEETINGS, THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMUNICATION WITH THE PROFESSOR, AND FOR ARRANGING TO MAKE UP MISSED WORK, RESTS SOLELY WITH THE STUDENT.

Whether an absence is excused or not is ALWAYS up to the discretion of the professor or the department. Unexcused absences can result in a low or failing participation grade. In the case of excessive absences, it is up to the professor or the department to decide if the student will receive an "F" for the course. An instructor may recommend that a student withdraw, if absences have made it impossible to continue in the course at a satisfactory level.

Students must be mindful of this policy when making their travel arrangements, and especially during the Drop/Add and Exam Periods.

Grading Policy

There will be four graded assignments:

Mid-term Exam:1 grade

Class presentation (alone or with another student):1 grade

Research Paper of between 3000 and 3500 words:2 grades

Final Exam:2 grades

Class attendance and participation.....1 grade

Other
