

This syllabus has been provided as a reference tool for students considering this course. It has been modified to follow Senate regulations. Current students enrolled in any undergraduate course must obtain the most recent syllabus from their course instructor or from their course website. This is not the latest version.



Department of English & Writing Studies

Special Topics in Drama English 2041F (001)

Fall 2013 Production: Henrik Ibsen's *The Wild Duck*

Instructor/Director: Dr. Jo Devereux

TA/Stage Manager: Sally Colwell

Antirequisite(s): English 2041F/G if taken prior to September 2014.

Course Description

In this course, students participating in a major Western theatre production explore in theory and practice approaches to text in performance. Only students working as an actor, or in such major production roles as stage manager, assistant stage manager, lighting, set or costume designer may enroll. Permission of the Chair of Undergraduate Studies is required to enroll.

First Read through: **Friday, September 6th, starting at 7pm, in UC 204.** (Note: this is in the week before classes begin!)

Performances: Conron Hall, Nov. 59. All shows start at 8 pm. The call for cast and crew for the run is 6pm. See complete rehearsal schedule below.

Course Materials

1. Ibsen, Henrik. *An Enemy of the People, The Wild Duck, Rosmersholm*. Trans. and Intro. James McFarlane. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1960; 2009.
2. Ibsen, Henrik. *The Wild Duck* (performance script)

Methods of Evaluation

First Essay (500-750 words)	10%
Second Essay (750-1000 words)	10%
Third Essay (1000-1500 words)	40%
Performance Evaluation	40%

A student must receive a passing grade for both term work and the final examination in order to receive a passing grade for the course. This applies to all courses in all programs offered by the department. Students whose term and final exam grades average 50% or above, even though one of the two is a failure, shall receive a default grade of 48%. **Please note:** The department of English & Writing Studies does not release final grades. All undergraduate grade reports will be available online from the Office of the Registrar.

Students are fully responsible for looking at and being familiar with the information posted on the department website at <http://www.uwo.ca/english/undergraduate/info%20for%20students.html#grade>.

Timetable:

**Please note that there are no scheduled classes, only rehearsals.*

THE WILD DUCK REHEARSAL SCHEDULE Fall 2013

Please note that on the following dates, UC 204 has been booked by other groups, so we might have to find another room, but be sure to meet there first, in case it's empty after all and to find out which room to go to if it is full: Sept 17th, Oct 8th, and Oct 22nd.

Thurs. Sept 5-Read through, 7pm in UC 204

Tues. Sept 10-Block Act 1, 7pm in UC 204

Thurs. Sept 12-Discuss characters/relationships in Act 1, 7pm in UC 204

Sun. Sept 15-Work Act 1, 1pm in UC 204

Tues. Sept 17-Block Act 2, 7pm in UC 204

Thurs. Sept 19-Block Act 3, 7pm in UC 204

Sun. Sept 22-Block Act 4, 1pm in UC 204

Tues. Sept 24-Block Act 5, 7pm in UC 204

Thurs. Sept 26-Work Act 2, 7pm in UC 204

Sun. Sept 29-Work Act 3, 1pm in UC 204

Tues. Oct 1-Work Act 4, 7pm in UC 204

Thurs. Oct 3-Work Act 5, 7pm in UC 204

Sun. Oct 6-Work needed scenes TBA, 1pm in UC 204

Tues. Oct 8-Work needed scenes (TBA), 7pm in UC 204

Thurs. Oct 10-Work needed scenes (TBA), 7pm in UC 204

Sun. Oct 14-THANKSGIVING-no rehearsal

Tues. Oct 15-Work needed scenes (TBA), 7pm in UC 204

Thurs. Oct 17-Music only, 7pm in UC 204

Sun. Oct 20-Work needed scenes TBA, 1pm in UC 204

Tues. Oct 22-Work needed scenes TBA, 7pm in UC 204 ("D

Thurs. Oct 24-Run whole show, 7pm in UC 204

Fri. Oct 25-Work needed scenes TBA, 7pm in UC 204

Sat. Oct 26-Run whole show, 1pm in UC 204

Sun. Oct 27-Work needed scenes TBA, 1pm in UC 204

Tues. Oct 29-Run whole show, 7pm in UC 204

Thurs. Oct 31 (Halloween! and Fall Study Break)

Fri. Nov 1-Run whole show, 7pm in UC 204

Sat. Nov Z-Work needed scenes TBA, 1 pm in UC 204

Sun. Nov 3-Tech, 1pm in UC 204

Mon. Nov 4-Final Dress

Tues. Nov 5- OPENING NIGHT, 6pm in Conron

Wed. Nov 6- SECOND NIGHT, 6pm in Conron

Thurs. Nov 7- THIRD NIGHT, 6pm in Conron

Fri. Nov 8- FOURTH NIGHT, 6pm in Conron

Sat. Nov 9- CLOSING NIGHT, 6pm in Conron

Assignments:

Essay Due Dates, Late Policy, Extensions

1. All overdue essays will receive a penalty of 1% per day late.
2. Essays must be dropped in the English Department Essay Drop-Off Box, next to UC 173.
3. Do NOT slide essays under office doors.
4. No essay will be accepted 14 days after the due date.
5. Essays must be typed, double-spaced, and stapled in the upper left hand corner. No binders or protective covers of any kind are necessary. Essays must follow current MLA format and must include a list of Works Cited at the end (see MLA Handbook for details).
6. IT IS ADVISABLE TO RETAIN AT LEAST ONE HARD COPY OF THE ESSAY IN THE EVENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE TO THE ORIGINAL.

Essay Topics:

Essay 1: Scene Analysis (500-750 words) 10% Due Thursday, 17 October 2013

Choose ONE scene from the play, and in a 500-750 word essay analyze the scene in terms of such elements as theme, literary devices, and patterns of imagery, character development, staging techniques, and relationship to the play as a whole.

Essay 2: Narrative Essay (750-1000 words) 10% Due Friday, 22 November 2013

Write an essay of 750-1000 words explaining your role in the production and discussing the ways in which this experience has affected your understanding of the play. Hint: Please note that the final essay is due only two weeks later, because of the requirement to submit grades on time to the department. Therefore, it would be advisable to work on both Essay 2 and 3 at the same time.

Essay 3: Major Research Essay (1000-1500 words) 40% Due Wed, 4 December 2013

Choose ONE of the following topics, and write a 1000-1500 word research essay on that topic. For your research, you must incorporate at least TWO primary sources (including the play itself) and at least TWO secondary sources.

1. Analyse one of the characters in terms of his or her relation to the other characters and to the work as a whole.
2. Discuss the gender politics and/or the social satire of this play.
3. Discuss the use of one or more specific props in this play.
4. Examine naturalism versus symbolism in this play.

Performance Evaluation and Expectations

40% (subdivided below)

Attendance and Punctuality (5%)

You must attend all rehearsals, meetings, and performances to which you are called. All members of cast and crew must be on time for each call you are given.

Preparation (10%)

Cast members must research and prepare their roles from the first read-through to final performance. Actors must take careful blocking notes and must observe the off-book deadline punctually. Technical and production staff should also research their work thoroughly and produce set designs and set pieces, properties, costumes, and other necessities in a timely fashion.

Focus (5%)

Attentiveness and effort during rehearsals and performance will be assessed.

Innovation (5%)

Contribution of ideas and initiatives will be noted, in the rehearsal process and through the run.

General Progress and Improvement (5%)

Your attention to the director's and the stage manager's notes and your effort at improving performance or production work will be assessed.

Overall Professionalism (10%)

Respect towards the entire company, UWO staff, and the physical theatre, properties, and equipment will be noted. Commitment to the production, willingness to assist with production matters, and overall work ethic will be assessed, along with flexibility and problem-solving abilities. Clear communication of concerns and ideas will count.

Duties of Production Roles

1. *Stage Manager*: Attend all auditions, interviews, and rehearsals, as well as each performance. Write blocking notes, props notes, and technical cues into prompt script. Supervise two ASMs (see below). Give the calls to all cast members and needed production staff for rehearsals and run of show. Call the cues during the run of the show. Take charge of dressing rooms, green room, and stage during rehearsals and run. Head up technical crew during rehearsals and run.
2. *Assistant Stage Managers (ASMs-two)*: Work with Stage Manager on keeping blocking and technical notes, and on calling cast members for rehearsals and run. Head up the running crew for the run of the show. Assist with properties, costumes, costume changes, and other cues.
3. *Costume Designer*: In consultation with the director, design and build, rent and/or borrow costumes for the run. Measure all cast members, and draw up costume plot. Provide rehearsal skirts for female cast members in early rehearsal period. Organize and supervise two costume assistants. Take charge of costumes during run. Ensure return of borrowed and rented costumes after closing night. Submit all receipts to Producer.
4. *Costume Assistants (two)*: Assist Costume Designer during design process, measuring, and rehearsals. Assist in building, sewing, and altering costumes. Help in any costume rental or borrowing. Assist with costumes during run- changes, repairs, laundry, etc. Help return costumes at end of run.
5. *Properties Designer*: In consultation with director, costume, and set designers, design and build, purchase, rent, or borrow props before production week. Locate and borrow needed furniture for run. Organise and supervise running, maintenance, storage, repair, and replacement of props during tech and dress rehearsals, as well as during run. Return props at end of run. Submit all receipts to Producer.
6. *Composer/Music Director*: Compose incidental, pre-show, intermission, and after-show music. Burn CD or arrange musicians to play during run.

7. *Production Photographer/ Videographer/ Web Designer*: Photograph cast and crew for programme and publicity stills to display on campus and elsewhere. Film rehearsal and/or show for record. Design and maintain production web site (linked to English department site).
8. *Publicity Manager and Programme Designer*: In consultation with director and producer, organize all publicity: flyers, teasers, posters, print and online advertising and media releases. Liaise with FIMS and with the USC and the Gazette and Western News, as well as London media, in order to set up television, newspaper, and online interviews and other coverage. With producer, organize pre-show ticket sales to large classes in English department and possibly other departments.
9. *Box Office Manager*: With Publicity Manager, organize and run selling of tickets pre-show to UWO classes, as well as at box office locations. Help manage box office during run. Look after box office receipts.

Accommodation

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the Office of the Dean of the student's Faculty of registration, together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested. The UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and further information regarding this policy can be found at http://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf.

Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC):

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf

Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence.

Plagiarism Checking:

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com <http://www.turnitin.com>.

Support Services

Registrarial Services <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>

Student Support Services <https://student.uwo.ca/psp/heprdweb/?cmd=login>

Services provided by the USC <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

Student Development Centre <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to MentalHealth@Western:
<http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.