



CHRISTIAN HERITAGE COLLEGE

DM130

THE HISTORY OF DRAMA

This sample unit outline is provided by CHC for prospective and current students to assist with unit selection.

Elements of this outline which may change with subsequent offerings of the unit include Content, Required Texts, Recommended Readings and details of the Assessment Tasks.

Students who are currently enrolled in this unit should obtain the outline for the relevant semester from the unit lecturer.

Unit code	DM130
Unit name	The History of Drama
Associated higher education awards	Bachelor of Education (Primary) Bachelor of Education (Secondary) Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Education (Secondary)
Duration	One semester
Level	Introductory
Core/elective	Elective
Weighting	Unit credit points: 10 Course credit points: Bachelor of Education (Primary) 320 Bachelor of Education (Secondary) 320 Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Education (Secondary) 320
Delivery mode	Face-to-face on-site
Student workload	<i>Face-to-face on site</i> Contact hours 30 hours Reading, study and assignment preparation 120 hours TOTAL 150 hours Students requiring additional English language support are expected to undertake an additional one hour per week.
Prerequisites/ co-requisites/ restrictions	Nil
Rationale	<p>As civilisations in Western Europe developed over time, drama therefore took on different forms. This unit explores the nature and conventions of drama from its Greek origins to present-day drama in the late twentieth- and early twenty-first centuries in Western Europe.</p> <p>This unit provides a general overview of the historical periods of Classical Greece and Classical Rome, the Medieval and Renaissance Periods, Elizabethan and Jacobean drama of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, the comedy and tragedy of the eighteenth century, and the Modern (or 'Modernist') theatre of realism, interrogation of social dynamics, satirical drama, 'Theatre of the Absurd', and post-modern themes and styles. Christian drama throughout the centuries will be examined either as an integral part of the culture of the theatre and/or as an aberration or a resistant element to it.</p> <p>While the content is heavily focussed on the historical development of theatre, this unit will practically explore conventions and play excerpts from different historical periods in order to understand how culture shaped different theatre styles. This unit will also challenge students to explore how a Christian worldview is/is not reflected throughout the different periods of drama.</p>
Prescribed text(s)	Hartnoll, P. & Brater, E. (2012). <i>The Theatre: A Concise History (The World of Art)</i> . (4th ed.). London, UK: Thames and Hudson. Selected readings will be available via the Moodle™ site for this unit.

Recommended readings	<p>Books</p> <p>Beadle, R. & Fletcher, A.J. (2008). <i>The Cambridge companion to medieval English theatre</i>. (2nd ed.). Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.</p> <p>Brockett, O.G. & Hidly, F.J. (2008). <i>History of the Theatre</i>. (10th ed.). Boston, MA: Pearson.</p> <p>Grainger, R. (2008). <i>Theatre and relationships in Shakespeare's later plays</i>. New York, NY: Peter Lang.</p> <p>Johnson, T. E. & Savidge, D. (2009). <i>Performing the sacred: theology and theatre in dialogue (engaging culture)</i>. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.</p> <p>Kennedy, D. (2010). <i>The Oxford companion to theatre and performance</i>. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Patterson, J. A & Donahue, T. (2013). <i>A concise history of the theatre</i>. United States: Pearson.</p> <p>Wilson, E. & Goldfarb, A. (2008). <i>Living theatre: history of the theatre</i>. (5th ed.). Boston, MA: McGraw-Hill.</p> <p>In addition to the resources above, students should have access to a Bible, preferably a modern translation such as The Holy Bible: The New International Version 2011 (NIV) or The Holy Bible: New King James Version (NKJV).</p> <p>These and other translations may be accessed free on-line at http://www.biblegateway.com. The Bible app from LifeChurch.tv is also available free for smart phones and tablet devices.</p>
Specialist resource requirements	<p>Nil</p>
Content	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. General overview of the history of drama – its nature and conventions over time (From Greek to seventeenth and eighteenth century drama) 2. Classical Greek (Athenian) and classical Roman drama 3. Medieval drama (including drama and the church) 4. Commedia Dell'arte 5. Elizabethan and Jacobean drama – The age of Shakespeare 6. Seventeenth and eighteenth century drama 7. Nineteenth and twentieth century drama: Realism, postmodern drama realism, Brecht and epic theatre 8. Theatre of the absurd 9. Christian perspectives/approaches to drama through the ages
Learning outcomes	<p>On completion of this unit, students will have provided evidence that they have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Developed knowledge and understanding of the nature and conventions of the dramatic form from its Greek origins to those of the present day; 2. Developed knowledge and understanding of the cultures and the histories of each of the historical periods covered by the unit; 3. Analysed and reflected on the influence of both culture and history on drama; 4. Critiqued and explored different periods of drama from a Christian worldview; and 5. Communicated at an appropriate tertiary standard: with special attention to design elements, grammars, usage, logical relations, style, referencing and presentation.
Assessment tasks	<p>Task 1: Comparative Essay</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: 1500 words</p> <p>Weighting: 50%</p> <p>Learning Outcomes: 1-5</p> <p>Assessed: Week 7</p>

	Task 2: Analysis of a Scene Word Length/Duration: 1500 words Weighting: 50% Learning Outcomes: 1-5 Assessed: Week 16
Unit summary	This unit takes students through the historical periods of Western civilisation from classical Greece and Rome to the present day; and examines how the nature and conventions of the dramatic form have been depicted by dramatists throughout the ages.

SAMPLE