



CHRISTIAN HERITAGE COLLEGE

DM290

AUSTRALIAN 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	DM290
Unit name	Australian Drama
Associated higher education awards	Bachelor of Education (Primary) Bachelor of Education (Secondary) Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Education (Secondary)
Duration	One semester
Level	Intermediate
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	<i>Prerequisite:</i> 20 credit points of 100-level Drama/Arts units
Rationale	Drama has historically been an important part of the cultural and literary traditions of Australia. From the thriving popular theatre of the nineteenth century to the more experimental forms of the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries, Australian plays have brought to life the lifestyles, values, myths and social concerns at the heart of Australian culture. Students will engage with Australian drama by examining a representative selection of Australian plays and playwrights. The historical development of Australian drama will be studied within the wider context of international trends in literature, philosophy (including religion), and the arts; on the other hand, it will also be necessary to analyse the extent to which the characteristics and themes of Australian drama are the product of specifically Australian cultural and social developments. Students will have the opportunity to critique these aspects of Australian culture as they examine Australian drama in the light of a Christian worldview. Particular interest will be shown in the ways in which Australian dramatists have sought to illustrate and/or critique the pervading myths of Australian society.
Prescribed text(s)	Radic, L. (2007). <i>Contemporary Australian drama</i> . Blackheath, NSW: Brandl & Schlesinger. Selected readings will be available via the Moodle™ site for the unit.

<p>Recommended readings</p>	<p>Books</p> <p>Fotheringham, R. & Smith, J. (Eds.). (2013). <i>Catching Australian theatre in the 2000s</i>. New York, NY: Rodopi.</p> <p>Hamilton, M. (2011). <i>Transfigured stages: major practitioners and theatre aesthetics in Australia</i>. New York, NY: Rodopi.</p> <p>Leahy, K. (2009). <i>Lords and larrikins - the actor's role in the making of Australia</i>. Redfern, NSW: Currency Press.</p> <p>McCallum, J. (2009). <i>Belonging: Australian playwriting in the 20th century</i>. Sydney, NSW: Currency.</p> <p>SBS. (2013). <i>Raising the curtain: a celebration of Australian theatre</i>. (DVD).</p> <p>Tompkins, J. (2007). <i>Unsettling space: contestations in contemporary Australian Theatre</i>. Basingstoke, NY: Palgrave Macmillan.</p> <p>Wolf, G. (2008). <i>Make it Australian (The APG, the Pram Factory and New Wave Theatre)</i>. Redfern, NSW: Currency Press.</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>
<p>Specialist resource requirements</p>	<p>Nil</p>
<p>Content</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Colonial theatre: Imported culture 2. Vaudeville and melodrama 3. The cultural cringe 4. Alternative theatre and experimental theatre 5. Multicultural and black theatre 6. Critical evaluation of an Australian theatrical production 7. Women in theatre 8. Youth theatre 9. Directing: Taking charge
<p>Learning outcomes</p>	<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 distinguishing features of Australian drama; 2. compared and contrasted the development of Australian drama to international trends in literature, philosophy (including Christianity) and the arts; 3. critically reflected on the historical and contemporary place of Australian drama in society; 4. critically assessed the dramatic representation of Australian values, myths, and mores in individual Australian plays including a Christian worldview perspective; 5. analysed and evaluated a range of philosophies and techniques of dramatic performance evident in Australian drama; 6. applied knowledge and understanding of planning and production for dramatic presentations; and 7. 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: Critical Evaluation</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: 2000 words</p> <p>Weighting: 40%</p> <p>Learning Outcomes: 1-5, 7</p> <p>Assessed: Week 6</p> <p>Task 2: Performance and Critical Review</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: 15 minutes; 1000 words</p> <p>Weighting: 40%</p> <p>Learning Outcomes: 1, 4, 6, 7</p> <p>Assessed: Week 9</p> <p>Task 3: Improvisation and Critical Review</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: 5 minutes; 800 words</p> <p>Weighting: 20%</p> <p>Learning Outcomes: 1, 4, 6, 7</p> <p>Assessed: Week 16</p>
Unit summary	<p>Students will examine Australian drama as part of the international literary, philosophical, and artistic worlds, and as a uniquely national dramatic phenomenon with its own myths and identity. They assess the historical development and thematic content of Australian drama through oral and written discussion of an Australian performance, and through the acting-out of their own performances.</p>

SAMPLE