

ENGL 325 American Drama

Instructor Information:

Instructor: Dr. Faiza Zaheer

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Course Information:

Course No.: ENGL 325

Course Title: American Drama

Credit Hrs : 3

Course Duration: 14 weeks semester system

Prerequisites: None

Course Requirement: In order to appreciate American Drama, the students are required to have the following:

- (i) The students should have a fairly good level of proficiency in oral as well as written English.
- (ii) The students must be willing to work hard and read the relevant text before attending the class.
- (iii) The students must be familiar with the fundamentals of literary appreciation.
- (iv) The students must be adept in the usage of basic analysis skills.

Text : The prescribed course pack.
Literary texts selected from the works of the representative dramatists belonging to different Ages, reflecting diversity in style, form & thought in American Drama.

Course Description: The course helps the students sharpen and develop the analytical skills. The texts included in this course are more advanced and require greater perception and interest on the part of the student. The course is designed for the students who want to develop a higher degree of understanding in Literature, especially in American Drama.

Course Objectives: This course aims:

- To emphasize close reading of American Drama with due attention to the questions of form and techniques.
- To trace not only the emotional origin of a text, but also its socio-cultural context.
- To evoke the many hidden areas of the personality of the students into a

coordinated creative activity.

- To encourage richness and creativity in the minds of the students.
- Learn the essential characteristics of American Drama.
- Gain understanding of the different concepts and approaches in American Drama.
- Develop ability of critical practices in reading and writing with special emphasis on appreciating content and style of a Drama.
- Polish the ability to analyze different types of text in terms of their literary importance.

Learning Outcomes: At the end of the course, the students should be able to:

- Have an appreciable knowledge of the shaping influences of the different literary eras in the history of American Drama.
- Get familiar with the representative works and philosophical concerns of the major dramatists.
- Have ample knowledge of the mechanics of writing Drama.
- Explore the critical possibilities of the use and meaning of the words.
- Be more specific while analyzing a text.
- Write critical or literary appraisal of any given literary text.

Course Content:

American Drama

1. *A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams (1947)
2. *Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller (1953)
3. *Long Day's Journey into Night* by Eugene O'Neill (1956)
4. *Three Tall Women* by Edward Albee (1990)
5. *Buried Child* by Sam Shepard (1978)
6. *Metamorphoses* by Mary Zimmerman (1998)

African American Drama

1. *A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry (1959)
2. *Great Goodness of Life* by Amiri Baraka (1966)
3. *Fences* by August Wilson (1985)
4. *Top Dog Under Dog* by Suzan Lori-Park (2001)

Course Evaluation:

Grading will be based on a combination of mid-term and final Examinations, assignments, quizzes, attendance, and class participation. The breakup is as follows:

Evaluations	Percentage
Class participation	20%
Attendance	10%
Three assignments	15%
Mid-term Examination	20 %
Final Examination	35%
Total	100%

The Grading system for the course is as follows:

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Quality pts</u>	<u>Numerical Value</u>	<u>Meaning</u>
A	4.00	93 –100	SUPERIOR
A-	3.70	90—92	
B+	3.30	87— 89	
B	3.00	83—86	GOOD
B-	2.70	80—82	
C+	2.30	77—79	
C	2.00	73—76	SATISFACTORY
C-	1.70	70—72	
D+	1.30	67—69	
D	1.00	60—66	PASSING
F	0.00	59 or below	FAILING

Attendance Policy:

80% of the attendance is mandatory for eligibility to sit in the final exam. In case of uninformed absence from the class for four consecutive days a student shall have to submit a written application along with a medical certificate, if applicable. Also, the students are expected to be regular and in time for their class.

Missed Exam Policy: The students should not miss the mid-term or final-term Exams on dates due as no re exam would be arranged for them. A chance, however, may be given to the students who have genuine reasons along with the proof. In such a case, the students must come up with a formal application supplemented by the required certificates. The

decision will be made in accordance with the student's attendance and conduct in the classroom.

Guidelines on Paper Assignments:

- Assignments must be neatly typed, double-spaced in font 12, on A4 sized paper.
- Title page of the assignment should carry name, roll number, class, section and date of submission of the assignment.
- Assignment should be submitted strictly in terms of the specified dates. No relaxation in this respect will be viewed.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is unacceptable. Any papers submitted in this class that contain examples of plagiarism will not be given credit.

Guidelines on Class Participation: The students are advised to:

- Be regular in the class.
- Be active and attentive in the class.
- Write class notes, revise, and edit them at home.
- Respond in written as well as oral form.
- Ask questions in the class.
- Be ready to seek extra help.
- Avoid plagiarism and cramming.
- Be original.