

Course Outline (Higher Education)

School:	School of Arts
Course Title:	READING DRAMA
Course ID:	BALIT2003
Credit Points:	15.00
Prerequisite(s):	(BATCC1001 or BATCC1002 or LITCI1000 or LITCI1001)
Co-requisite(s):	Nil
Exclusion(s):	(BALIT3003)
ASCED:	091523

Description of the Course :

This course examines selected plays central to the development of drama in the Western tradition, with a critical emphasis on a historical, cultural and performative analysis of these works. As such, it concentrates on the most significant and innovative forms of dramatic literature across history, ranging from Ancient Greek Drama, to Renaissance drama, and developments in dramatic practice and theory in the 20th and 21st centuries. The course develops a coherent narrative of the ways in which drama has developed in the Western tradition and discusses how literary and social movements influenced innovative dramatic practice.

Grade Scheme: Graded (HD, D, C, etc.)

Placement Component: No

Supplementary Assessment: Yes

Where supplementary assessment is available a student must have failed overall in the course but gained a final mark of 45 per cent or above and submitted all major assessment tasks..

Program Level:

AQF Level of Program						
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Level						
Introductory	■	■	■	■	■	■
Intermediate	■	■	✓	■	■	■
Advanced	■	■	■	■	■	■

Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of the course the students are expected to be able to:

Knowledge:

- K1.** Demonstrate familiarity with a selection of representative plays across the history of drama in the Western tradition.

Course Outline (Higher Education)

BALIT2003 READING DRAMA

- K2.** Distinguish the major innovations in dramatic form and content across the history of drama in the modern West.
- K3.** Consider how historical, cultural and performative developments interact to produce new forms of dramatic literature and practice.

Skills:

- S1.** Examine dramatic literature from different historical periods and literary movements in relation to their historical, cultural and performance contexts.
- S2.** Undertake guided research to deepen understanding of dramatic literature from different historical, cultural and literary periods and movements.
- S3.** Review, consolidate and synthesise knowledge of dramatic literature and relevant scholarship.

Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Construct and communicate a clear and coherent argument in verbal, written or visual form, making appropriate use of evidence from texts covered in the course.
- A2.** Apply knowledge and understanding of several historical, cultural and literary movements to the production and construction of dramatic literature.
- A3.** Debate the significance of social and cultural change on the development of drama across history in the Western tradition.

Course Content:

Topics may include:

- The significance of dramatic literature as a form of writing
- The importance of cultural, historical and performative analysis in understanding dramatic literature
- Major developments in theories of practice of drama across history: Ancient Greek foundations of Western dramatic practice, Renaissance drama, Naturalism, Realism, Anti-Realism (Theatre of Cruelty, Epic Theatre, Theatre of the Absurd, Comedy of Menace), Theatre of Exhaustion, Neo-Naturalism (Australian and American), Poor Theatre, Feminist Theatre, Environmental Theatre, Postmodern Theatre, Queer Theatre, Political Theatre, Indigenous Theatre, Theatre of Visuals
- Major theories of meaning including semiotics, deconstruction, feminism, queer theory, race studies, psychoanalysis, new historicism and postmodernism.
- Major works representative of the various periods and movements covered

Values:

- V1.** Develop an understanding of the history of drama in the Western tradition.
- V2.** Gain an appreciation of the major innovations in dramatic practice in the Western tradition across history.
- V3.** Become informed contributors to debates on the development of dramatic literature in the Western tradition across history.

Graduate Attributes:

FedUni graduate attributes statement. To have graduates with knowledge, skills and competence that enable them to stand out as critical, creative and enquiring learners who are capable, flexible and work ready, and responsible, ethical and engaged citizens.

Course Outline (Higher Education)

BALIT2003 READING DRAMA

Attribute	Brief Description	Focus
Knowledge, skills and competence	Students gain an understanding of how to read dramatic literary texts and how they are shaped by their wider historical, cultural and performative contexts. Students demonstrate knowledge of the many innovations in dramatic form and content across the history of drama in the Western tradition.	High
Critical, creative and enquiring learners	Students engage in collegial discussions with their peers and teachers of various topics and issues	High
Capable, flexible and work ready	Students undertake research and manage their time to complete tasks and meet deadlines.	High
Responsible, ethical and engaged citizens	Students consider how dramatic literature develops concepts of citizenship and morality in the Western tradition.	Medium

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Learning Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1, K2, S1, A1	Engagement in discussion with other students on theoretical and textual issues raised in the course. Students will analyse their response to the dramatic literature covered in the course via short reviews/reports or read throughs of sections of the plays. These will be presented either in person or online through virtual classrooms or submitted on forums.	In-class or online discussion of a series of short reviews/reports or read throughs	20-30%
K1, K3, S1, S2, S3, A1, A3	Analyse a set text/s in relation to its historical, cultural and performative context.	Essay	25-40%
K1, K3, K4, S2, S3, A1, A2, A3	Analyse the production of one or more of the set plays in relation to its written directions and innovative practice. Links to performances will be available at Moodle.	Major Essay	35-50%

Adopted Reference Style:

MLA