

**HACETTEPE UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF LETTERS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE**

SYLLABUS

Title of the Course: IED 463 (03) British Drama III
Year and Term: 2017- 2018 Fall
Class: Monday, 13:00- 15:50 **Office Hour:** Mondays 10:00 – 12:00
Classroom: B2/ 205

Aim: The aim of the course is to develop student awareness of British drama from the post-war period to the 1980s. During the course, different dramatic movements that emerged between these dates will be explored through eight dramatic texts. The thematic and technical contributions of each playwright to British drama will be thoroughly analysed, and the plays will be discussed in relation to their socio-historical context and relevant literary theories.

Course Outline

Week I: General Introduction

Week II: Absurd Drama

Samuel Beckett – *Waiting for Godot* (1953)

Week III: Angry Young Man Movement

John Osborne – *Look Back in Anger* (1956)

Week IV: Kitchen-Sink Drama

Arnold Wesker – *Chicken Soup with Barley* (1961)

Week V: Continued

Week VI: Midterm I

Week VII: Comedy of Menace

Harold Pinter – *The Birthday Party* (1958)

Week VIII: Irish Drama

Brendan Behan – *The Hostage* (1958)

Week IX: Theatre of Cruelty

Edward Bond – *Saved* (1968)

Week X: Continued

Week XI: Midterm II

Week XII: Political Drama – Epic theatre

Howard Brenton – *The Churchill Play* (1974)

Week XIII: Feminist Drama

Timberlake Wertenbaker – *The Grace of Mary Traverse* (1985)

Week XIV: Overall discussion

Textbooks: Students are expected to provide their own texts at the beginning of the term.

Requirements: Class attendance is obligatory. More than 11 hours of absence will be graded as F1. Students should follow the syllabus and come to the class having read the assigned material, having done the given assignments. Participation in class discussions is also necessary.

Method of Instruction: The course will be conducted through lectures, 10-minute student presentations, occasional group work and class discussions.

Supplementary Reading:

- Artaud, Antonin. *The Theater and Its Double*. New York: Grove Press, 1958.
- Brecht, Bertolt. "Theatre for Pleasure or Theatre for Instruction." *Brecht on Theatre: The Development of an Aesthetic*. Ed. John Willett. London: Methuen, 1964. 69-76.
- Esslin, Martin. *The Theatre of the Absurd*. New York: Vintage Books, 2004.
- Innes, Christopher. *Modern British Drama: The Twentieth Century*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2002.
- Megson, Chris, ed. *Modern British Playwriting: The 1970s: Voices, Documents, New Interpretations*. London: Bloomsbury Methuen, 2014.
- Milling, Jane, ed. *Modern British Playwriting: The 1980s: Voices, Documents, New Interpretations*. London: Bloomsbury Methuen, 2012.
- Nicholson, Steve, ed. *Modern British Playwriting: The 1960s: Voices, Documents, New Interpretations*. London: Bloomsbury Methuen, 2012.
- Pattie, David, ed. *Modern British Playwriting: The 1950s: Voices, Documents, New Interpretations*. London: Bloomsbury Methuen, 2013.
- Rabey, David Ian. *English Drama Since 1940*. London: Longman, 2003.
- Reinelt, Janelle G. *After Brecht: British Epic Theater*. Ann Arbor: Michigan UP, 1996.
- Shellard, Dominic. *British Theatre Since the War*. New Haven: Yale, 2000.
- Taylor, John Russell. *Anger and After: A Guide to the New British Drama*. London: Methuen, 1964.
- Zeifman, Hersh and Cynthia Zimmerman, eds. *Contemporary British Drama, 1970-1990: Essays from Modern Drama*. London: Macmillan, 1993.

Assessment:The following criteria will be taken into consideration in the assessment of students' performance:

-Oral presentation	5%
-Play Review	5%
-Midterm examinations	40% (20% each)
-Final examination	50%

It should be underlined that those who will not be able to take 50 points (out of 100) in the final examination will fail the course. Moreover, in the grading of the examination papers, up to 25% of the total mark will be taken off for English grammatical and writing mistakes.