English 6339: Seminar in British Drama: “Modern British Drama”
Instructor: Dr. Hama
Office: A021a; Telephone: 325-486-6147; e-mail, mark.hama@angelo.edu
Office hours: Office hours will be conducted by e-mail. You may arrange an in-person or Zoom meeting with 24 hours advance notice.

CLASS POLICIES

Required Texts


Supplemental reading list


Course Description
Because our understanding of and engagement with literature deepens significantly when we examine it within its broader historical and cultural contexts, the course engages the subject of British Drama within the social, political, and cultural milieu of the period from the late-19th to the late-20th century. The appropriate context will be provided through lectures and background reading, and the course content will include major works of drama from this period, as well as background essays and critical material.

Requirements and Grading
Oral Presentation--------------------------------------20%
Annotated Bibliography-------------------------------20%
Research Paper-----------------------------------------30%
Final exam---------------------------------------------30%

Essay Format
Written assignments must be typed (using standard Times Roman 12-point font) and double-spaced with one-inch margins, and they must follow the guidelines of the most recent edition of the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. Written assignments will be given a penalty of five points if turned in after the beginning of class on the due date and five more points for each additional day late. I will accept late assignments without penalty only in cases of documented emergencies (computer/printer problems do not count as emergencies). **Students must complete and turn in all assignments to be considered for a passing grade.**

Academic Honesty
Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. At minimum students who are determined to have violated this policy will receive a failing grade on the assignment and may also receive a failing grade in the course and be referred to the English Department Chair for possible further action. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is available on the web at [http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/honorcode5.pdf](http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/honorcode5.pdf).

Students with Disabilities
Persons with disabilities that may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office in the University Center to request such accommodations prior to
any being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Absence Policy
Each student is allowed one unexcused absence without penalty. For each subsequent unexcused absence, 3 points will be deducted from your final semester grade. All absences will be charged against this allotment unless proper written documentation indicating the nature of the absence is presented; in any case, I reserve the right to determine whether the absence will be excused. Further, you are responsible for keeping up with the syllabus during any absence. Finally, a total of four or more absences will constitute grounds for failing the course.

Classroom Decorum
To succeed in the course, each student must be completely prepared with all assigned reading and must undertake an active, responsible role in all classroom activities. Please do not come to class unprepared; if you do, I reserve the right to ask you to leave and to charge you with an absence. Any student who falls asleep will be awakened and asked to leave the class. If these actions would embarrass you, please come to class prepared and alert. Also, eating, drinking, talking disruptively, habitually forgetting the textbooks, and doing coursework for other classes are prohibited. Following University tobacco-use policy, no tobacco products of any kind, including chew or dip, are to be used in the classroom. Finally, please turn off and put away all electronic communications devices before entering the classroom. You will be charged with an absence each time you use your cell phone or any other tech device in class without my permission. This includes having a phone out on your desk or anywhere else it might interfere with your attention in this class.

Absences for Observance of Religious Holy Day
Students who intend to be absent from class to observe a religious holy day (as defined in ASU OP 10.19) must inform the instructor in writing prior to the absence and make up any scheduled assignments within an appropriate timeframe determined by the professor. While the absence will not be penalized, failure to complete the make-up assignment satisfactorily and within the required timeframe will result in penalties consistent with other absences and assignments.

Title IX at Angelo State University
The University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination including sexual assault, sex-based discrimination, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence and/or dating violence), and stalking. As a faculty member, I am a Responsible Employee meaning that I am obligated by law and ASU policy to report any allegations I am notified of to the Office of Title IX Compliance.
Students are encouraged to report any incidents of sexual misconduct directly to ASU’s Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator at:

**Michelle Boone, J.D.**  
*Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator*  
Mayer Administration Building, Room 210  
325-942-2022  
michelle.boone@angelo.edu

You may also file a report online 24/7 at [www.angelo.edu/incident-form](http://www.angelo.edu/incident-form).

If you are wishing to speak to someone about an incident in confidence you may contact the *University Health Clinic and Counseling Center at 325-942-2173* or the *ASU Crisis Helpline at 325-486-6345*.

For more information about Title IX in general you may visit [www.angelo.edu/title-ix](http://www.angelo.edu/title-ix).

*Updates made to the policies on Academic Honesty, Disability Accommodations, Religious Holy Days, and Title IX will be made available at the following link: [https://www.angelo.edu/opmanual/](https://www.angelo.edu/opmanual/)*

**Statement on Student Absences for COVID-19 Related and Other Illness: Required Use of Masks/Facial Coverings by Students on Campus**

The Texas Tech University System has implemented a mandatory [Facial Covering Policy](http://www.angelo.edu/) to ensure a safe and healthy campus experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests that there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person-to-person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Because of the potential for transmission of the virus, and to be consistent with the University’s requirement, students on campus are to wear a mask/facial covering. Observing safe distancing practices while on campus by spacing out and wearing a mask/facial covering will greatly improve our odds of having a safe and healthy campus experience.

Students requesting an exemption may need to wear a clear plastic face shield instead of a face mask. Students needing this accommodation should register with [Student Disability Services](http://www.angelo.edu/) and provide the appropriate documentation supporting this request. No accommodation exists that would exempt a student from wearing a mask/facial covering at any university-sponsored activity or event.

For religious or any other exemption-related questions, students should contact the [Office of Student Affairs](http://www.angelo.edu/).
# Syllabus

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<th>Date</th>
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| Th 8/20 | Class introduction  
Overview Lecture: The 20th Century in Britain |
| Th 8/27 | **Research Project Assigned**  
Innes, Chaps. 1 and 2; Wallis and Shepherd, Chaps. 1 & 2; J. L. Styan, “Realism and Naturalism,” in *Modern Drama in Theory and Practice, Volume 1*, 1-30; Zola, “Naturalism on the Stage,” in Cole, 5-14 |
| Th 9/3 | Henrik Ibsen, *A Doll’s House*  
also, H. L. Mencken, “Ibsen,” handout; Cole: Ibsen, “A Doll’s House,” 151-4; Wallis and Shepherd, Chap. 3 |
| Th 9/10 | George Bernard Shaw, *Major Barbara*, all, including Introduction and Preface  
also, Innes, Chap. 3, all; G. B. Shaw handout, all, including, “Preface to Widower’s Houses,” “The Problem Play,” “Preface to Three Plays by Brieux,” and “The Technical Novelty in Ibsen’s Plays; also, Shaw, “How to Write a Popular Play,” in Cole, 53-7 |
| Th 9/17 | **Presentation # 1: Clarisa Elliott**  
Anton Chekhov, *The Cherry Orchard*  
also, Raben, from *Major Strategies in Twentieth-Century Drama*, 1-62; handout, Ferguson, “The Plot of the Cherry Orchard” |
| Th 9/24 | **Presentation # 2: Lily Auker**  
Noel Coward, *Private Lives*  
also, Innes, 214-15 and 238-59; Wallis and Shepherd, Chaps. 4 & 5 |
| Th 10/1 | **Presentation # 3: Ashlee Havlak**  
also, handouts, Clurman, “Bertolt Brecht,” and Tynan, “Bertolt Brecht”; Wallis and Shepherd, Chaps. 6 & 7 |
| Th 10/8 | **Presentation # 4: Jose Bautista**  
Samuel Beckett, *Waiting for Godot*  
also, Innes, 427-47; Esslin, Introduction and Chap. 1 |
| Th 10/15 | **Presentation # 5: Madeleine Trees**  
Harold Pinter, *The Homecoming*  
also, Innes, 279-96; Raben, from *Major Strategies in Twentieth-Century Drama*, 63-94; Esslin, Chaps. 5, 7, 8, & 9 |
Th 10/22  Presentation # 6: Macie McDonald  
John Osborne, *Look Back in Anger*  
also, Innes, 98-113; John Osborne, “Declaration,” in Cole, 140-44

Th 10/29  Presentation # 7: Garrett Barnum  
Tom Stoppard, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*  
Innes, 325-47

Th 11/5  Annotated Bibliography due  
Presentation # 8: Sydney Morris  
Peter Shaffer, *Equus*  
Innes, 405-16

Th 11/12  Presentation # 9: Anna Marquardt  
Caryl Churchill, *Top Girls*  
Innes, 448-53 and 460-72

Th 11/19  Final Day of Class  
Research Papers due  
Discuss Final exam