

Summer 2017

AP/EN 3191 3.0M (S2)

Comedy

Course Director:

Aida Jordao
ajordao@yorku.ca

Delivery Format:

Seminar

Time:

Mondays & Wednesdays, 4:00pm - 7:00pm

Description:

The nature, powers and limits of comedy are explored through reading a selection of comedies from Elizabethan to modern times.

Guffaws, snickers, giggles, snorts, titters, chuckles, chortles, cackles, hoots and howls are serious business for playwrights. We will laugh with them all the way to the theatre, in their time, and to the hallowed halls of academe, in ours, guided by the likes of Freud, Frye, Zupančič and Žižek (hee-hee, haw-haw, tee-hee, yuk-yuk, ha-ha-ha-ha-ha).

Category:

B

Area:

6

Period:

NA

Historical Requirement:

Period I (pre-1700) 3 credits & Period II (1700-1900) 3 credits

Requirements:

Midterm test – 15%
Oral presentation – 15%
Essay – 25%
Participation – 15%
Final exam – 30%
(Tentative breakdown; subject to change.)

Reading List:

William Shakespeare, *Twelfth Night* [Broadview]
Molière, *Tartuffe* [Harcourt]
William Wycherley, *The Country Wife* [Oxford]
Aphra Behn, *The Rover* [Broadview]
Oscar Wilde, *The Importance of Being Earnest* [Broadview]
Caryl Churchill, *Cloud Nine* [TCG – Theatre Communications Group]
Ann-Marie MacDonald, *Good Night Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)* [Vintage Canada, Penguin]
Drew Hayden Taylor, *alterNatives* [Playwrights Guild of Canada]
Young Jean Lee, *The Shipment*, [TCG – Theatre Communications Group]
PLUS Course Kit with *commedia dell'arte* scenarios and theories/criticism of dramatic comedy.

Open To:

Yr 2, 3, 4