

Fall/Winter 2020-2021

AP/EN 3220 6.0 (A)	Modern Canadian Drama
Course Director:	Name Jacqueline Petropoulos Office Ext. e-mail jpetr@yorku.ca Virtual Office Hours TBA
Time:	Seminar day and time Tuesday 2:30-5:30
Delivery Format:	REMOTE – <u>Please note</u> : The course will likely combine asynchronous and synchronous elements. More detailed information will be provided during the first week of classes.
Description:	This course focuses on the wide range of drama written and performed in Canada since 1967. We study the nationalist movement of the 1960s and 1970s and then shift our attention to the diversity of voices that gained momentum in the period from the mid-1980s to the present. Noting that drama has often been used as a tool for redefining nationhood and identity, we read plays by Indigenous, African Canadian, Asian Canadian, South Asian Canadian, and women writers, among others, that critique the colonialism, sexism, and racism of the nation-state. We look at staged encounters with the justice system—in plays that speak to the pressing issues of our times, such as missing and murdered Indigenous women and anti-Black racism. We also study the popularity of the family drama as a site for examining gender struggle and intergenerational conflict. In so doing, we consider how recent theatrical narratives about family, memory, and identity introduce a diasporic consciousness to Canadian drama by celebrating intercultural spaces in diverse cities such as Toronto or by looking outside the nation-state for displaced cultural origins. Our study of postcolonial and decolonial thought in Indigenous drama offers further critique of nationalist discourse by questioning the construction of the nation now known as Canada. The course analyzes the thematic, formal, and theatrical features of the selected texts while also situating them in their respective critical, theoretical, cultural, historical, and political contexts. Some attention will also be paid to recent film and television adaptations of Canadian plays.
Category:	C
Historical Requirement:	N/A
Requirements:	(Tentative) Term Papers (2 x 25%); Seminar Presentations/Papers (2x15%); Participation (20%) <u>Please note</u> : The course will likely combine asynchronous and synchronous elements. More detailed information will be provided during the first week of classes.
Reading List:	(Tentative)

	George Ryga, <i>The Ecstasy of Rita Joe</i> ; Thomson Highway, <i>The Rez Sisters</i> ; Michel Tremblay, <i>Les Belles Soeurs</i> ; Ins Choi, <i>Kim's Convenience</i> ; Hannah Moscovitch, <i>East of Berlin</i> ; Anusree Roy, <i>Pyassa</i> ; Marie Clements, <i>Unnatural and Accidental Women</i> ; Drew Hayden Taylor, <i>AlterNatives</i> ; Sharon Pollock, <i>Blood Relations</i> ; Andrew Moodie, <i>Toronto the Good</i> ; Trey Anthony, <i>'da kink in my hair</i> ; Wajdi, Mouawad, <i>Scorched</i>
Open To:	Year 3, 4