

ENGL4007 Approaches to Performance (Semester 2)

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84 items

Set Texts (13 items)

A note on editions:

The module leader has listed the recommended edition of each of the texts, but if you already have a copy of any of these texts you are welcome to use that. You will notice, though, that a few of the plays we study are in translation and, as it is easier to work in class if we have the same version, please try to get the recommended edition if possible.

Titus Andronicus, by William Shakespeare; Jonathan Bate, 2003

[Book](#) | **Essential** | Recommended edition: Arden Shakespeare Third Series | Available as an eBook

Oxford Shakespeare: Titus Andronicus, by William Shakespeare; Eugene M. Waith, 1984

[Book](#) | eBook version of OUP edition

Mother Courage and her Children, in Bertolt Brecht collected plays, Vol. 5, by Bertolt Brecht; John Willett; Ralph Manheim, 1980

[Book](#) | **Essential** | Other versions are available, but the recommended edition is the translation by John Willet

Mother Courage and her Children, in Vol. 5 of Collected plays, by Bertolt Brecht, 1994

[Book](#) | **Essential** | Other versions are available, but the recommended edition is the translation by John Willet

Miss Julie: and other plays, by August Strindberg; Michael Robinson, 2008

[Book](#) | **Essential** | Available as a print and eBook (restricted to 3 users at a time)

After Miss Julie | Digital Theatre+, by Patrick Marber

[Audio-visual document](#) | **Essential** | 1995 original tv version (not playtext) available to stream for free on Digital Theatre+

A Raisin in the Sun, by Lorraine Hansberry; Robert Nemiroff, 2009

[Book](#) | **Essential**

A Raisin in the Sun, by Lorraine Hansberry; Deirdre Osborne, 2011

[Book](#) | **Essential** | Methuen Student Edition

Spring Awakening, by Frank Wedekind; Edward Bond, 1980

[Book](#) | **Essential** | The recommended edition is the translation by Edward Bond. It's also available as an eBook (below)

Spring awakening, by Frank Wedekind; Elisabeth Pable

; Charlotte Ryland; Edward Bond, 2012

[Book](#) | **Essential**

Crave, by Sarah Kane, 1998

[Book](#) | **Essential** | Also available in the collection below

Crave, in Complete plays: Blasted, Phaedra's love, Cleansed, Crave, 4.48 psychosis, Skin, by Sarah Kane, 2001

[Book](#) | **Essential**

Weekly readings (22 items)

See also your Moodle course for guidance and links to further resources

Week 1. Introduction to the module: Reading Text Through Performance (3 items)

Required readings for weeks 1 and 2 (2 items)

* Please download these and bring them to the 2nd week session either in paper or on an electronic device *

Performance studies: an introduction, by Richard Schechner; Sara Brady, 2013

[Chapter](#) | 'What is performance?' Follow the link to access a scan of this chapter.

Theatre as sign-system: a semiotics of text and performance, by Elaine Aston; George Savona, 1991

[Chapter](#) | 'Semiotics of performance'. Follow the link to access a scan of this chapter.

Further reading (1 items)

Nineteenth century plays, edited by George Rowell, 1972

[Book](#) | This introductory session features 'Black E'yd Susan' by Douglas William Jerrold, a 19th century melodrama as its main example text. If you want to read more about this play, it's available as part of the module reading pack and you can download it here and from Moodle.

Week 2. Naturalism (6 items)

Required readings (4 items)

Miss Julie: and other plays, by August Strindberg; Michael Robinson, 2008

Book | Please bring this text to class and read the preface too!

The theory of the modern stage: an introduction to modern theatre and drama, by Eric Bentley, 1992, ©1968

Book | Émile Zola 'From naturalism in the theatre'. Follow the link to access a scan of this chapter.

*** Please download these and bring them to the 2nd week session either in paper or on an electronic device *** (2 items)

Performance studies: an introduction, by Richard Schechner; Sara Brady, 2013

Chapter | 'What is performance?' Follow the link to access a scan of this chapter.

Theatre as sign-system: a semiotics of text and performance, by Elaine Aston; George Savona, 1991

Chapter | 'Semiotics of performance'. Follow the link to access a scan of this chapter.

Recommended reading (2 items)

Studying plays, by Mick Wallis; Simon Shepherd, 2018

Book | Chapter 2 'Character and Persons'. This is the 4th edition

Studying plays, by Mick Wallis; Simon Shepherd, 2010

Book | Chapter 2 'Character and Persons'. This is the 3rd edition

Week 3. Embodied Performance: required reading (2 items)

Studying plays, by Mick Wallis; Simon Shepherd, 2018

Book | Chapter 5 'The Actor's Body'. This is the 4th edition

Studying plays, by Mick Wallis; Simon Shepherd, 2018

Book | Chapter 5 'The Actor's Body'. This is the 3rd edition

Week 4. Performing the Political Theatre: required reading (3 items)

Mother Courage and her children, by Bertolt Brecht; David Hare, 1995

Book

Essential background reading (2 items)

Please download from here or Moodle

Brecht on theatre: the development of an aesthetic, by Bertolt Brecht; John Willett, 1964
[Chapter](#) | 'The Street Scene: a basic model for an epic theatre'. Follow the link to access a scan of this chapter.

Key words in Brecht's theory and practice of theatre - in The Cambridge companion to Brecht, by Peter Brooker, ©1994
[Chapter](#) | Peter Brooker 'Key words in Brecht's theory and practice of theatre'. Follow the link to access a scan of this chapter.

Week 5. Introduction to Technical Aspects of Theatre: required reading (2 items)

A practical guide to stage lighting, by Steven Louis Shelley, 2014
[Book](#) | 'Lighting instruments: The reflectors' in Chapter 1. This is the 3rd edition, available as an e-book.

A practical guide to stage lighting, by Steven Shelley, ©2009
[Book](#) | 'Lighting instruments: The reflectors' in Chapter 1. This is the 2nd edition. Follow the link to access a scan of this section.

Week 6. Theatre Forms – Modernism and the Rejection of Realism (4 items)

Required reading (2 items)
Please bring paper or e-copies of both to the session. You will need them to perform.

Spring awakening, by Frank Wedekind; Edward Bond, 1980
[Book](#)

Samuel Beckett 'Quad', in *The twentieth-century performance reader* - in *The twentieth-century performance reader*, 2002
[Chapter](#) | 'Quad' available to download here and also on Moodle [or in *The Twentieth-century Performance Reader*. Ed. M. Huxley and N. Witts. 2nd edition. London: Routledge, 2002: 68-72]

Recommended reading (2 items)

Brecht on theatre: the development of an aesthetic, by Bertolt Brecht; John Willett, 1964
[Chapter](#) | 'The Street Scene: a basic model for an epic theatre'. Follow the link to access a scan of this chapter.

The Cambridge companion to Brecht, by Peter Thomson; Glendyr Sacks, ©1994

[Chapter](#) | Peter Brooker 'Key words in Brecht's theory and practice of theatre'. Follow the link to access a scan of this chapter.

Week 7. Technical Theatre 2 – Staging the Production: required reading (2 items)

The potentials of spaces: the theory and practice of scenography & performance, by Alison Oddey; Christine A. White, 2006

[Book](#) | 'Introduction: the potentials of spaces'. Follow the link to access a scan of this chapter.

Sound: a reader in theatre practice, by Ross Brown, 2009

[Book](#) | Chapter 6: Problems with Sound as Scenography pp.127-137

Enrichment research and reading to help you with your Group Performance projects (6 items)

If you are doing *Crave*:

Sarah Kane (Chapter 16) - in *The Methuen drama guide to contemporary British playwrights*, by Ken Urban, edited by Martin Middeke; Peter Paul Schnierer; Aleks Sierz, 2011

[Chapter](#) | Follow the link to access a scan of this chapter

If you are doing *Raisin in the Sun*:

THE NEGRO WRITER AND HIS ROOTS: TOWARD A NEW ROMANTICISM - in *The Black Scholar*, by Lorraine Hansberry, 1981

[Article](#)

If you are doing *Titus*:

What did Shakespeare read? (Chapter 3) - in *The Cambridge companion to Shakespeare*, by Leonard Barkan, 2001

[Chapter](#) | Follow the link to access a scan of this chapter

Select Bibliography/Suggestions for Further Reading (43 items)

The required readings for the module represent a minimum/starting point for your reading within this subject. The following books are recommended but you may find other, equally helpful, books when browsing the library shelves.

Studying plays, by Mick Wallis; Simon Shepherd, 2018

[Book](#) | 4th ed.

Studying plays, by Mick Wallis; Simon Shepherd, 2010

[Book](#) | 3rd ed.

Naturalism (12 items)

A sourcebook on naturalist theatre, by C. D. Innes, 2000

Book

August Strindberg, by Walter Johnson, c1976

Book

Strindberg: a collection of critical essays, by Otto Reinert, 1971

Book

Strindberg on drama and theatre: a source book, by August Strindberg; Egil To

rnqvist; Birgitta Steene, c2007

Book

Strindberg as dramatist, by Evert Sprinchorn, c1982

Book

The greatest fire: a study of August Strindberg, by Birgitta Steene, 1973

Book

The social and religious plays of Strindberg, by John Ward, 1980

Book

Ibsen [and] meaning: studies, essays [and] prefaces, 1953-87, by James Walter MacFarlane, 1989

Book

Ibsen's women, by Joan Templeton, 1997

Book

The Cambridge companion to Ibsen, by James Walter McFarlane, 1994

Book

The Cambridge companion to Ibsen, edited by James Walter McFarlane, 1994

[Chapter](#) | Bjorn Hemmer 'Ibsen and the realistic problem drama'. Follow the link to access a scan of this chapter.

Ibsen's lively art: a performance study of the major plays, by Frederick J. Marker; Lise-Lone Marker, 1989

Book

Chekhov & Stanislavski (11 items)

Performing Chekhov, by David Allen, 2000

Book

The director and the stage: from naturalism to Grotowski, by Edward Braun, 1982

Book

A sourcebook on naturalist theatre, by Innes, C. D., 2000

Book

Beyond Stanislavsky: the psycho-physical approach to actor training, by Bella Merlin, 2001

Book

Konstantin Stanislavsky, by Bella Merlin, 2003

Book

The Chekhov play: a new interpretation, by Harvey J. Pitcher, 1985

Book

An actor prepares, by Konstantin Stanislavsky, 1936)

Book

An actor prepares, by Konstantin Stanislavsky, 1936

Book

An actor prepares, by Konstantin Stanislavsky, 1967

Book

Building a character, by Konstantin Stanislavsky; Elizabeth Reynolds Hapgood, 1979

Book

Building a character, by Konstantin Stanislavsky, 2008

Book

Modernism (Wedekind, Brecht, Expressionism and Epic Theatre) (13 items)

Brecht in perspective, by Graham Bartram; Anthony Waine, 1982

Book

The theory of the modern stage: an introduction to modern theatre and drama, by Eric Bentley, 1992, ©1968

Book

The sexual circus: Wedekind's theatre of subversion, by Elizabeth Boa, 1987

Book

The director and the stage: from naturalism to Grotowski, by Edward Braun, 1982

Book

Modernism 1890-1930, by Bradbury, Malcolm; McFarlane, James Walter, 1991

Book

Modernism, 1890-1930, by Malcolm Bradbury; James Walter McFarlane, 1978

Book

Brecht on theatre: the development of an aesthetic, by Bertolt Brecht; John Willett, 1964

Book

The twentieth-century performance reader, by Michael Huxley; Noel Witts, 2002

Book

Avant garde theatre, 1892-1992, by C. D. Innes, 1993

Book

German expressionist theatre: the actor and the stage, by David F. Kuhns, 1997

Book

Makers of modern theatre: an introduction, by Robert Leach, 2004

Book

The revolution in German theatre 1900-1933, by Michael Patterson, 1981

Book

The theatre of Bertolt Brecht: a study from eight aspects, by John Willett, 1977

Book

Beckett (5 items)

Signs of performance: an introduction to twentieth-century theatre, by Colin Counsell, 1996

Book | See especially, Chapter 4, 'Beckett and the avant-garde'

The theatre of the absurd, by Martin Esslin, 2001

Book

The Theatre of the absurd, by Martin Esslin, 1980

Book

The Cambridge companion to Beckett, by John Pilling, 1994

Book

Modern drama in theory and practice: Vol.2: Symbolism, surrealism and the absurd, by J. L. Styan, 1981

Book
