

Lesson Plan

Paper No. & Name: Paper IX-d—Semester V

Objectives of Modern European Drama Paper

To introduce the students to various European playwrights and the different theories that emerged in European Drama during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The trend of Naturalism in European drama was started by the Norwegian Henrik Ibsen as a reaction against middle class melodrama and romanticism. The aim of Naturalism in Drama was to analyse characters on a scientific basis, such as biological heredity, adaptation, scientific determinism and the influence of environment.

Strindberg's Naturalism is known as 'Critical Naturalism'. The Darwinian principle of survival of the fittest is used to express the class conflict of his characters. Strindberg is more pessimistic and questions cause and effect.

Theories of six major writers on new trends in European drama in the 20th century are also discussed.

Week	Dates	Text/Topic/Theme	Discussion	Teacher's name + Text
1	20/07/16 to 23/07/16	Introduction to the six different writers and their respective theories of European Drama	Theories of modern European drama.	Novy Kapadia
		Ibsen's <i>Ghosts</i>	Modern European drama- a brief history	Geetinder Kaur
2	25/07/16 to 30/07/2016	Analysis on <i>No More Masterpieces</i> by Antonin Artaud	Antonin Artaud's Theatre of Cruelty	Novy Kapadia
		Discussion of Raymond William's essay- ' <i>Forms</i> '	What is 'modern' about Modern European drama?	Geetinder Kaur
3	01/08/16 to 06/08/16	Analysis of George Steiner's essay <i>On</i>	Theories on why modern tragedy was not possible	Novy Kapadia

		Modern Tragedy	due to debasement of language, absence of a central mythology and emergence of a secular world view	
		Introduction to Ibsen	Discussion on “Well-made play” with reference to plays of Eugene Scribe and Sardou	Geetinder Kaur
4	08/08/16 to 13/08/16	Reading and analysis of Brecht on Theatre	Difference between Epic Theatre and Dramatic theatre	Novy Kapadia
		Ibsen: Reading and analysis of the play ‘ Ghosts ’	Reading and discussion of Act 1, title of the play	Geetinder Kaur
5	15/08/16 to 20/08/16 (15 th August – Gazetted Holiday)	Analysis of Brecht on Theatre	Epic Theatre for instruction and entertainment, but not didactic.	Novy Kapadia
		Text: Reading and analysis of Act 2	Naturalism and realism, question of inheritance in Act 2	Geetinder Kaur
6	22/08/16 to 27/08/16	Discussion of Brecht on Theatre	Write up on the Street Scene, to give daily events the status of something epic.	Novy Kapadia
	25 th August – Gazetted Holiday	Text: Reading and Critical analysis of Act 3	Questions, observations and comments	Geetinder Kaur
7	29/08/16 to 03/09/16	Text: Reading and analysis of Brecht	Brecht and his idea that theatre as a forum for political ideas and the defamiliarisation/alienation effect.	Novy Kapadia

		A study of reception of Ibsen's <i>Ghosts</i> by his contemporaries	Discussion of major critical works, Norton's edition, Ibsen's women-Joan Templeton	Geetinder Kaur
8	05/09/16 to 10/09/16 (9th September – no classes on account of DUSU elections)	Analysis of <i>Faith and a Sense of Truth</i> by Stanislavski	Stanislavski's system of developing artistic truth on stage by teaching actors to experience the part during performance.	Novy Kapadia
		Text-Reading and analysis of <i>A Doll's House</i>	Comparison of Nora and Helene Alving	Geetinder Kaur
9	12/09/16 to 17/09/16 13 th Sept – Gazetted holiday for Eid-ul-Zuha (Bakrid)	Analysis of <i>Faith and a Sense of Truth</i> by Stanislavski	Focus of actor internally to portray a character on stage.	Novy Kapadia
		Introduction to Strindberg	Reading of <i>Miss Julie</i>	Geetinder Kaur
10	19/09/16 to 24/09/16	Analysis of <i>The Strange Word Urb</i> by Jean Genet	Idea of how theatre will not remain the same after TV & Cinema	Novy Kapadia
		Text: Reading and analysis of <i>Miss Julie</i>	Class and gender conflict	Geetinder Kaur
11	26/09/16 to 01/10/16	Analysis of <i>Tragedy and Revolution</i> by Raymond Williams	Difference between theories of Modern Tragedy and Greek Theatre and Renaissance Theatre.	Novy Kapadia
		Text: Reading and analysis of <i>Miss Julie</i>	A Naturalist tragedy	Geetinder Kaur
12	03/10/16 to	Analysis of <i>Tragedy</i>	Revolution and Disorder	Novy Kapadia

	08/10/16 + 10 th Oct	<i>and Revolution</i> by Raymond Williams	and End Of Liberalism	
		Text: Reading and analysis of <i>Miss Julie</i>	Midsummer's Eve setting of the play	Geetinder Kaur
	11/10/16- 15/10/16	UNIVERSITY MID -	SEMESTER BREAK	
13	17/10/16 to 22/10/16	Analysis of <i>Tragedy and Revolution</i> by Raymond Williams	The Tragedy of Revolution and Socialism and Revolution	Novy Kapadia
		Text: Reading and analysis of <i>Miss Julie</i>	Symbolism of dreams in the play	Geetinder Kaur
14	24/10/16 to 29/10/16	Text: Reading and analysis of <i>Tragedy and Revolution</i> by Raymond Williams	A reception study	Novy Kapadia
		Text: Reading and analysis of <i>Miss Julie</i>	Strindberg's Preface to <i>Miss Julie</i> - an ideological and artistic manifesto	Geetinder Kaur
15	31/10/16 to 05/11/16	Text: Reading and analysis of <i>Miss Julie</i>	Discussion of Strindberg's <i>The Father</i> to widen the understanding of the playwright	Geetinder Kaur
		Text: Reading and analysis	Comments and observations	Novy Kapadia
16	07/11/16 to 12/11/16	Questions and answers	Discussion and preparation	Novy Kapadia
		Questions, observations and answers		Geetinder Kaur

