



UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
FACULTY OF ARTS  
SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS  
DRAM 455: Advanced Topics in Canadian Theatre and Drama  
Session: Winter 2021

Instructor Office Email Office Hours	Rebecca Comer CHD 211 <a href="mailto:rdcomer@ucalgary.ca">rdcomer@ucalgary.ca</a> Via Zoom by appointment between 4pm-6pm M-T
Day(s),time(s) and location of Class	Online - asynchronous
Learning resources: required readings, textbooks and materials	<i>Harlem Duet</i> by Djanet Sears <i>The Adventures of a Black Girl in Search of God</i> by Djanet Sears <i>Angélique</i> by Lorena Gale <i>Consecrated Ground</i> by George Elroy Boyd <i>Riot</i> by Andrew Moodie <i>Cast Iron</i> by Lisa Codrington <i>Afrika, Solo</i> edited by Ric Knowles (containing <i>Come Good Rain</i> by George Seremba and <i>Je me souviens</i> by Lorena Gale) <i>A Man A Fish</i> by Donna-Michelle St. Bernard <i>who knew grannie: a dub aria</i> by ahdri zhina mandiel <i>How Black Mothers Say I Love You</i> by trey anthony <i>Other Side of the Game</i> by Amanda Parris
Learning Technologies and Requirements	There is a D2L site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see <a href="http://d2l.ucalgary.ca">d2l.ucalgary.ca</a> ).  In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;</li> <li>● A current and updated web browser;</li> <li>● Webcam (built-in or external);</li> <li>● Microphone and speaker (built-in or external) or headset with microphone;</li> <li>● Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;</li> <li>● Broadband internet connection.</li> </ul> Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.
Prerequisites	DRAM 355
Course description	Advanced studies in Canadian Drama. Areas of study may include historical and/or performance movements, critical schools, and the development of theatre companies and professional associations in Canada with a focus on Black playwrights.

Course learning outcomes	<p>By the completion of this course, successful students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Critically engage with plays and their context within society.</li> <li>2. Seek out and engage with plays by Black playwrights.</li> <li>3. Have an appreciation for stories that they may not relate to.</li> <li>4. Learn about some of the history and experiences of Black people in Canada.</li> </ol>																														
Course schedule	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="505 331 735 380">Week</th> <th data-bbox="735 331 1484 380">Readings</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="505 380 735 436">1 (Jan 11-17)</td> <td data-bbox="735 380 1484 436"><i>Harlem Duet</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="505 436 735 493">2 (Jan 18-24)</td> <td data-bbox="735 436 1484 493"><i>The Adventures of a Black Girl in Search of God</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="505 493 735 550">3 (Jan 25-31)</td> <td data-bbox="735 493 1484 550"><i>Angélique</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="505 550 735 606">4 (Feb 1-7)</td> <td data-bbox="735 550 1484 606"><i>Consecrated Ground</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="505 606 735 663">5 (Feb 8-14)</td> <td data-bbox="735 606 1484 663"><i>Riot</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="505 663 735 720">- (Feb 14-21)</td> <td data-bbox="735 663 1484 720"><b>Reading Break</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="505 720 735 777">6 (Feb 22-28)</td> <td data-bbox="735 720 1484 777"><i>Cast Iron</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="505 777 735 833">7 (Mar 1-7)</td> <td data-bbox="735 777 1484 833"><i>Come Good Rain</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="505 833 735 890">8 (Mar 8-14)</td> <td data-bbox="735 833 1484 890"><i>Je me souviens</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="505 890 735 947">9 (Mar 15-21)</td> <td data-bbox="735 890 1484 947"><i>A Man A Fish</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="505 947 735 1003">10 (Mar 22-28)</td> <td data-bbox="735 947 1484 1003"><i>who knew grannie: a dub aria</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="505 1003 735 1060">11 (Mar 29-Apr 4)</td> <td data-bbox="735 1003 1484 1060"><i>How Black Mothers Say I Love You</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="505 1060 735 1117">12 (Apr 4-11)</td> <td data-bbox="735 1060 1484 1117"><i>Other Side of the Game</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="505 1117 735 1129">13 (Apr 12-15)</td> <td data-bbox="735 1117 1484 1129">Review</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Week	Readings	1 (Jan 11-17)	<i>Harlem Duet</i>	2 (Jan 18-24)	<i>The Adventures of a Black Girl in Search of God</i>	3 (Jan 25-31)	<i>Angélique</i>	4 (Feb 1-7)	<i>Consecrated Ground</i>	5 (Feb 8-14)	<i>Riot</i>	- (Feb 14-21)	<b>Reading Break</b>	6 (Feb 22-28)	<i>Cast Iron</i>	7 (Mar 1-7)	<i>Come Good Rain</i>	8 (Mar 8-14)	<i>Je me souviens</i>	9 (Mar 15-21)	<i>A Man A Fish</i>	10 (Mar 22-28)	<i>who knew grannie: a dub aria</i>	11 (Mar 29-Apr 4)	<i>How Black Mothers Say I Love You</i>	12 (Apr 4-11)	<i>Other Side of the Game</i>	13 (Apr 12-15)	Review
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Assessment components	<p><u>Assignment 1:</u>  Assessment Method: Class Participation  Weight: 20%  Due Date: Ongoing  Description: Students are expected to thoughtfully engage with the plays being studied in class. Discussion boards will be set up, and students are to add their thoughts and engage in conversation with their peers. <b>Thoughtful conversation among the class group is required.</b> Discussion participation will be worth 15%, and weekly quizzes worth 5%.</p> <p><u>Assignment 2:</u>  Assessment Method: Play Write-Up  Weight: 10%  Due Date: February 12  Description: Students will choose a play by a Black Canadian playwright not being studied in class, and complete a 500-750 word write-up on the play to be shared with their classmates on D2L. The write-up will include a summary of the play, a description of the characters and themes, contextualization in terms of time and place, and any other information that may lead to a better understanding of the play.</p> <p><u>Assignment 3:</u>  Assessment Method: Group Project</p>																														

	<p>Weight: 10%</p> <p>Due Date: February 26</p> <p>Description: Students will work together to create a Zoom performance of a play of their choice from the reading list.</p> <p><u>Assignment 4:</u></p> <p>Assessment Method: Research Paper</p> <p>Weight: 25%</p> <p>Due Date: April 1</p> <p>Description: 1500 word research-based paper on a selected Black Canadian theatre artist (playwright, director, designer, etc). No duplicates will be allowed, so students must email me their choices by March 1, however the assignment of artists will be on a first-come, first-served basis.</p> <p><u>Quizzes:</u></p> <p>Assessment Method: 3 D2L Quizzes</p> <p>Weight: 5% each for a total of 15%</p> <p>Date: February 5 March 5 March 26</p> <p>Description: Multiple choice and short answer on the content of the course. <b>Not cumulative.</b></p> <p><u>Final Quiz:</u></p> <p>Assessment Method: D2L Quiz</p> <p>Weight: 20%</p> <p>Date: April 15</p> <p>Description: Multiple choice and short answer on the content of the course. <b>Cumulative.</b></p>
Assessment expectations	<p><u>Guidelines for Submitting Assignments:</u></p> <p>Any assignments requiring submission will be submitted through D2L.</p> <p><u>Missed or Late Assignments:</u></p> <p>Missed assignments will be awarded a 0.</p> <p>I understand that online learning during a pandemic is stressful so late assignments will be accepted. Students are encouraged to reach out before the due date in order to discuss options. No penalties will be awarded for valid reasons as long as the student is in communication with me prior. However, if nothing is communicated, assignments submitted after the due date may be penalized with the loss of a third of a grade (eg., A- to B+) for each day late.</p> <p><u>Expectations for Writing:</u></p> <p>Writing skills are important to academic study across all disciplines. Consequently, instructors may use their assessment of writing quality as a factor in the evaluation of student work. Please refer to the Undergraduate Calendar E.2 Writing Across the Curriculum policy for details.</p>
Grading scale	<p>For the course as a whole, letter grades should be understood as follows, as outlined in the section F.1.1 Undergraduate Grading System of the Calendar: <a href="https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1.html">https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1.html</a>.</p>

	<p>A+...96-100  A . . . 93-95  A- . . 86-92  B+ . . 80-85  B . . . 75-79  B- . . 70-74  C+ . . 65-69  C . . . 60-64  C- . . 55-59  D+ . . 50-54  D . . . 45-49  F . . . 0-44</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A grade of "C-" or below may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation, see specific faculty regulations.</li> <li>● The number of "D" and "D+" grades acceptable for credit is subject to specific undergraduate faculty promotional policy.</li> </ul>
<p>Guidelines for Zoom Sessions</p>	<p>Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a “live” video conference, so that we can have the opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss relevant course topics as a learning community.</p> <p>To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor’s permission.</p> <p>The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect (as per the <a href="#">Code of Conduct</a>). When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions (such as MS Teams), you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g <a href="#">Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy</a>). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your zoom sessions visit: <a href="https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/">https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/</a>.</p> <p>If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity for the missed session (e.g., to review a recorded session). Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.).</p> <p>The instructor may record online Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.</p>

Academic Accommodation	<p>It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The Student Accommodations policy is available at <a href="https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations">https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations</a>.</p> <p>Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<a href="https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf">https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf</a> ). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than Disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.</p> <p>SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit <a href="http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/">www.ucalgary.ca/access/</a> .</p>
Academic integrity, plagiarism	<p>Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.</p> <p>For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit: <a href="https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf">https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf</a> and <a href="https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf">https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf</a>. Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <a href="https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity">https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity</a>.</p>
Internet and electronic communication device	<p>The use of laptop and mobile devices is acceptable when used in a manner appropriate to the course and classroom activities. Please refrain from accessing websites and resources that may be distracting to you or for other learners during class time. Students are responsible for being aware of the University's Internet and email use policy, which can be found at <a href="https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/electronic-communications-policy.pdf">https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/electronic-communications-policy.pdf</a></p>
Intellectual Property	<p>Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.</p>
Copyright	<p>All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<a href="http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf">www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf</a>) and requirements of the copyright act (<a href="https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html">https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html</a>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy <a href="https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html">https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html</a>.</p>
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy	<p>Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.</p>
Student Support	<p>Please visit this link for important information on UCalgary's student wellness and safety resources: <a href="https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines">https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines</a></p>