6 credit hour courses spanning BOTH Fall and Winter terms

**THTR 1220  Introduction to Theatre**  
Fall + Winter (6)  Multiple sections / instructors  
There will be remote synchronous learning during scheduled lecture class times and in person work during scheduled lab class times. There will also be some asynchronous individual practical work. Students are expected to log in to UMLearn regularly in order to make use of the resources posted there and to stay up to date with discussions, readings, and assignments.

In addition to asynchronous sessions, many of the performance opportunities in the Fall and in January will be distanced using Zoom or Webex. For all face to face learning there will be strict protocols to follow which will include incorporating social distancing into exercises and performances. Please consult the bookstore and UMLearn for the list of texts for purchase ahead of the course.

The purpose of the course is to introduce the student to Theatre, both as an art form and as a humanist discipline. By the conclusion of the course, a student should be able to understand a script as a means towards active production as well as from the perspective of the informed audience member. In other words, we will view the script from the inside, finding out how it works, and from the outside, finding out how it affects and informs its audience. We will also discuss how theatre relates to culture in its historical and contemporary context and does not stand apart and independent from it. While no student in the course is required to perform before a public audience (though I certainly encourage you to do so), all should undergo the experience of performance, at least in the relatively safe and protected environment of the rehearsal/workshop room. Acting is the central art of the theatre; therefore, anyone who intends to work in the theatre, in any capacity, should understand the process of the actor and be able to view the art form from the perspective of the performer.

On a practical level, THTR 1220 is intended to prepare students to take upper-level Theatre courses, both practical/creative and academic. (NB: Upper level theatre courses require a grade of at least C in THTR 1220 as a prerequisite.)

**THTR 2150  Theatrical Techniques: Onstage**  
(ask about auditions!)  
Fall + Winter (6)  Dr. Margaret Groome / Dr. William Kerr  
Advanced acting and an introduction to the fundamentals of directing. Lectures on dramatic and theatrical theory, and the analysis of representative plays; workshops on acting and directing, including the presentation of scenes; participation in theatre productions.

This course has two major objectives. The first is to undertake advanced level work to help students develop their art and craft as actors, building upon the fundamental work done in Introduction to Theatre THTR 1220. In the first term of the course Professor Groome will undertake intensive acting exercises, monologue work and scene work with the students, working for six weeks on material from Chekhov and
then for seven weeks on material from Shakespeare. The second major objective of the course will be undertaken primarily in the second term: under the guidance of Professor Kerr students will be introduced to fundamental principles of play direction, using material from the contemporary theatre. The students will also continue to develop their skills as actors, focusing on this material. The course requires major participation in one Theatre Program production as director or actor in addition to directing and acting scene work in class.

**THTR 2160**  Theatrical Techniques: Backstage  (ask about interviews!)
Fall + Winter (6)  TBA

This course is delivered remotely with some face to face sessions during term September - December and January 5 - 15. It uses a combination of both synchronous and asynchronous course design. There will be remote synchronous learning during scheduled lecture class times. There will also be some asynchronous individual practical work. Students are expected to log in to UM Learn regularly in order to make use of the resources posted there and to stay up to date with discussions, readings and assignments. Your computer or device, and Internet connection must meet the UM minimum requirements found here https://centre.cc.umanitoba.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Student-Connectivity-Recommendations.pdf. These are required for all Fall 2020 classes. Students must have Webex, Zoom and Microsoft Teams installed as many of the performance opportunities in the Fall and in January will be distanced using Zoom, Webex or Microsoft Teams. For face to face learning, there will be strict protocols to follow which will include incorporating social distancing into exercises and performances. Please consult the bookstore and UM Learn for the list of texts for purchase ahead of the course.

**3 credit hour FALL COURSES**

**THTR 2600**  Special Studies 1: Political Theatre
Fall (3)  Dr. William Kerr

Through study and practice, this course will examine political theatre through a selection of plays and practitioners. We will look at and discuss the nature, methods and effectiveness (or lack of it) of several types of political theatre. We will especially be taking the opportunity to study political works by BIPOC artists in their original contexts and currently. And we will question what constitutes the “political” in any theatre. In order to study political theatre through a thorough and real engagement in the practice of it, a core section of the course will require the students to focus on enacting texts and methods (primarily online, but also in person if possible in the January window) to create theatre that will make a political impact.

This course is delivered remotely. It uses a combination of synchronous and asynchronous course design. Students will have the opportunity to participate in synchronous learning during scheduled class times. Students are also expected to log in to UM Learn regularly in order to make use of the resources posted there and to stay up to date with discussions, readings, and assignments. There will also be an ongoing requirement in this course to create practical Theatrical work at a distance and in person (if possible) during the January Lab window.

Your computer or device, and Internet connection must meet the UM minimum requirements found here https://centre.cc.umanitoba.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Student-Connectivity-Recommendations.pdf. These are required for all Fall 2020 classes.
This course will remain online with the possible exception of the January Lab Window. During the year, we may use Webex or Zoom for synchronous class meeting times and individual consultation, so please ensure you can use both. The course will include audio and video files that can be played through UMLearn or downloaded to other devices. Please consult the bookstore and UMLearn for the list of texts for purchase ahead of the course.

**THTR 2600 xENGL**  **Special Studies 1: Women and Theatre**  
Fall (3)  
Dr. Margaret Groome  
This course will focus on the work of women as playwrights in Western Theatre and the ways in which their work may be considered “feminist.” The course will therefore include discussion of the political and ideological contexts of the works’ production and reception. The relationship of feminist dramatic and theatre criticism to feminist theories in other fields - such as literary studies and film studies - will be taken up to provide a framework for the inquiry. Major concerns include the styles or strategies of writing specific to the female experience and the response of the critical community to the work of women playwrights. Rather than undertaking an historical survey of women’s writing for the theatre, there will be a sampling of the work of playwrights that will range across several centuries. While the major focus of the course is on the work of women as playwrights, in the final four weeks of the course we will consider key issues related to the work of women as actors and directors. Playwrights to be studied include Aphra Behn, Elizabeth Robbins, Caryl Churchill, Pam Gems, Marsha Norman, and Nina Raine, among others.

This course is delivered remotely. It uses a combination of synchronous and asynchronous course design. For more details see the “Syllabus” section of the class listing in Aurora.

Your computer or device, and Internet connection must meet the UM minimum requirements found here [https://centre.cc.umanitoba.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Student-Connectivity-Recommendations.pdf](https://centre.cc.umanitoba.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Student-Connectivity-Recommendations.pdf). These are required for all Fall 2020 classes.

**THTR 3610 xENGL**  **Ecocritical Theatre**  
Fall (3)  
Dr. Katrina Dunn  
Through the frame of ecocriticism, the study of the relationship between human cultural expressions and the environment, this course will investigate a selection of plays that treat environmental issues. We will begin with late nineteenth century European drama, in which rapid technological and cultural changes were paralleled by the rapid renewal of theatrical environments by a series of playwright innovators. Plays by Henrik Ibsen, Anton Chekhov and Samuel Beckett will enable reflection on differing views of nature, and allow consideration of materialism, dehumanization, exploitation and deception. In the mid-twentieth century our focus will shift to the emergence of an ecological perspective in Canadian drama, looking both at traditional scripted works and postdramatic and site-specific performances. Through these plays and related interdisciplinary readings, the class will study the interplay between science and culture, and assess the social, cultural, political, and economic dimensions of the environmental crisis. We will debate the role of the theatre in dramatizing social and environmental issues and pursuing ecological preservation.

This course is delivered remotely. It uses a combination of synchronous and asynchronous course design. Students will have the opportunity to participate in synchronous learning during scheduled class times. Students are also expected to log in to UMLearn regularly in order to make use of the resources posted there and to stay up to date with discussions, readings, and assignments.

You must be able to connect to Zoom, Webex, and UMLearn. Your computer or device, and Internet connection must meet the UM minimum requirements found here [https://centre.cc.umanitoba.ca/wp-](https://centre.cc.umanitoba.ca/wp-).
These are required for all Fall 2020 classes.

During the term, we may use Webex or Zoom for synchronous class meeting times and individual consultation, so please ensure you can use both. The course will include audio and video files that can be played through UMLearn or downloaded to other devices. Please consult the bookstore and UMLearn for the list of texts for purchase ahead of the course.

You will learn and be evaluated through a range of assignments that includes essays, presentations, and online discussions. There will be an option to submit video, audio, or other forms of media on some assignments.

3 Credit Hour WINTER COURSES

**THTR 3470**  **Text and Performance: The Theatrical World of George Bernard Shaw**
Winter (3)  Katrina Dunn
This course builds upon the acting methods learned in Theatrical Techniques: Onstage THTR 2150. Exploring the body of work of George Bernard Shaw (1856–1950) the class offers student actors the opportunity to immerse themselves in the plays and characters of the most important British dramatist of the first half of the twentieth century. Intensely vocal and political, Shaw was at the forefront of the social debates that animated the turbulent times in which he lived, and his plays were often vehicles for his own controversial viewpoints and ideas. His unique “Shavian” perspective also has an important Canadian connection through Ontario’s Shaw Festival, which has been at the forefront of defining his legacy through the annual production of selections from his more than sixty plays. Students will explore a sampling of Shaw’s play texts through performance, reflection, and discussion, and learn to play in the distinct physical and vocal style associated with his work. The class will culminate in a public performance of an assemblage of scenes from the class crafted into a unified whole by the instructor and participating students.

**THTR 3610 xENGL**  **Special Studies 3: Samuel Beckett’s Theatre and the End of Modernity**
Winter (3)  Dr. Fernando de Toro