Department of Humanities and Social Sciences

Course Profile

Course Number : HSS 212	Course Title: Cultural Origins of Theatre	
Required / Elective : Elective	Pre / Co-requisites : -	
Catalog Description: Introduction to 'Reading' Theatre: What is theatre? What is performance?. Origins of Western Theatre I: Reading Oedipus Rex by Sophocles. Origins of Western Theatre II: Staging Oedipus Rex. Origins of Western Theatre III: Reading Antigone by Sophocles. Origins of Western Theatre IV: Staging Antigone. Theatre and Power. Kabuki Theatre & Noh Theatre. Masks and Theatre: Commedia dell'arte. Traditional Shadow Theatre: Karagöz & Hacivat. Folk Art & Political Theatre. Theatre of the Absurd. Reading & Staging Reality I, II, III. Conclusion.	Textbook / Required Material: Oscar G. Brockett (1970) History of the Theatre, Allyn and Bacon, USA	

Course Structure / Schedule : (3+0+0) 3 / 5 ECTS

Extended Description: This course aims to provide students with an introduction on cultural and social origins of theatre and performance. Covering the time span from ritual performances till today, we will focus on how theatre and performance can be read, how performances can be analyzed as facts of social life, how theatre transforms reality into fiction and/or fiction into reality and theatre's relation to mythology, rituals, religion, masks, language and folk art. Discussing different theoretical perspectives while tackling with these questions.

Teaching methods: Lectures, Pre-class readings, class discussion, documentaries, films, short films, slides.

Course Outline:

	Course Outline.		
Week	Topics		
1	Introduction to 'Reading' Theatre: What is theatre? What is performance?		
2	Origins of Western Theatre I: Reading Oedipus Rex by Sophocles		
3	Origins of Western Theatre II: Staging Oedipus Rex.		
4	Origins of Western Theatre III: Reading Antigone by Sophocles.		
5	Origins of Western Theatre IV: Staging Antigone.		
6	Theatre and Power.		
7	Kabuki Theatre & Noh Theatre.		
8	Masks and Theatre: Commedia dell'arte.		

9	Traditional Shadow Theatre: Karagöz & Hacivat.
10	Folk Art & Political Theatre.
11	Theatre of the Absurd.
12	Reading & Staging Reality I
13	Reading & Staging Reality II
14	Reading & Staging Reality III
15	Conclusion

Design content: none

Computer usage: No particular computer usage required

Assessment methods:

Attendance, Class participation, Quizzes: 20%

Midterm exam: 30%

Final exam: 50%

Course Outcomes:

	Program Outcomes		*Level of Contribution				
		1	2	3	4	5	
1	Apply analytical and critical thinking skills to contemporary global issues.				X		
2	Describe the interrelationships between science, technology, and society.					X	
3	Describe the interrelationships between art, culture, and society.		X				
4	Explain the historical, political and economic conditions in which science and technology emerge.						
5	Explain the historical, political and material conditions in which art and cultural expression emerge.					X	
6	Analyze how modes of thought are shaped by socio-cultural, historical, political and economic variables.				X		
7	Apply discipline-relevant methods to HSS research assignments.						
8	Summarize and assess current developments in their subject area.			X			
9	Recognize ethical issues and social responsibilities in the contemporary world.						
10	Synthesize complex ideas in clear and concise ways.		X				
11	Generate creative solutions to local and/or global problems.						
12	Recognize relevance of coursework to personal experiences, lifelong learning, and job security.						
13	Demonstrate an ability to function on teams.		X				
14	Demonstrate an ability to communicate effectively with written, oral and visual means.					X	

Recommended reading: Phillip B. Zarrilli, Bruce McConachie, Gary Jay Williams and Carol Fisher Sorgenfrei (eds.) (2006) <i>Theatre Histories: An Introduction</i> , Routledge,			
Student workload:			
Pre-class reading25 hrs			
Lectures45 hrs			
Homework preparatory reading 30 hrs			
Literature review for presentation 15 hrs			
Team work for presentation10 hrs			
TOTAL			
Prepared by : Inst. Jale Karabekir Şahin Revision Date : 17.07. 2013			