

London, Oxford, Stratford

Britian



HAMLIN
UNIVERSITY

JANUARY TERM 2015



Theatre in Britain THTR 1980

Description

Experience the unique interplay of history, culture and tradition that has shaped the creation of British theatre. Immersed in the culture, we will participate in, observe and discuss how the British way of life has helped to shape and sustain a vibrant theatre community. Using the plays as a touchstone, this course explores how a culture both so alike and so different from our own is reflected in the unique artistic achievement that is British theatre.

The course consists of three interlocked experiences. Historical background will come from guided tours of London, Oxford and Stratford; visits to museums including the British Museum, the Victoria and Albert Museum, and the Costume Museum as well as site visits to places like Canterbury and Coventry Cathedrals.

Cultural background is provided by critical readings, discussion with theatre experts, experience provided by living in England as well as visits to theatre training schools and study and analysis of life in England.

Theatre knowledge will come from the experience of seeing at least ten plays, backstage visits to the Globe Theatre, the National Theatre and The Royal Shakespeare theatre in Stratford. The theatre experiences are supplemented by additional readings on the ways in which art can be seen as a cultural expression.

Class meetings provide a forum for the discussion of the plays as well as an opportunity to explore and consider ideas of how the British theatre has been shaped by history and culture. Participants will engage in a series of critical discussions, participate on at least one analytical panel and complete a series of four essays. Plays to be seen will range from the standard works of the classic repertory to works on the West End and the "Fringe" stages.

As a part of the course we will be selecting at least one of the plays on site as a group. This play will be chosen from one of the "Fringe" or new theatre venues. The course structure allows participants time for additional visits to galleries, museums libraries and the many other unique sites that make London one of the most visited cities in the world.

About the Professors

Professors Levy and Wallace have co-lead the Theatre in Britain course seven times. Professor Levy has a background in performance and directing and Prof. Wallace in design and technical theatre. Our different backgrounds allow for student and faculty discussions that cover all aspects of theatre performance and presentation. In addition to our academic training we have interests in areas like, social justice theatre, puppetry, new plays and street theatre that we try to incorporate into the course as the season of plays in London and Stratford will allow.

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Dates of travel

January 5-22, 2015

Mandatory On-Campus classes

Nov. 22

Dec. 13

Estimated Cost: \$TBD

*There is an application fee that is separate from the cost of the course.

April 15 - May 15: \$225

May 16 - September 15: \$275

Minimum enrollment of 15 required

Course information

Grading: A–F

Hamline Plan: L, F (four credits)

Prerequisites: None,

Required Texts:

- Penguin guide/map of London
- Ball, David. Backwards & Forwards: A Technical Manual for Reading Plays
- Other course readings TBD

INCLUDED in the itinerary

- Round-trip airfare, covering all points between MSP–England
- Multi-bedded accommodations
- Airport transfers & ground transportation between cities
- Daily breakfast and some dinners
- All entry fees to performances, museums, and sites required for class
- International Emergency Medical Insurance

NOT INCLUDED in the Itinerary

- Trip cancellation insurance
- Meals not included in the itinerary
- Cost of individual recreation
- Laundry and personal expenses
- Telephone/fax charges
- Internet