

INSTRUCTOR: Sam Stedman

COURSE NUMBER: DRE342H5F

COURSE TITLE: Studies in Twentieth Century Performance Styles

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will focus on close readings of selected manifestos, playtexts, and other writings that have defied the prevailing conventions of the day with a variety of intended and unintended effects. Employing Romanticism and Naturalism as a foundation, we will explore the radical performance traditions – and recurring themes – of some or all of the following movements/artists: Symbolism, Futurism, Expressionism, Bauhaus, Brecht, Artaud, Grotowski, the Absurd, and the Wooster Group. Practice-based research projects (practicum) will involve recreating some of the styles associated with these movements/artists in order to test their potential efficacies, and our preconceptions about them.

REQUIRED READING: Theatre of the Avant-Garde (ed. Cardullo & Knopf, available in the bookstore), online materials (links will be provided in the course outline), Filmed Materials (may be made available for private viewing, or shown in class), and a small custom courseware pack.

FIRST THREE TEXTS/AUTHORS TO BE STUDIED: TBA

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION: Lecture/Discussion/Practical Workshop

METHOD OF EVALUATION:

Practicum (30%)

Critical Journal (30%)

Final Essay (30%)

Participation (10%)