



Instructor: Nancy Copeland

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Course Number: DRE366H5S

Course Title: Women in Theatre

Course Description: This year, the subject of this topics course is Twentieth Century Women's Theatres. We will study aspects of the history of women's theatre in Britain and North America during first and second wave feminism. The focus will be on theatre companies that were women's companies or in which women played a leading role. In each case, one or more plays produced by the company will be studied. The course will be divided into two components. The first will look at women's theatre during the teens and twenties. Examples will include the Actresses' Franchise League (UK); Edith Craig's Pioneer Players (UK); and women's contributions to the Provincetown Players (USA). The second will focus on companies that were founded between the late 1960s and the early 1980s, with attention also being given to the subsequent history of companies that survived beyond the 1980s. Examples will include such companies as Monstrous Regiment (UK); Foot of the Mountain (USA); Women's Experimental Theatre (USA); Nightwood (Canada); Théâtre expérimental des femmes (Canada); and Sistren (Jamaica).

Required Reading: Course reader.

First Authors to be studied: Suffrage plays from the Actresses' Franchise League

Method of Instruction: Lecture/ discussion.

Method of Evaluation: Test 20%; Essay 35%; Participation 10%; Final exam in examination period 35%.