

**AI 399 DOCUDRAMA**  
Loop Campus, Tuesdays, 6:00- 9:00 P.M., Fall 2005

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**What Is Docudrama?**

In addition to reading and analyzing plays, in this course students will have the opportunity to write a dramatic play based on upon their own experience, a historical event, a biography, or a contemporary social issue. Students will create new versions of their realities, using the dramatic process to transform and re-invent their lived experiences in a new form. Students will learn how to use a variety of documents and media in the creative process, including photographs, interviews, transcripts, tape recordings, and objects.

**About the Instructor**

Ezzat Goushegir earned her M.F.A in Playwriting from the University of Iowa. She has published four books in Persian including ...AND SUDDENLY THE PANTHER CRIED: WOMAN, THE WOMAN, THE ROOM, AND LOVE two collections of short stories, a collection of two plays METAMORPHOSIS & MARYAM'S PREGNANCY and MIGRATION IN THE SUN a book of poetry. She is a regular contributor to literary journals and her plays have been produced by a variety of theatre companies.

**Competencies Offered**

A-2-X: Can create an original work of art, explore its relationship to the objective facts of life, and its transformation into subjective form of creativity.

A-5: Creativity can define and analyze a creative process.

H-1-X: Can describe and explain the roles of individual, groups, societies or states in creating the new method of thinking and living in history.

H-3-B: Can explain how two or more of the factors of race, ethnicity, nationality, socioeconomic status, age, gender, sexual orientation, or religion interact to shape communities.

**The Learning Experience**

This course is an exposure to the analysis of a variety of aesthetics. It requires the intensive writing in different styles based on assignments, reading plays and theoretical articles. Also features screening of films based on creative works. Each class will begin with a brief introduction to the topic of focus, followed by writings and class discussion of readings and screenings.

**Required Readings**

Wilder, Thornton. Our Town. Harper Prenal, New York.

Buchner, George. Woyzeck, Complete Plays and Prose. Trans: Carl Richard Mueller, Hill and Wang Inc, New York.

Wilson, August. Ma Rainey's Black Bottom. Plume- Penguin Group, New York.

Smith, Anna Deavere. House Arrest and Piano, Random House, New York.

O'Neill, Eugene. Long day's Journey into Night. Vail-Ballou Press, Inc. New York.

Frayn, Michael. Copenhagen. Anchor Books, New York.

**Attendance and Participation**

Regular attendance and class participation is highly required. Students who miss more than two class sessions may be asked to drop the course. Students are expected to be in class on time, and remain until class ends.

**Evidence to be Submitted**

**Standards and Criteria**

Two in- Class writing Assignments , in which you emphasize on the theme you inspired by the content of the class activities. You will be expected to demonstrate evidence of your understanding of the content of the course and your ability to transfer the evidence and document into a creative form. These two assignments will be due in the third week of October. Students are required to give 20 minutes critical analysis presentation about the choice of topics, followed by class discussion. A Short Play will be based

on a specific document or a topic of your choice. The assessment will be based on creativity, technique and the structure of the play. The minimum length of the play will be 15 pages (word processed, double spaced). You will write one page, describing the reason you chose that theme.

Grading and Evaluation

Attendance	10 points
Class participation and reading materials	25 points
In-Class Writing Assignments	15 points
Oral Presentation	15 points
Play	35 points

Class Schedule

Date	Topics	Assignment for this week	Film screening
9/13	What is Docudrama?	In Class writing	.....
9/20	Writing a play	In Class Writing	.....
9/27	Thornton Wilder	In Class Writing Our Town	-----
10/4	Eugene O’Neill	In Class writing Long Day’s Journey Into Night	Long Day’s Journey into Night
10/11	August Wilson	In Class Writing Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom (Oral Presentation)	-----
10/18	George Buchner	In Class writing Woyzeck (O-P)	Woyzeck
10/25	Anna Deavere Smith	In Class Writing House Arrest (O-P) Due Date for 2 assignments	.....
11/1	Michael Frayn	In Class Writing Copenhagen (O-P)	-----
11/8	William Felkner	In Class writing A Rose for Emily (O-P) Due date for first draft play	A Rose for Emily (Lyndon Chubbuck, 1983)
11/15	Writing Plays	In Class writing (O-P)	.....
11/22		Due date for short play (Reading short scenes by the Playwrights)	