

AMERICAN DRAMA

ENG 331 Cajsa C. Baldini

#22729

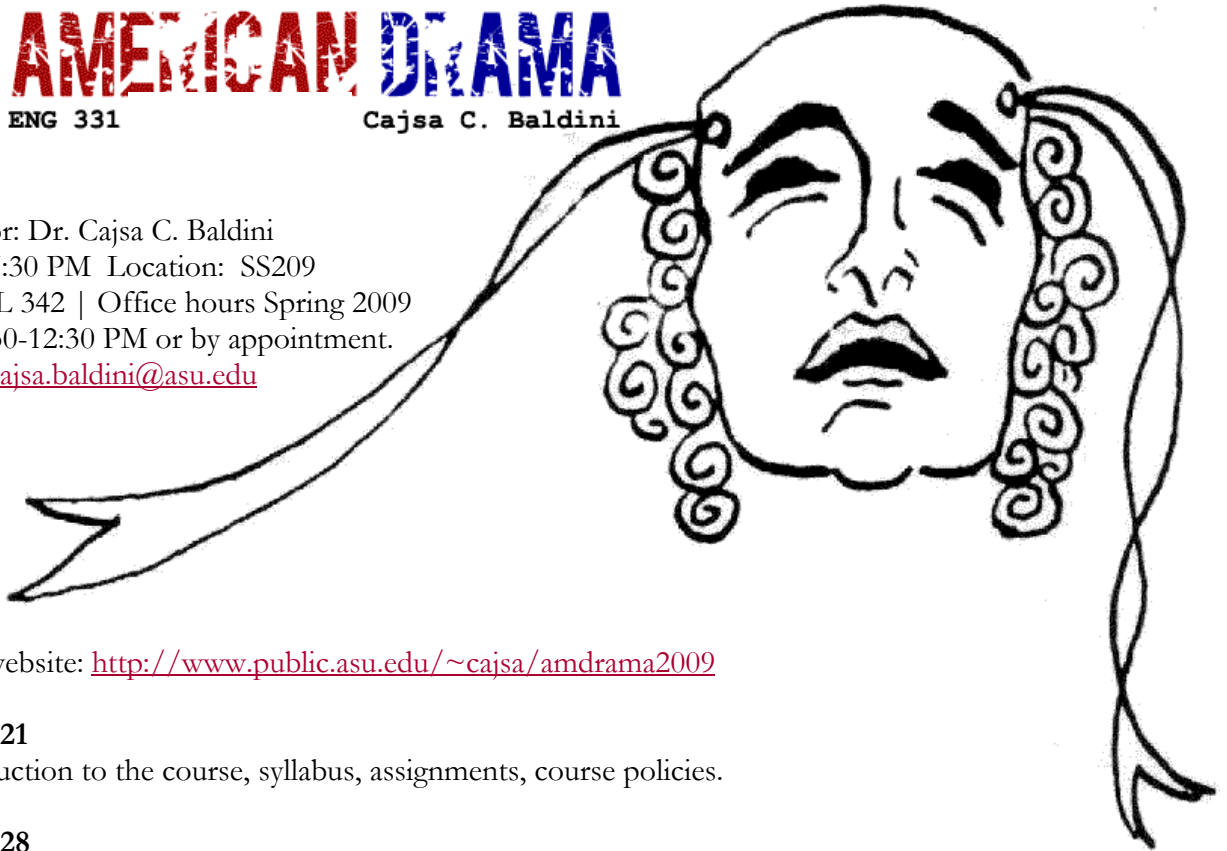
Instructor: Dr. Cajsa C. Baldini

W 4:40-7:30 PM Location: SS209

Office LL 342 | Office hours Spring 2009

MW 10:30-12:30 PM or by appointment.

E-mail: cajsa.baldini@asu.edu



Course website: <http://www.public.asu.edu/~cajsa/amdrama2009>

January 21

- Introduction to the course, syllabus, assignments, course policies.

January 28

- Introduction to the history of drama and dramatic theory
- Aristotle, *The Poetics* <http://classics.mit.edu/Aristotle/poetics.html>
Section 1, Part IV-XI; Section 2, Part XII-XVIII; Section 3, Part XXVI.
- Robert Hunter, *Androboros, a bogographical [sic] farce in three acts, viz. The senate, The consistory, and The apotheosis*. Read first half – at
http://www.public.asu.edu/~cajsa/edrama/secure/hunter_androboros_fulltext.pdf

February 4

- Introduction to Early Republican Drama
- Readings : Robert Hunter, *Androboros, a bogographical [sic] farce in three acts, viz. The senate, The consistory, and The apotheosis*. Read second half.
- Leder, Lawrence H., “Robert Hunter’s *Androboros*,” *Bulletin of the New York Public Library*, 1964. Online text (included with play, link above).

February 11

- Introduction to American Romanticism, and the emergence of an American Romantic Literature
- Readings : James N. Barker, *The Tragedy of Superstition* (1826). Read Acts I-III at
http://www.public.asu.edu/~cajsa/edrama/secure/barker_superstition2.pdf.
- James Monroe,* John Quincy Adams, et al, “The Monroe Doctrine”:
<http://www.ushistory.org/documents/monroe.htm>

* *James Monroe*: Fifth President of the United States (1817–1825).

February 18

- Introduction to Late 19th Century American Drama and the Continuous Construction of a National Identity in Literature.
- Readings : James N. Barker, *The Tragedy of Superstition* (1826). Read Acts IV-V.

February 25

- Readings : Anna Cora Mowatt, *Fashion; or, Life in New York* , (1850). Online text: Dedication - Act V: <http://library.marist.edu/diglib/english/americanliterature/19c-20c%20play%20archive/fashion-index.htm>

March 4

- **In-class Exam I.** 45 minutes.
- Readings : *The Iceman Cometh* , cont. Read Acts I-III.

March 8-15: Spring Break ☺**March 18**

- Readings : *The Iceman Cometh* , cont. Read Act IV-V.

March 25

- *The Iceman*, cont.

April 1

- Introduction to Modern American Political Drama.
- Readings : Hansberry, *A Raisin in the Sun*.

April 8

- Readings : Cont. Hansberry, *A Raisin in the Sun*.

April 15

- Introduction to American Drama as Southern Gothic.
- Readings : Tennessee Williams, *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Introduction and Scenes 1-3.

April 22

- Readings : *Streetcar* , cont. Scenes 4-7.

April 29

- Cont., *Streetcar*, 8-11.
- Research paper due.

April 30- May 6: Online Final exam on Blackboard.

COURSE POLICIES

Academic Freedom and the Nature of Studies in the Humanities

This course, like most courses in the Humanities, investigates and queries a vast range of human ideas, behaviors, and concepts featured in literature as well as in life. These include class, gender, sexuality, politics, religion, and alterities within these areas and concepts. These may be offensive to some students. It is the responsibility of each student to review the syllabus and listed readings to decide if this may be the case. If you have questions, please contact the instructor to determine if this course is indeed suitable for you. *This should be done during the first week of the semester to accommodate other enrollment options.*

Books and readings

Some of the readings for this course will be available online. With works posted online, you will need to print the primary texts (dramas) and bring the printout to class for reference. To save paper I recommend you print double-sided if possible.

Online readings are linked from the course website <http://www.public.asu.edu/~cajsa/amdrama07>. If prompted for “username/password” when accessing a link, use “amdrama” and “open” (without quotation marks).

Required hardcopy publications:

- O'Neill, Eugene . *The Iceman Cometh*. Vintage Publishing. (ISBN: 0375709177)
- Williams, Tennessee . *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Penguin. (ISBN: 0451167783)
- Miller, *The Crucible*. (ISBN: 0142437336)

Books are available in the ASU Bookstore. If you already own a different edition of any of the above plays, please see me to discuss if this edition is acceptable for this course. Other readings will be available online.

Attendance & Participation:

Because so much of your learning will take place in class, you must attend on a regular basis to receive credit for this course. If you miss three or more class meetings, your grade will be dropped one letter grade, regardless of your performance in the class. You cannot pass this course if you miss four or more class meetings. Attendance means being present, on time, and prepared for the entire class period. A student who is chronically late to class, leaves early, or is not prepared to participate in the day's work will not receive attendance and participation credit. I expect you to attend all class meetings and miss class only in rare and unavoidable circumstances. Should you arrive for class after I have called the roll, it is your responsibility to ensure that I correct the roll at the end of that class. Failure to attend class may also affect the grade given to you on the weekly reading quizzes, an important part of your grade, as it is carried out in class and may not be made up.[†]

Classroom Protocol/Participation:

We will spend much of our class time in discussion and analysis of the works we are reading. Regardless of the class format, you are expected to be prepared, to listen, to contribute, and to participate in an interested and knowledgeable fashion.

[†] As this is a drama course, and drama is a highly visual and oral medium, students should be prepared to participate in-class dramatic readings and impromptu in-class performances, and to do so actively and enthusiastically.

Grading:

Participation	200
Reading quizzes	200
Exam I	200
Final Research Paper	200
Exam II	200
Total points	1000

A=901-1000; B=801-900; C=701-800; D=601-700; E<600.

+/- grades are used at the instructor's discretion.

(Late) Paper/Assignment Submission Policy:

Assignments will be reduced ½ grade for every day they are late. All assignments are due by midnight on the due date. Written assignments may be submitted by email (as attachment).

Essay/Paper Format:

Use MLA Format for citations. The final paper, a critical research paper, should be approximately 10 pages in length. You should use at least four secondary sources for final paper. None of these sources may be a webpage, or a website such as Wikipedia, Smartnotes, or similar. For more information on how to use MLA style, visit

http://www.public.asu.edu/~cajsa/Guide2Style_complete.pdf.

A separate worksheet will be distributed for each writing assignment.

Quizzes and Exams:

Reading quizzes will be given frequently, and deal only with the primary readings due that day.

Quizzes will be given the first 10 minutes of class, and cannot be made up if you are not present or arrive late.

Exam I will cover all primary and secondary readings, and lecture materials covered up until March 4, and will be 45 minutes long.

Exam II will cover the primary and secondary readings, and lecture materials of the entire course, but will focus on materials covered after March 9. It will be administered online on Blackboard (<http://myasucourses.asu.edu>) April 30- May 6.

Academic Honesty:

A student who plagiarizes part or all of a written assignment will receive an E for the assignment and further disciplinary proceedings at the instructor's discretion. Plagiarism occurs when a student claims credit for work s/he has not done personally, and includes submitting assignments produced by another student or writer, or putting sentences or ideas originally expressed by someone else into a paper without noting their source. At the upper division level, you ought to have mastered the ability to properly distinguish in writing between your own and other writers' ideas using quotations, paraphrase, and in-text citation of source materials.