



ST. JOHN VIANNEY  
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
LAY DIVISION

CATHOLIC CULTURE: THEATRE AND THE ARTS

Week	Topic
Week 1	Theatre and Theater ( <i>Abydos Passion Play</i> and <i>Aristotle</i> )
Week 2	Theatre in Antiquity: Ancient Greek Tragedy ( <i>Sophocles, Euripides</i> )
Week 3	Theatre in Antiquity: Ancient Greek Comedy ( <i>Aristophanes, Terence, Plautus</i> )
Week 4	Theatre in Antiquity: the Romans ( <i>Seneca</i> )
Week 5	Theatre in Christianity: As Catechesis ( <i>Hrotsvit, the Wakefield Master</i> )
Week 6	Theatre in Christianity: Morality Plays ( <i>Everyman</i> )
Week 7	Theatre in India and Eastern Asia ( <i>Shudraka, Hanquing, Motokiyo</i> )
Week 8	The Forerunners to Shakespeare ( <i>Kyd, Marlowe</i> ) and <i>Commedia D'ell Arte</i>
Week 9	Shakespeare: Tragedy ( <i>Hamlet</i> )
Week 10	Shakespeare: Comedy ( <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i> )
Week 11	Shakespeare: History ( <i>Richard III</i> )
Week 12	Shakespeare: Problem Plays and Sonnets ( <i>The Tempest</i> )
Week 13	French Theatre and Neoclassicism ( <i>Moliere, Racine</i> )
Week 14	Opera: The Medicis and Neoclassicism ( <i>Perdi, Handel, Mozart</i> )
Week 15	Opera: The Medicis and the Rise of Opera ( <i>Rossini, Bizet, Verdi, Wagner, Puccini</i> )
Week 16	German Theatre ( <i>Faust and Faust</i> )
Week 17	Spanish Theatre and the New World ( <i>Sor Juana de la Cruz, Federico Garcia Lorca</i> )
Week 18	Early Realism ( <i>Ibsen</i> )
Week 19	Theatre in Russia and Stanislavski ( <i>Chekhov</i> ), "Method Acting"
Week 20	Theatre Under Totalitarian Regimes ( <i>Gorky, Ionesco, JPII's</i> )
Week 21	Comedy of Manners in English Comedy ( <i>Wilde</i> )
Week 22	Surrealism in French Plays ( <i>Jarry</i> ), Brutalism, Theatre of Cruelty ( <i>Brecht</i> )
Week 23	Rise of Vaudeville and Birth of the Musical ( <i>Gilbert &amp; Sullivan, Rodgers &amp; Hammerstein</i> )
Week 24	American Theatre: Eugene O'Neil, Lillian Hellman, and Thornton Wilder
Week 25	American Theatre: Langston Hughes, Lorraine Hansberry, and August Wilson
Week 26	American Theatre: Tennessee Williams
Week 27	American Theatre: Arthur Miller and Sam Shepard
Week 28	Moral Depravity: Edward Albee, David Mamet, and Tony Kushner
Week 29	Modern Theatre: Broadway and Beyond
Week 30	God and <i>Waiting for Godot</i>

\* Syllabus subject to modification by instructor.