English 370 Seminar: Eugene O'Neill

I. The object of this course is an in depth study of the life and selected works of America’s most important dramatist.

II. Students will read critical and biographical material concerning the author and twenty-two of his plays. Students will lead a class discussion of one short and one long play and write a research paper of ten to fifteen pages on a topic approved in advance, and report on the substance of the research paper in a brief class presentation. There is no final examination.

III. Class participation will count for 25%, discussion of the long play and the research paper will each count for 30% of the term’s grade. The discussion of the short or shorter play will count for 15% of the term’s grade.

IV. All students are expected to attend and participate in all class meetings. Attendance for English 370 is based on the attendance statement in the Moravian College Catalog: read, date, sign, and submit the accompanying paper.

V. Papers will be expected to adhere to a minimal quality of standard English and adhere to the Statement on Academic Honesty, found in both the college catalog and the student handbook.

VI. All students are expected to attend a production of an O'Neill play if one is produced, or, if not, view any one of the plays available on video tape or DVD.

TEXTS: Anna Christie, The Emperor Jones, The Hairy Ape = AC
Biographical, Critical, Literary Handouts = BCL
Desire Under the Elms, Strange Interlude, Morning Becomes Electra = DUE
Iceman Cometh, The = IC
Later Plays of Eugene O'Neill, The = LP
Long Day's Journey Into Night = DJ
Seven Plays of the Sea = 7

VIDEO RECORDINGS On Library Reserve:
1. Beyond the Horizon, 1920, (not assigned in class)
2. The Emperor Jones, 1920
3. The Hairy Ape, 1921
4. Desire Under the Elms, 1924
5. Strange Interlude, 1927
6. **Mourning Becomes Electra**, 1931
7. **Ah, Wilderness**, 1932
8. **The Iceman Cometh**, 1939
9. **Long Day’s Journey Into Night**, 1941
   a. version starring Jack Lemon
   b. version starring Lawrence Olivier
10. **A Touch of the Poet**, 1942
11. **A Moon for the Misbegotten**, 1943

1. Au. 28 Introduction; Critical Biography; Realistic and Naturalistic Drama; Oral Presentations; BCL, Nature of Drama, 1-22; Eugene O’Neill, 1-30.
2. Sp. 11 **Bound East for Cardiff** 7; **In the Zone** 7; **Ile** 7.
4. Sp. 25 **Where the Cross is Made** 7; **The Emperor Jones** AC
5. Oct. 2 **The Hairy Ape** AC; **All God’s Chillun Got Wings** BCL,
6. Oc. 16 **Marco Millions** BCL.
7. Oc. 23 **The Great God Brown** BCL; **Anna Christie** AC.
8. Oc. 30 **Strange Interlude** DUE.
9. Nv. 6 **Mourning Becomes Electra** DUE.
10. Nv. 13 **The Iceman Cometh** IC ; Research Paper Subject Due.
11. Nv. 20 **Long Day’s Journey Into Night** DJ.
12 Nv. 27 **Desire Under the Elms** DUE.
13. Dec. 4 **Hughie** LP; **A Touch of the Poet** LP; Research Paper Reports.
14. Dc. 11 **A Moon for the Misbegotten** LP; Research Paper Reports.

**RESEARCH PAPER DUE - TUESDAY, DEC. 5th - 4:30 P.M.**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Pages</th>
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<tr>
<td>1914</td>
<td><strong>Bound East for Cardiff</strong>, 7, pp. 31-52</td>
<td>21</td>
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<td>1917</td>
<td><strong>In the Zone</strong>, 7, pp. 79-108</td>
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<td>1917</td>
<td><strong>Ile</strong>, 7, pp. 109-134</td>
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<td>1917</td>
<td><strong>The Long Voyage Home</strong>, 7, pp. 53-78</td>
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<td>1917</td>
<td><strong>The Moon of the Caribees</strong>, 7, pp. 1-30</td>
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<td>1918</td>
<td><strong>The Rope</strong>, 7, pp. 163-199</td>
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<td>1918</td>
<td><strong>Where the Cross is Made</strong>, 7, pp. 135-162</td>
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<td>1920</td>
<td><strong>The Emperor Jones</strong>, AP, pp. 1-54</td>
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English 370 Eugene O’Neill

A Checklist of Understanding for the Course

At the conclusion of English 370 the student should

1. Have a fundamental knowledge of the dramatic literature of Eugene O’Neill by reading the texts of a selected number of his works, as well as see one stage production and view a select number of video recordings of his works.

2. Have a fundamental knowledge of O’Neill’s biography and understand the biographical influences in many of his works.

3. Have a fundamental knowledge of literary realism and naturalism and how O’Neill’s plays can be understood and interpreted in light of those two movements as well as other movements and philosophies.

4. Have a fundamental knowledge of the variety and breadth of critical and philosophical works that analyze and interpret the works of O’Neill.

5. Demonstrate competence in devising perceptive oral and written analyses of O’Neill’s works by careful and exact reading and employing the tools of literary analysis and library research.