WORLD DRAMA  HU 2547  R. Blanning  Spring 2006  
Office: Walker 337  Hrs. 10-11 a.m. MWF

Texts:  Fences August Wilson, The Cherry Orchard Anton Chekhov, Tartuffe Moliere, Othello Shakespeare… for now… (we’ll consider other plays together, in class.)

Jan. 9, 11 & 13:  Introduction, the idea & history of theatre. Crude theatre/comedy/ the oral tradition/spectacle/the Greeks/Romans/ the church/modern theatre/theatres/ design and technology/acting etc.?

1.  [#1. Read Othello and begin a paper discussing the characters of Iago, Othello & Desdemona.]


2.  [Othello paper is due on the 25th.]

Jan. 23, 25, 27, 30  No class. Study Othello.

3.  [No class.]

Feb. 1, 3, 6  [#2. See play and write a paper interpreting characters.]  [#3. Read Fences and start paper.]

4.  [No class.]

Feb. 8, 10, 13  [#4. Read Tartuffe and begin paper.]

5.  [Fences paper is due on the 10th.]

Feb. 15 & 17  [#5. Read The Cherry Orchard; and write a paper.]  [Tartuffe paper is due on the 15th.]

6.  [No class.]

Feb. 20, 22, 24  [Cherry Orchard paper due on 22nd.]

7.  Discuss The Cherry Orchard in class.

8.  Asian & maybe Sanskrit theatre… Videos etc. & no paper.
THE PAPERS:

Each of the papers should be at least three full pages, typed, double-spaced.

#1. Discuss Othello, Iago & Desdemona giving the characters various interpretations that might alter the sense of the plot.

#2. You need to see one of these two plays offered in the Rozsa Spring Semester: Two Gentlemen of Verona, 1/29; The Three Musketeers, 2/24 or, in McArdle; Henry V, March 22 through 26 and write your paper re-interpreting at least three of the characters and the directors concept.

#3. Fences: Discuss all of the characters and how you think lighting and the set will effect the sense of it.

#4. Tartuffe: Discuss the character Tartuffe and do a little research on the period and style of the play.

#5. The Cherry Orchard: Why is this play considered a comedy and what was going on socially in Russia at the time that informs the play?

GRADES: Each paper will have the same value (if it were just these five they would be worth 20% each but there will be more???) Attendance is required. You get three excused absences. After that you lose a half a point off of your final grade for each absence. Attitude and participation in class can increase or decrease your final grade by as much as a point.