Conflict: a serious disagreement or argument, typically a protracted one. Synonyms: battle, clash, disagreement, combat, rivalry, strife, struggle, collision, war.

Irish playwright George Bernard Shaw once said “No conflict, no drama”. This course will consider issues of conflict as an essential characteristic of theatre by examining a range of plays and productions, including two short works from the early 20th century: The First Actress (1911) by Christopher St. John (Christabel Marshall) and Trifles (1916) by Susan Glaspell. We will move forward to examine contemporary works such as Emily Mann’s Execution of Justice, a docudrama based on the murder of a gay politician in 1978 San Francisco. In addition to reading scripts, essays, and the course textbook, students will see a variety of live theatre at the Wexner Center for the Arts and as part of the OSU Theatre Season. Course discussion and presentations are a component of the course along with writing responses and short essays. A reading list and live performances for the course will be available on request from the instructor by early December.

Catalog Description: A study of the art and profession of live theatre with emphasis upon its cultural and social influences in our society.
Prereq: Honors standing or permission of instructor. Not open to students with credit for 2101H (101H), 100, or 100H. GE VPA and diversity soc div in the US course.