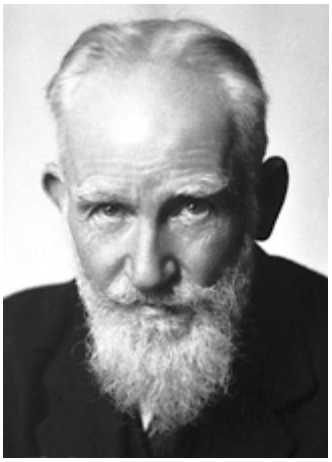
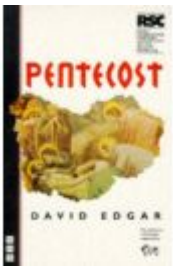
English 640/Spring 2010/Dr. Jeff Loomis, Professor

Twentieth-Century British Drama





An examination of drama in England and Ireland since 1900, with attention to as many of the major dramatists as possible, as well as with some consideration of key literary movements and political/social events, as they influenced drama.

Week 1—Introduction
Week 2—Shaw's Saint Joan
Week 3—O'Casey's Juno and the Paycock & Shaw's Heartbreak House
Week 4—Galsworthy's Justice & Coward's The Vortex
Week 5—Rattigan's The Deep Blue Sea & Osborne's Look Back in Anger
Week 6—Pinter's The Homecoming & Storey's Home
Week 7—Arden's Sergeant Musgrave's Dance and Brenton's The Romans in Britain
Week 8—*Mid-Term Exam*
Weeks 9-10 Oral Reports
Week 11—Shaffer's Equus & Edgar's Pentecost
Week 12—Churchill's Top Girls & Friel's Faith Healer
Week 13—Stephenson's An Experiment with an Air Pump & McDonagh's The Pillowman
Week 14—Bennett's The History Boys

…quintessencing Ibsenism…

…tradition meets the 'angry' Fifties…

…'absurdism' and grit… ***…recent explorations…***