The 2015 smash musical Hamilton fundamentally reconfigured the way many audiences "picture" US American history. But in the centuries of U.S. drama before its debut, how did audiences represent race, gender, and ethnicity on U.S. stages? Whose identities were included and whose were marginalized? This class questions how artists embraced the many challenges of representing “nation” on stage, exploring both their triumphs and their failures.

This class also interrogates the persistent prejudices that plagued many communities and shaped their depiction in the playhouse. We will also follow performers who challenged gender norms or fought racial and ethnic biases to share their stories with U.S. audiences.

DR 93.01 and WGSS 85.42
M/W 10:30-11:45
(Hybrid Format)
Professor Heather Nathans & Mia Levenson