

The Entertainers

Draft Description

Entertainment, and those who make it possible, “The Entertainers,” has been a significant part of every society and culture from the beginning of time. Even the Stone Age people devised ways to pass the long hours in their caves and around their camp fires. This course will examine the many ways we have entertained ourselves during the past two millennia.

Possible Topics

Story Tellers

Court Jesters and Buskers

Circus Performers

- Clowns
- Animal Trainers
- Cirque du Soleil
- Freak Shows

Minstrel Shows

Medieval Morality Plays

Public Executions

Composers

- Bach
- Chopin
- Beethoven
- Ellington

Comedians

- Bob Hope
- Johnny Carson
- Robin Williams
- Phyllis Diller

Stage Plays

- Shakespearean
- Musicals

Operas (and Operettas)

- Traviata
- Carmen
- Porgy and Bess

Concerts

- Woodstock

Stage Actors

• Burbage

• Bernhardt

• Guinness

• Burton

• Hutt

• Orson Welles

Movies

Musicians

- Armstrong
- Gould
- Brubeck
- Davis

Car Racers

Daredevils

- Blondin
- Annie Taylor
- Evel Knievel
- Alain Robert
- Stunt Pilots
- Wing Walkers

Magicians

- Houdini
- Robert Houdin
- Blackstone
- Copperfield

Playwrights

- Aristophanes
- Sophocles
- Shakespeare
- Chekov
- Williams

Literature and Novelists

Great Theatres

- The Globe
- La Scala
- Royal Albert Hall
- Stratford
- Shaw

Singers

- Pavarotti
- Callas
- Jolson
- Elvis
- Beiber

Famous Movie Stars

- Garbo
- Harlow
- Gable
- Bogart
- Monroe

Athletics

- Amateur
- Professional
- Olympics
- Football
- Baseball
- Hockey
- Wrestling

Dance and Dancers

Economics of Entertainment

Psychology of Entertainment

Etc., etc., ...