

TH 100
Introduction to Theatre
Tuesday and Thursday 2:00pm – 3:15pm

Course Description: The purpose of this course is to provide the students with basic instruction in the elements of theatre. Aspects that are covered in the course include: acting, directing, classical and modern theatre, design and technical areas of production.

Credit Hours: 3 credit hours

Prerequisites: None

Course Objectives/Student Learning Outcomes:

Students will gain knowledge of the basic principles of theatre, develop keener analytical skills in the critique of script or performance, understand the complexity of the many facets of a production, and gain a basic knowledge of the roots of theatre.

Students will synthesize their creative knowledge in their areas of concentration through the execution of multidisciplinary presentations of material relating to the social, economic, political, and artistic issues of the Black Belt region.

Students will demonstrate an understanding of the Fine Arts by the application of the creative aesthetic value of their areas of concentration to a variety of projects and artistic endeavors.

Students will be able to articulate an ethical and artistic framework for their continued development through the documentation of their creative process.

Course Material:

The main text for this course is *Theatre* by Robert Cohen, Tenth Edition. McGraw Hill Higher Education. ISBN:978-0-07-338218-0

You will also need a copy of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by William Shakespeare. This can be print or digital but make sure it is a copy you can bring to class as we will be reading it out loud. There is a link on Blackboard to download or print a copy for free.

E-books are allowed but you must be able to access it during class using something other than your phone.

Course Requirements, Evaluation and Grading:

In Class Assignments 5 @ 5 pts. each	25 points
Quizzes- 5@20 pts. each	100 points
Production Critique	50 points
Shakespeare Project	100 points
Dramatic Monologue	50 points
Midterm Exam	100 points
Final Exam	100 points
<u>Attendance and Participation</u>	<u>100 points</u>
TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE	625 points

ALL GRADES, STUDY GUIDES, AND ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE POSTED ON BLACKBOARD. CLASS ANNOUNCEMENTS MAY ALSO BE MADE THROUGH BLACKBOARD. CHECK BLACKBOARD FOR THIS CLASS EVERY DAY.

Grade Format: A= 563-650
B=500-562
C=438-499
D=375-437

Assignments:

In Class Assignments: Assignments will be short in class items. These may be announced in advance or the day of. If you miss one of these assignments due to tardiness or absence you will NOT be allowed to make them up. There will be 5 assignments at 5 points each.

Quizzes: Quizzes will be given at the start of class. You will have 40 minutes to take each quiz. The quizzes will each cover 2-4 chapters as well as in class lectures. There will be 5 quizzes at 20 points each. You will only be allowed to take a makeup quiz for an EXCUSED absence. There will be a study guide for each chapter posted after the in class discussion of that chapter.

Production Critique: You will be required to attend the Spring theatre department production and write a critique of it. The show dates are March 8-11, 2016. The performances will be held at 7:30pm in the Bibb Graves Auditorium. Admission is free for students WITH your ID card. If you cannot attend you must make arrangements with the professor to see another production BY to March 1, 2016. The critique is worth 50 points. Detailed instructions for the critique will be given in class.

Shakespeare Project: This will be a group project worth 100 points for each member of the group or an individual project worth 100 points. You will have to work on this project outside of class. Detailed instructions on this project will be given in class.

Dramatic Monologue: You will have to perform a 1-2 minute monologue in class. The monologue is to be memorized. You will have to have your monologue approved by the professor on the required date. (see syllabus) On the day of the performance you must provide the professor with a typed hard copy of your monologue if you did not do so for approval. This performance is worth 50 points.

Midterm Exam: You will have a midterm exam worth 100 points. This exam will cover all reading and in class lectures and discussions from the start of classes through the date of the exam. The exam may include short answer questions, true/false questions, matching questions, multiple choice questions, and essay questions.

Final Exam: You will have a final exam worth 100 points. This exam will cover all reading and in class lectures and discussions from the start of classes through the date of the exam. The exam may include short answer questions, true/false questions, matching questions, multiple choice questions, and essay questions.

Attendance/Participation: Theatre is an interactive art form and therefore attendance and participation are a large component of this class. You are expected to participate in class discussions, lectures, and other assignments. Failure to participate will result in a lowering of your participation grade. When you arrive to class you must sign the roll sheet prior to class starting. Each student must sign their own name. If you do not sign the roll prior to the start of class it is your responsibility to see the professor after class to add your name, otherwise you will be marked absent. **Students are allowed one unexcused absence, however any additional unexcused absence will automatically result in a five-point deduction per missed class from the Attendance/ Participation grade.** Any excused absence will not cause a deduction from the class participation grade, however students must provide appropriate documentation in order for absences to be excused. If you have an excused absence for which you need to do makeup work, it is your responsibility to make arrangements with the professor within 2 weeks of returning to class. In addition to attendance there will be several "assignments" over the course of the semester. These may be take-home work or work completed in class. It is the responsibility of the student to complete this work. Again, failure to complete one of these assignments will result in a five-point deduction per assignment from the Attendance/Participation grade. A student cannot receive credit for the course if he/she does not attend at least two-thirds of the class meetings, **regardless of the reason for the absences. IN ADDITION IF A STUDENT**

ARRIVES MORE THAN TEN MINUTES LATE FOR CLASS, THEN THE STUDENT WILL BE COUNTED AS ABSENT FOR THE DAY.

Assessment Day: As part of the University's plan to assess institutional effectiveness, a day is set aside each quarter for assessment activities. Although no day classes meet on this designated day, students are required to participate in assessment activities when they are called upon to do so.

Accommodation: Reasonable accommodations in accordance with ADA (1993) will be made for course participants whose personal characteristics require specific instructional and testing conditions. Persons with such requirements must identify themselves to the instructor at the beginning of the course.

Content/Schedule Change: The instructional schedule reflects expected class progress in course subject matter and is considered tentative. The schedule is subject to change in content and scope at the instructor's discretion.

Honesty/Integrity: The UWA Academic Dishonesty policy stated in the *General Catalogue* and the *Student Handbook* will be followed in this course.

CLASS RULES:

-CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT: I am personally, ethically, and legally committed to providing a safe classroom environment for all of my students. Please make sure all comments in and out of class are respectful and constructive. Derogatory comments regarding race, ethnicity, class, gender, sexual orientation, etc. **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.**

-Please pay attention to the format assignments are to be in when turned in. i.e. if it is supposed to be a hard copy turned in during class do not email it to me.

-Assignments turned in late will have 5 points deducted per day they are later. i.e. if it is due in class on Wednesday and you turn it in after class you will lose five points. If you turn it in on Thursday you will lose ten points.

-There is to be no use of cell phones in this class at any time. This includes getting up and leaving class to use your phone. You will lose your participation points for the day. Phones must be set to silent and put away during class.

-You may use a tablet or laptop to take notes in class. However, do not use them in class for other reasons including web surfing, Facebook, games, and other purposes that distract from the class. You will be asked to leave class and be counted absent for the day.

-All assigned reading is to be done **PRIOR** to class. If you have not done the reading you will not be able to pass a quiz on that reading. You will also not be able to participate in the class discussion that day which will affect your participation grade.

-Do not bring pets, children, friends, or family members to class.

-Class time is not snack time. Please do not eat in my class.

-If you plan on seeing any plays other than the required one during the semester see me beforehand about the possibility of earning extra credit points.

**Intro To Theatre – TH 100
Spring 2016
Class Schedule**

***Schedule is subject to change**

ALL READING IS TO BE DONE PRIOR TO CLASS MEETNG!

Day	Date	Topic/Project	Reading(do prior to class)
Tuesday	1/12	Introduction/Syllabus	
Thursday	1/14	Syllabus/What is Theatre?	Chapter 1
Tuesday	1/19	What is a Play?/The Ancients	Chapters 2 and 3
Thursday	1/21	The Ancients/The Middle Ages	Chapters 3 and 4
Tuesday	1/26	Quiz #1 Chapters 1-4	
Thursday	1/28	The Renaissance	Chapter 5
Tuesday	2/2	The Royal Era	Chapter 7
Thursday	2/4	The Theatre of Asia	Chapter 6
Tuesday	2/9	Quiz #2 Chapters 5-7/Modern Theatre Realism	Chapter 8
Thursday	2/11	Modern Theatre: Realism/ Modern Theatre: Antirealism	Chapters 8 and 9
Tuesday	2/16	Modern Theatre: Antirealism/ Musical Theatre	Chapters 9 and 10
Thursday	2/18	Quiz #3 Chapters 8-10/Midterm Review	
Tuesday	2/23	Watch <i>Rent</i>	Monologue choice due for approval(5pts)
Thursday	2/25	MIDTERM EXAM	MIDTERM EXAM
Tuesday	3/1	Designers and Technicians	Chapter 14
Thursday	3/3	The Director/The Critic	Chapters 15 and 16
Tuesday	3/8	ASSESSMENT DAY	NO CLASS
Thursday	3/10	See Spring Production	NO CLASS
Tuesday	3/15	Quiz #4 Chapters 14-16/The Playwright	Chapter 12/ Production Critique due in class
Thursday	3/17	The Actor	Chapter 13
Tuesday	3/22	MONOLOGUE PRESENTATIONS	
Thursday	3/24	Introduce Shakespeare Project/Plot synopsis/Read from script	Bring copy of <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> script to class (5pts) Sign up for project presentation date (5pts)
Tuesday	3/39	SPRING BREAK	NO CLASS
Thursday	3/31	SPRING BREAK	NO CLASS

Tuesday	4/5	Quiz #5 Chapters 12-13 /Watch A <i>Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	Scene/Option choice for Project Due by 5pm via email (5pts)
Thursday	4/7	Watch A <i>Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	
Tuesday	4/12	Watch A <i>Midsummer Night's Dream/ A Midsummer Night's Dream Quiz(5pts)</i>	
Thursday	4/14	TBA	
Tuesday	4/19	PROJECT PRESENTATIONS	
Thursday	4/21	PROJECT PRESENTATIONS	
Tuesday	4/26	Final Exam Review	
Thursday	4/28	TBA	
		FINAL EXAM	