ART OF THE THEATRE

THEA 1310.001    TH 3:30 – 4:45

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Office hours:    M, T, W, H 2-3:30 pm and F by appointment only

The Art of the Theatre explores the origins, elements, and ideas concerning theatre as it affects us today. This is accomplished through reading and discussions of the text, an exploration into the creative processes associated with the productions of plays, and an examination of the theatre through the imagination of both the theatre artist and the audience. The class will also view live and mediated representative plays for discussion.

Student Learning Objectives:

1. The student will learn an overview of the history of the Theatre and understand the historical, social, and cultural influences that inform it.

2. The student will learn the contributions of the playwright, the actor, the designers, and the audience into the creative process of the Theatre.

3. Having learned an overview of the history of the Theatre and the contributions of Theatre artists and management, the student will develop an informed, aesthetic response to Theatre as an art form.

OPTIONAL TEXT: Theatre the Lively Art by Wilson and Goldfarb, 6th edition (or any inexpensive recent edition. These editions may have different chapter names. It is the student’s responsibility to keep current with the correct chapter assignments. But you can save money. The text is optional.)

Grading:
5 papers on representative plays viewed in class (50 pts. each) 250 points
5 papers on representative playwrights (50 pts. each) 250 points
2 chapter exams (mid-term 100pts; final 100pts) 200 points
2 critiques of University Theatre plays (100pts each) 200 points
Attendance grade – each absence is 10 points off 100 points

Total points possible 1000 points

There will be extra credit assignments possible through the semester. It is your responsibility to choose to do these assignments for the extra points.
Grading Scale:
A  900- 1000 points
B  800- 899 points
C  700- 799 points
D  600- 699 points
F  Below 600 points

Academic Integrity:
Students are expected to do their own work. To claim another’s work as your own constitutes plagiarism. Plagiarism in any form will result in a “0” for the assignment. Subsequent violations will result in an “F” for the course and a referral to the Dean of Students for University disciplinary actions.

Plays studied in class:
1) There are 5 papers on representative plays that are viewed during class.
2) The 2 University Theatre play critiques consist of a short analysis following the guidelines distributed in class. Each critique will have a set of objectives the student is to MEET. These critiques are to be between 2-3 pages, double-spaced and 12 point font. Please answer the questions in number format not essay style and attach the form provided in class. 100 points each.
3) There are 5 papers on the playwrights whose plays we study in class. Each paper is one page, double spaced. 12 point font. 50 points each.
4) There are also opportunities for extra credit. They will be assignments between 2-3 pages on optional plays offered off-campus. You must get these plays approved prior to viewing them and pick up the critique paper. They are worth 50 points each. There are also other extra credit assignments possible throughout the semester.
5) All plays on campus are $5 and Musicals are $10. If this presents a financial hardship on you, please see me for an alternate assignment. You must let me know prior to the date of the play!!!

Missed classes:
Missed classes, late work, or missed assignments will not be allowed to be made up. You will receive a “0” for all late work. It is the student’s responsibility to hand in their work on time, in class on the date assigned. Only medical emergencies with supporting documents will be considered as excused. All other absences must be cleared in advance. Attendance is taken at the beginning of class. It is your responsibility to let me know if you came in late to be counted present.
You must be in class the entire period to hand in your assignments. NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS ACCEPTED!!!
You must also be in class the entire period to receive the class handouts. Do not make the mistake of ‘dropping off’ your assignments and leaving or having someone else hand them in.
I will not accept any assignment if you are counted absence.
DO NOT EMAIL ASSIGNMENTS.

Attendance: Perfect attendance is 100 points. For each absence (regardless of the reason) you will lose 10 points from the 100 possible attendance points.

EQUITY STATEMENT: All persons, regardless of gender, age, class, race, religion, physical disability, sexual orientation, etc., shall have equal opportunity without harassment in this communication course. Any problems with or questions about harassment can be discussed confidentially with your instructor or with the department chair.

Academic Advising
The College of Arts and Humanities requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College's Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E, and can be reached at 825-3466.

The American with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Disability Services Office at (361) 825-5816 or visit the office in Driftwood 101.

*** Grade Appeal Process. As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.
Course Outline for THEA 1310.001

8/23  Hand out/ discuss syllabus. . .
Assignment:  Read introduction and Chapter 1, 2, 3, 4
Come up with a personal definition of ART.
ATTEND 1 HOUR OF AUDITIONS MON, TUE, OR WED and
WRITE ONE HALF PAGE REACTION PAPER for 10 points extra credit

8/28  Discuss a definition of “ART”??
Discuss Introduction and Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4
Assignment:  Paper on Arthur Miller

8/30  Hand in paper on Arthur Miller
View DEATH OF A SALESMAN

9/4  NO CLASS TODAY  LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

9/6  Continue with DEATH OF A SALESMAN

9/11  Continue with and discussion of DEATH OF A SALESMAN
Assignment:  Read Chapters 5, 8
Assignment:  PAPER on DEATH OF A SALESMAN

9/13  PAPER DUE on DEATH OF A SALESMAN
Discuss Chapters 5, 8
Assignment:  paper on Luis Valdez

EXTRACREDIT ASSIGNMENT:  10 points
Hand in a one page paper on the “Sleepy Lagoon Murder Case”

9/18  Hand in paper on Luis Valdez
Hand in EXTRACREDIT ASSIGNMENT:  10 points
View ZOOT SUIT

9/20  Continue with ZOOT SUIT

9/25  Continue with and discussion of ZOOT SUIT
Assignment:  Read Chapters 6, 7, 9

9/27  PAPER DUE on ZOOT SUIT
Discuss Chapters 6, 7, 9
Assignment:  Read Chapter 10, 11

10/2  Discuss Chapter 10, 11
Assignment:  Mid-Term Exam on Chapters 1-11
10/4 MID-TERM EXAM
ASSIGNMENT: Read Chapters 13 & 14

10/9 Discuss Chapters 13 & 14
Assignment: Paper on Sophocles
Assignment: Go see Farragut North in the Wilson Theatre Sept. 10 8pm

10/11 CLASS DOES NOT MEET THIS DAY AT 3:30...
CLASS MEETS AT 8PM in the Wilson Theatre to view
FARRAGUT NORTH

10/16 Hand in paper on FARRAGUT NORTH
Hand in paper on Sophocles
Discuss FARRAGUT NORTH
Begin viewing of ANTIGONE

10/18 Continue viewing of ANTIGONE

10/23 Finish viewing and discussion of ANTIGONE
Assignment: Read Chapter 15

10/25 PAPER DUE on ANTIGONE
Discuss Chapter 15
Assignment: Paper on William Shakespeare

10/30 Hand in paper on William Shakespeare
View HAMLET

11/1 Continue with HAMLET

11/6 Continue with and discussion of HAMLET
ASSIGNMENT: READ CHAPTERS 16 & 17
Paper due on HAMLET

11/8 Paper due on HAMLET
Discuss Chapters 16 & 17
Assignment: Paper due on Wild Honey and Anton Chekhov

11/13 Discuss Wild Honey and Anton Chekhov
Assignment: Go to see WILD HONEY at 8pm in the Warren Theatre
Hand in paper on the production of WILD HONEY

11/15 CLASS MEETS AT 8PM NOT AT 3:30
CLASS WILL GO TO SEE WILD HONEY AT 8PM IN THE WARREN THEATRE
11/20   HAND IN PAPER ON WILD HONEY
        Discuss WILD HONEY
        Discuss Chapters 16, 17
        Assignment: Paper on Henrik Ibsen

11/27   HAND IN PAPER ON HENRIK IBSEN
        View A DOLL’S HOUSE

11/29   Continue with A DOLL’S HOUSE

12/4    Finish and discuss A DOLL’S HOUSE
        Assignment: PAPER on A DOLL’S HOUSE
        FINAL PAPER ON GENRE’S OF THEATRE (hand out)

        FINAL EXAM    Time TBA:
        FINAL EXAM    Paper due
        Paper due on A DOLL’S HOUSE