The Art of the Theatre Fall 2013   MWF  
THEA 1310.002 12-12:5 MWF Engineering Rm 106  
Professor Philip Johnson Philip.Johnson@tamucc.edu   825-2361  
Bay Hall 321   Office hours M-F 11-11:50 and by appointment.  

The Art of the Theatre explores the origins, elements and ideas concerning theatre as it affects us today. This is accomplished through discussions of the text and plays to be read for class, an exploration into the creative processes associated with the production of plays and an examination the theatre through the imagination of both the theatre artist and audience. The class will also view and critique plays according to information provided in class.  

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.  

TEXT: Theatre: The Lively Art Edwin Wilson, Alvin Goldfarb  8th edition. McGraw-Hill, 2013   An earlier version of the text can be used. Students choosing this option are responsible for updated material missing from earlier texts.  

Web Access   All materials presented in class will be available on the web Blackboard https://iol.tamucc.edu/.  

Grading  
Class Participation (10 quizzes/assignments @ 20pts each) 200 pts.  
Play Critiques 4 total @ 100 pts each 400 pts  
Exams - 4 @ 100 pts each 400 pts  

______________________________  
Total 1000pts  

Grading Scale  
A = 90% or above 900 pts  
B = 80 - 89% 800 - 899 pts  
C = 70 - 79% 700 - 799 pts  
D = 60 - 69% 600 - 699 pts  
F = Below 59% 000 - 599 pts  

You can check your grade and class standing on Blackboard.  
If you have any questions regarding grades please email me.
**Academic Integrity**

Students are expected to do their own work. To claim another's work as one's own constitutes Plagiarism. Plagiarism would be the taking of someone else's writing, creative projects, electronic media or other assignments and turning it in as your own. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Under university policy you can face severe consequences, which include probation or expulsion from the university. If you are found guilty of presenting someone else work as your own you will receive an F in the class and will be reported to the dean of students for further action.

**POP QUIZZES/ASSIGNMENT**  In lieu of taking attendance there will be ten pop quizzes/assignment during the course of the term. These tasks will be un-announced and you will have a limited time in which to complete the assignment. Regular on time attendance will ensure your ability to know about the assignments. The material covered in the quizzes will be the days reading assignment. Please refer to the schedule for more information. If you miss a pop quiz you will not be allowed to make it up. Only university sanctioned activities will exempt you from a pop quiz.

**PLAY CRITIQUES**  4 Total

The critiques consist of a short analysis of plays to be read in class and viewed by students. Each critique will have a set of objectives the student may follow. These objectives can be found by clicking on the title of the play. The link will take you to a guide for writing each critique for each play. Students will follow these guidelines for each critique. Students can follow their own direction with the approval of the instructor. Critiques are to be between 3-5 pages each. Please type your critique using double spacing and a 12 pt font. Plan accordingly as late papers are not accepted. You are responsible for seeing the productions which are to be critiqued.

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!!**

**FINAL EXAM** will be held on the scheduled day of the final exam. The final will be held on its scheduled day. Section 002 will be Tuesday December 17, 2013 8 am – 10:30 am.
The final will **not** be a comprehensive test.

**PLAYS TO SEE AND READ**  Class will read and view live and recorded theatre as available. Additional plays may be viewed with instructor's approval. Play titles will be announced.  The following plays are required as a part of this course.  **Cat on a Hot Tin Roof** (viewed in class), **August Osage County**  Live Theatre Production in Warren Theatre, **A Midsummer Night's Dream** (viewed in class), **Theophilus North**, Live Theatre Production in Wilson Theatre

**Extra Credit Critique Guidelines**, You may choose one more play on your own for extra credit.  Dates will be announced  **Del Mar Drama**, **Harbor Playhouse**, TAMU-Kingsville.  Professional theatre, Regional Theatre - with instructor approval

**Misc info**

**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.

**Class Schedule**

MWF

Week 1 Sept
4 - 6
  4 Orientation and Introduction to the Class- Theatre: The Art Form
  6 Chapter 1 Theatre: The Art Form Quiz
  1

Week 2
Sept 9 – 13
  9 Chapter 2 The Audience- Spectators and Participants
  11 Watch Cat on a Hot Tin Roof in class
  13 Finish watching Cat on a Hot Tin Roof

Week 3
Sept 16 – 20
  16 Discuss Cat on a Hot Tin Roof and prepare for Critique
  18 Chapter 3 Creating the Dramatic Script
  20 Discussion and Review for 1st Test

Week 4
Sept 23 - 27
  23 ,
  25 Chapter 4 Theatrical Genres,
  27 Cat on a Hot Tin Roof Critiques Due in class

Week 5
Sept 30 – Oct 4
  30 Chapter 5 Acting for the stage
  2 Chapter 6 The Director and the Producer
Chapter 7 Theatre Spaces

Week 6
Oct 7 - 11
7 Chapter 8 Designers: Scenery and Costumes
9 Chapter 9 Designers: Lighting and Sound
11 Theatre and Production Facility Tour

Week 7
Oct 14 – 18  1st Theatre Production  **August: Osage County** Oct 15-20
14 Finish up Design and Review for Test 2
16 Test 2
18 No Class - Day off to go and see August: Osage County performance

Week 8
Oct 21 - 25
21 Discuss the production of **August: Osage County** and prep for Critique #2
23 Chapter 10 Early Theatres, Greek and Roman Theatre
25 Work on Greek and Roman Theatre Critiques for August Due in class

Week 9
Oct 28 – Nov 1
28 Chapter 11 Early Theatre: Asian and Medieval Theatre
30 Watch Video on Asian & Medieval Theatres
1 Chapter 12 Renaissance Theatres

Week 10
Nov 4 - 8
4 Watch **Midsummer Night’s Dream** or **Tartuffe** In class
6 Finish watching play
8 Discuss play in class Prep crit

Week 11
Nov 11 - 15
11 Summarize and review for test 3. Critique due in class
13 Test 3
15 Chapter 13 Theatre from Restoration Through Romanticism

Week 12
Nov 18 – 22  2nd Theatre Production  **Theophilus North** Nov 19 – 24
18 Continue Discussion
20 Chapter 14 The Modern Theatre Emerges
22 Continue Discussion
Week 13
Nov 25 – 29
25  Discuss *Theophilus North* in class prep for final critique
27  Thanksgiving Break
29  Thanksgiving Break

Week 14
Dec 2 - 6
  2  Chapter 15 Today’s Diverse Global Theatre
  4  Continue Diverse Global Theatre discussion
  6  View excerpts from modern plays

Week 15
Dec 9 - 13
  9  Review for final exam

Week 16
Dec 16 - 18 Finals Week
  Dec 16 Final Exam Section 001 11 – 1:30  Test 4