THEA 3311.002 Script Analysis
Course Syllabus Fall, 2015
MWF 9:00 – 9:50 a.m.; OCNR 259

Dr. Terry Lewis
Office: Bay Hall 326
Office Hours: MW 11:15 – 1:00 p.m.; TR 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.
Or by Appointment
Mail: terry.lewis@tamucc.edu
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Course Description:
Students will learn the principles and techniques of dramatic structure found in written scripts. The student will analyze the script through the perception of the stage director, actor, and designer. A written intensive analysis of each selected script is required.

Student Learning Objectives:
Script analysis will introduce the student to the script as a primary source (tool) to be used in the creation of a theatrical performance. The student will develop a system of analyzing and evaluating a variety of scripts in terms of their theatrical requirements and aesthetic qualities. It is important for the student to learn the interdisciplinary nature of the production process which includes research, analysis, and interpretation.

1. The student will be able to identify the methods outlined in backwards and forwards analysis and apply them when reading plays and working as an actor, director, or designer.
2. The student will be able to identify the methods outlined in the formalist (Aristotelian) analysis and apply them when working as an actor, director, or designer.
3. These tools will enhance the student’s work as a collaborative artist in producing plays for an audience.

Required Textbooks:


Required Plays:

Hedda Gabler, by Henrik Ibsen (Norton Anthology of Drama, Vol. Two)
The Goat, by Edward Albee (Norton Anthology of Drama, Vol. Two)
A Winter’s Tale, by William Shakespeare (professor to hand out document)

Plays chosen for Team Analysis and Presentations:

Team #1: Woyzeck, by Georg Büchner (Norton Anthology of Drama, Vol. Two)
Team #2: Machinal, by Sophie Treadwell (Norton Anthology of Drama, Vol. Two)
Team #3: The Good Woman of Setzuan, by Bertolt Brecht (Norton Anthology of Drama, Vol. Two)
Team #5: M. Butterfly, by Henry David Hwang (Norton Anthology of Drama, Vol. Two)
Major Course Requirements:

1. **General Requirements**: Class participation, discussion, reading and comprehension of required textbooks and selected scripts, attendance (see departmental attendance guidelines below)

2. **Three Textbook Mini-Exams**: (75 Points)
   - Forward, Introduction, Part One, Backwards and Forwards, Ball, David.
   - Part Two and Three, Backwards and Forwards, Ball, David
   - Script Analysis for Actors, Directors, and Designers, Chapters 1-6, Thomas, James.

3. **3 Quizzes on Required Plays**: (30 Points)
   The Professor reserved the right to give pop quizzes on required readings.

4. **Three Critical Analysis Papers**: (150 Points) Professor will hand out a hard copy of the criteria to be used for each of the critical analysis papers. The document will also be posted on Blackboard.
   - Critical paper using Backwards and Forwards, Part One on *Hedda Gabler*, by Henrik Ibsen.

5. **Team Oral Presentation and critical paper**: (See Below, Team Oral Presentation) (50 points)

6. **Final Analysis Paper**: (50 Points) Students will select a script of choice and submit a final critical analysis paper. You may use Backwards and Forwards or Formalist critical analysis.

**Grading**:

**Attendance Policy**:
Attendance in this course is critical to your success. For purposes of grading, no distinction will be made between excuses and unexcused absences (excluding absences for recognized religious holidays, death in the family, doctor’s excuse with documentation, and approved university functions.) Your absence affects the progress of the entire class. **Each absence in excess of THREE will lower your average a full letter grade.** More than six absences will result in a failing grade for the course. Exceptions under extreme circumstances may be made at the discretion of the professor.

**Late Arrival**:
Roll is taken at the beginning of each class. If you arrive late, it is your responsibility after class to inform the professor to make the change in the roll book. **Three late arrivals to class count as one absence. If you arrive more than ten minutes late you will be considered absent.** Time management skills are some of the most significant tools of the profession. The practice and development of these skills is expected.

**Analysis Papers and Team Oral Presentation**:

1. **Discussion/Participation**: Quality participation during class is required. By doing so you demonstrate your understanding of the material and contribute to the learning environment.

2. **Three Textbook Mini-Exams**: (75 Points) There will be three mini-exams taken from the assigned reading in the required textbooks for the course.
3. **3 Quizzes on Required Plays**: (30 Points)

4. **Critical Analysis Papers**: (150 Points) Students will submit critical analysis papers on the following three plays: *Hedda Gabler, The Goat, and A Winter’s Tale*. Professor will hand out a hard copy of the criteria to be used for each of the critical analysis papers. The document will also be posted on blackboard.

5. **Team Critical Analysis and Oral Presentation**: (50 Individual Points) the class will be divided into 5 teams with approximately 5 students on each team. Each team will be assigned a play from Norton Anthology of Drama. Selected plays are listed above. Each group will apply the formalist analysis chapters one - six in the textbook Script Analysis for Actors, Directors, and Designers to their assigned play. Each team will work as follows: Team members 1 & 2 will prepare a written analysis of chapters 1 & 2. The analysis must be in the form of a written paper to be turned in to the professor on the day you present to your group). Team members 1 & 2 will present their papers to the group during a two day in class discussion. Team member 3 & 4 will present chapters 3 & 4; team member 5 will present chapter 5 and the team will present chapter 6. Each group will then present to the class an oral presentation on their play. Each team will have two in class days for their presentation. The first day should be a summary of the critical analysis. The second day will be a collaborative team directorial and design concept as if the group were hired by a professional company to produce the play. Creative and engaging presentations score high marks. Treat the presentation as a play review for those students who have not been actively engaged in reading and studying the play. The group must submit to the professor a digital copy of the presentation one class day before presentation. The professor will then copy and distribute to each member of the class. Each student will submit a confidential evaluation form for each member of their team.

6. **Final Analysis Paper**: (50 Points) each student will select a full length play of his/her own choosing. The student must submit a 10-12 page critical analysis paper using the backwards and forwards or formalist approach to critical analysis. The paper must be typed, 12 point, double space format. The due date is located on the calendar below.

**Grading Scale:**

The final course grade will be based on the following grading rubric:

- 355 - 305 A
- 304 - 254 B
- 253 - 203 C
- 202 - 152 D
- 151 – 0 F

**Course Guidelines:**

1. Due dates will be strictly observed. Assignments are due even if you are absent. There will be no make-up work unless you have a verified medical emergency. Written work must be submitted before or during the class period due date. **Work submitted after the class period will not be accepted.**

2. The professor reserves the right to adjust the course syllabus as needed.

3. **TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONES WHEN YOU COME TO CLASS!** Be considerate of your fellow classmates.

4. **Laptops:** You may bring laptops to class in order to take notes. However, if the professor finds you online on a site not immediately and directly related to what we are covering in the classroom, you will not be permitted to bring your laptop back to class.

5. Students must keep duplicate copies of all work submitted.

6. Your individual participation is very important to the group presentation. At the end of the semester, each student will complete an evaluation on the group activities and individual participation.
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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Discussion:</th>
<th>Assignment/Reading Due</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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</table>
| Aug. 26 | W    | Discussion: Syllabus, Course Requirements                                   |                                                  | Begin Reading: Part One  
*Backwards and Forwards*, Ball;  
*Hedda Gabler*, Ibsen |                                                  |
| Aug. 28 | F    | Discussion: The Artist and the Playwright. Engaging in a complete synthesis. |                                                  | Continue reading  
*Backwards and Forwards, Hedda Gabler* |
| Aug. 31 | M    | Discussion: Backwards and Forwards Critical Analysis                        | Have Read: *Forward, Introduction, Part One - Ball* |                                                  |
| Sept. 2 | W    | Discussion: Backwards and Forwards Critical Analysis                        |                                                  |                                                  |
| Sept. 4 | F    | Discussion: Backwards and Forwards Critical Analysis                        |                                                  | Organize class into 5 working teams for oral analysis and presentations. |
| Sept. 7 | M    | No Class: Labor Day Holiday                                                  |                                                  |                                                  |
| Sept. 9 | W    | Discussion: *Hedda Gabler Quiz: 10 Points*                                  | Have Read: *Hedda Gabler*                       | Begin Reading  
Part Two, Ball;  
*The Goat, Albee* |
| Sept. 11| F    | Mini-Exam #1: *Forward, Introduction and Part One, Ball*                    | Critical Analysis Paper #1 Due: *Hedda Gabler*   | Paper #1 is a critical analysis of  
*Hedda Gabler* using the  
*Forward, Introduction and Part One, Ball* |
| Sept. 14| M    | Discussion: *Part Two, Ball*                                                | Have Read: *Part Two, Ball*                     | Begin Reading  
*Script Analysis for Actors, Directors, and Designers*, Chapters One - Six |
| Sept. 16| W    | Discussion: *Part Three, Ball*                                              | Have Read: *Part Three, Ball*                   |                                                  |
| Sept. 18| F    | Discussion: *The Goat Quiz: 10 Points*                                      | Have Read: *The Goat*                           | Begin Reading:  
*A Winter’s Tale* |
*The Goat* | Continue Reading:  
*Thomas, Chapters One - Six* |
| Sept. 23| W    | Mini Exam #2: *Part Two, Three - Ball*                                      | Analysis Paper #2 Due: *The Goat*               | Analysis Paper #2 is an analysis of  
*The Goat* |
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Assignment/Task</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 25</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Discussion: <strong>Formalist Analysis</strong></td>
<td><strong>Have Read:</strong> <em>Chapters One – Six</em>, Thomas</td>
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<td>Sept. 28</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Discussion: <strong>Formalist Analysis</strong></td>
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<td>Sept. 30</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Discussion: <em>A Winter’s Tale Quiz: 10 Points</em></td>
<td><strong>Have Read:</strong> <em>A Winter’s Tale</em></td>
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<td>Oct. 2</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Discussion: Aristotle’s <em>Poetics</em></td>
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<td>Oct. 5</td>
<td>M</td>
<td><strong>Mini – Exam #3:</strong> <em>Script Analysis for Actors, Directors, Designers, Chapters One - Six.</em></td>
<td><strong>Critical Analysis Paper #3 Due:</strong> <em>A Winter’s Tale</em></td>
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<td>Oct. 7</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Team Meeting</td>
<td><strong>Have Read Assigned Script. Assign chapters for presentations.</strong></td>
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<td>Oct. 9</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Team Meeting</td>
<td><strong>Establish protocol for group communication.</strong></td>
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<td>Oct. 12</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Team members 1&amp; 2 present critical analysis paper to group</td>
<td><strong>Professor will collect critical analysis papers from team members 1 &amp; 2</strong></td>
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<td>Oct. 16</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Team members 1&amp; 2 present critical analysis paper to group</td>
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<td>Oct. 19</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>- Chapter #2: Foundations of Plot - Given Circumstances</td>
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<td>Oct. 19</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Team members 3 &amp; 4 present critical analysis paper to group</td>
<td><strong>Professor will collect critical analysis papers from team members 3 &amp; 4</strong></td>
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<td>Oct. 21</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>- Chapter #3: Foundations of Plot - Background Story</td>
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<td>Oct. 23</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Team members present critical analysis paper to group</td>
<td><strong>Professor will collect critical analysis papers</strong></td>
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<td>- Chapter #6: Character</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 26</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Team Meeting: Organize for team oral presentation on critical analysis and director/designer collaborations</td>
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| Oct. 28 | W   | Team Meeting: Organize for team oral presentation on critical analysis and director/designer collaborations  
Team #1 Class Hand Out  
Due to Professor |
| Oct. 30 | F   | Team #1 Oral Presentation: Critical Analysis *Woyzcek*  
Team #1 Class Hand Out  
Due to Professor |
| Nov. 2  | M   | Team #1 Oral Presentation: Production Collaboration *Woyzcek*  
Team #2 Class Hand Out  
Due to Professor |
| Nov. 4  | W   | Team #2 Oral Presentation: Critical Analysis: *Machinal*  
Team #2 Class Hand Out  
Due to Professor |
| Nov. 6  | F   | Team #2 Oral Presentation: Production Collaboration *Machinal*  
Team #3 Class Hand Out  
Due to professor |
| Nov. 9  | M   | Team #3 Oral Presentation: Critical Analysis *Good Woman of Setzuan*  
Team #3 Class Hand Out  
Due to professor |
| Nov. 11 | W   | Team #3 Oral Presentation: Production Collaboration *Good Woman of Setzuan*  
Team #4 Class Hand Out  
Due to professor |
| Nov. 13 | F   | Team #4 Oral Presentation: Critical Analysis *Long Day’s Journey Into Night*  
Team #4 Class Hand Out  
Due to professor |
| Nov. 16 | M   | Team #4 Oral Presentation: Production Collaboration, *Long Day’s Journey Into Night*  
Team #5 Class Hand Out  
Due to professor |
| Nov. 18 | W   | Team #5 Oral Presentation: Critical Analysis *M Butterfly* |
| Nov. 20 | F   | Team #5 Oral Presentation: Production Collaboration *M Butterfly* |
| Nov. 23 | M   | Discussion: Final Paper |
| Nov. 25 | W   | No Class: Thanksgiving Holiday |
| Nov. 27 | F   | No Class: Thanksgiving Holiday |
| Dec. 2  | M   | Class Wrap-up |
| Dec. 8  | M   | *During Final Exam* |
**ACADEMIC ADVISING**
The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call (361) 825-3466.

**DISABILITY SERVICES**
The Americans 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 call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall, Room #116. If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

**GRADE APPEALS PROCESS**
Students who feel that they have not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in this class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, [cla.tamucc.edu/students/studentinfo.html](http://cla.tamucc.edu/students/studentinfo.html) For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s Office.

**ACADEMIC HONESTY/PLAGIARISM**
University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in failure of project.

**DROPPING A CLASS**
I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. November 7 is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

**CLASSROOM/PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR**
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.
STATEMENT OF CIVILITY
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state. Our goal is to provide you with a high quality educational experience that is free from repression. You are responsible for following the rules of the University, city, state and federal government. We expect that you will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

STATEMENT OF ACADEMIC CONTINUITY
In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi; this course would continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e., emails, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.