The Art of the Theatre Fall 2017
THEA 1310.001 9:30-10:45 T,TH Island Hall 160
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:
The Art of Theatre. Online textbook. TBA. In progress with publisher, available online in August 2017. Online quizzes, discussion questions, and other content is delivered online.

Web Access  Great River Learning Textbook and Blackboard will provide online content. Blackboard can be found at https://bb9.tamucc.edu

Grading
Attendance 1500 pts.
Assignments and in class discussions 1950 pts.
Play Critiques 3 total @ 500 pts each 1500 pts
Exams - 2 @ 1000 pts each 2000 pts

Total 6950 pts

Grading Scale
A = 90% and above 6950 - 6255 pts
B = 80 - 89% 6254 - 5560 pts
C = 70 - 79% 5559 - 4865 pts
D = 60 - 69% 4864 - 4170 pts
F = Below 59%        4169 – 0000 pts

If you have any questions regarding grades please email me.

**ATTENDANCE** There will be an attendance sheet for you to sign each class period. The State of Texas asks for information regarding attendance particularly if you are receiving financial aid. I am required to track attendance and utilize the university resources to help with student retention. Not attending class is the number one reason for students failing this course. Show up, sign up, and come to class. If you are a student athlete or are attending a university approved activity that gives you an excused absence it is your job to let me know ahead of time and make arrangements to make up missed assignments, papers, and tests

**ASSIGNMENTS** On line assignments vary from chapter to chapter in the online text. Material has a due date. Discussion questions in the text must be filled out before the day of the discussion to receive credit. Each chapter has questions inside the chapters and a 10-question quiz at the end. There are also questions to test your knowledge and understanding of the material at the end of the chapters as well. Please refer to the schedule for more information. You will receive full credit if you take the complete the assignment before its due date. If you are absent from class because of a university sanctioned event you are expected to keep up with your assignments and to let me know ahead of time to make arrangements

**PLAY CRITIQUES** 3 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. You should follow the format for papers you learned in Composition 1 and 2, please remember to cite your sources. Failure to use proper citation will result in a lower grade. If you need assistance you can contact the writing center at CASA.

Two of the plays will require your payment for admission. The cost of a ticket is 5 dollars. If this presents a hardship for you please let me know in advance of the day of the performance. I have some latitude to get you into a performance. **You must let me know prior to the date of the play!!!** Plan ahead for tickets and performances. If you wait till the last minute you may miss the production. You will be unable to write a critique if you miss the production.

**EXAMS** will be on-line. If you are having difficulties with Blackboard you must contact the student help desk for assistance. Failure to contact either the help desk or the
instructor will result in your not being able to take the test. If you miss the test window for any reason, you will have to wait until the scheduled day of the final exam to make it up. In other words, you will have a paper test and will have to wait until the end of the semester to make it up. All makeup tests will be held on its scheduled day of the final. Section 002 will be on Wednesday Dec 12, 2017 @ 11 – 1:30.

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),
¿De Donde? Live Theatre Production in Wilson Theatre,
Titus Andronicus, Live Theatre Production in Warren Theatre

Misc. info

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 or log onto http://cla.tamucc.edu/advising/

Academic Integrity/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 a grade of F on the assignment.

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 your academic advisor, the Financial Aid Office, and me, before you decide to drop this course. 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 15 is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.
Preferred methods of scholarly citations
Please cite your sources in your critiques. The methods taught in college writing course will be acceptable. If you do not know how to cite sources or what format you should use, please contact the writing center at CASA for assistance.

Classroom and 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 (can be in place of classroom/professional behavior)
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.

Grade Appeals*
As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, 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 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 Dean’s office in the college in which the course is taught or the Office of the Provost.

Disabilities Accommodations*
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 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.

**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.

*Required by SACS or HB2504

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**Art of Theatre Class Schedule**

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**Week 1**
- 29-Aug Orientation and Introduction to the course. Theatre as an Art Form
- 31-Aug Chapter 1 - Understanding Theatre as Art and Communication
  - Discussion question from chapter 1

**Week 2**
- 4-Sep **Labor Day - No Class**
- 5-Sep Chapter 2 - Theatre Performance and the Audience
- 7-Sep Chapter 3 - Creating a Dramatic Script

**Week 3**
- 12-Sep Watch **Cat on a Hot Tin Roof** in class
- 14-Sep Finish watching Cat
  - Discuss the production of **Cat on a Hot Tin Roof**

**Week 4**
- 19-Sep Chapter 4 - Theatrical Genres
- 21-Sep Discussion of the first 4 chapters
  - Chapter 5 - The Actor **Cat on a Hot Tin Roof Critiques are due.**

**Week 5**
- 26-Sep Chapter 6 - The Director
- 28-Sep Discussion questions for chapters 5 and 6
  - Chapter 7 - Theatre spaces

**Week 6**
3-Oct  Chapter 8 - Scenery, Props, Costumes, and Makeup
5-Oct  Discussion and presentation of Scenery and props
       Chapter 9 The Lighting and Sound Designers - Technology vs Art

Week 7
10-Oct  Theatre tours - Meet in Center for the Arts
12-Oct  Chapter 10 - Putting the Production together. What does it take?
       Discussion questions for chapter 10

Week 8
17-Oct  Discuss production of De Donde?
19-Oct  Review for first test         Test 1 will be on-line
       Chapter 11 - Greek and Roman Theatre

Week 9
24-Oct  Continue Chapter 11 - Medieval section
26-Oct  Presentation of Medieval Theatre
       Discussion questions for chapter 11

Week 10
31-Oct  Chapter 12 - Asian Theatre
2-Nov   continue chapter 12
       Discussion questions chapter 12

Week 11
7-Nov   Chapter 13 - Renaissance Theatre
9-Nov   Discussion of Renaissance Theatre
       Chapter 14 - Restoration, Romanticism, and other movements

Week 12
14-Nov  Continue chapter 14
       Titus Andronicus runs Nov 14 - 19
16-Nov  Videos from Restoration and romanticism productions
       Discussion questions for chapter 14

Week 13
21-Nov  Discussion of Titus Andronicus
       Reading Day - No Class
23-Nov  Thanksgiving Break

Week 14
28-Nov  Chapter 15- Realism and Realistic Movements
30-Nov  Discussion questions for chapter 15
       Chapter 16 - Anti-Realism and Reactions to the Realistic Movements

Week 15
4-Dec   Discussion questions for chapter 16
6-Dec   Chapter 17 - Contemporary Theatre
       Discussion questions for chapter 17  - Last day of class
Finals

Final exam will be online
Final Exams scheduled 8 - 10:30

12-Dec Final exam due by 10:30 Dec 12