

Syllabus

THEA1010 Introduction to Theatre

2014

Committee Members:

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Date Reviewed:

January 24, 2014

NCCA Council of Instructional Officers Chair

Chair:

Deborah Brennan

Date Approved:

3/13/14

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Course Number: THEA 1010
Course Title: Introduction to Theatre
Prerequisite: None

Catalog Description:

An introduction to the forms and functions of the dramatic arts within a historical perspective. Includes an introduction to basic theatre skills as well as an introduction to a range of dramatic literature.

Semester Hours:	3	Practicum/Clinical/Recitation Hours:	0
Lecture/Classroom Hours:	45	Cooperative Education/Internship Hours:	0
Laboratory Hours:	0	Contact Hours per Week	3

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES: Course will

- A. Present the plot elements and dramatic principles evidenced in a theatre production.
- B. Describe characteristics of major eras of theatre history and their impact on society.
- C. Explore the relationship between the performer and the audience.
- D. Motivate an analysis of the purpose and perspective of the dramatic writer through the reading of his or her written work.

III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: Student will be able to

- A. Demonstrate knowledge of the development of technical theatre as it evolved to meet the changing demands of new theatre spaces and audiences;
- B. Demonstrate their ability to provide written analysis of theatrical elements as observed through live and filmed theatrical performances;
- C. Understand the historical influences behind the dramas and the playwrights' purposes in writing their works.
- D. Describe the characteristics of major eras of theatre history and their impact on society.
- E. Recognize the influences of formal drama on pop culture today, such as television & film.

IV. COURSE CONTENT/TOPICAL OUTLINE

Within the historical context of the Greek Theatre to the present, topics such as the following will be included. The outline may be used in any order, sequence or mixing as may be desirable by the instructor.

- A. Theatre Elements
 1. Acting
 2. Directing
 3. Design
 4. Stage Craft
 5. Playwriting
 6. Production Management

- B. Dramatic Literature and Performance
 1. Theatre Criticism
 2. Types and Styles of Drama
 3. Performer and Audience

C. Theatre as Expression of Culture and Society

1. The Early Theatre
2. The Transitional Theatre
3. The Modern Theatre
4. The Contemporary Theatre

V. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

A. Suggested anthologies:

1. *Types of Drama* – Barnet, Berman & Burton
2. *The HBJ Anthology of Drama* – W.B. Worthen
3. *Stages of Drama* – Klaus, Gilbert, & Field
4. *Bedford Introduction to Drama* – Jacobus
5. *Plays for the Theatre* – Brockett and Ball
6. *Norton Anthology of Drama* – Gainor, Garner, and Puchner

B. Suggested texts:

1. *The History of Theatre* – Brockett & Hildy
2. *The Creative Spirit* – Arnold
3. *Essential Theatre* Brockett and Ball
4. *The Theater Experience* – Edwin Wilson
5. *Theatre, The Lively Art* – Wilson & Goldfarb

VI. METHODS OF PRESENTATION

Instructors will use varied pedagogical techniques including several of the following: lectures, individualized format, small group discussion, observation of theatrical principles, video examples and live theatrical observation.

VII. METHODS OF EVALUATION

Course evaluation, at the determination of instructor, will be based on student performance such as class and group participation, daily work, exams, presentations, projects, etc.

VIII. SPECIFIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Content and schedule determined by instructor.

Attendance at one or more live theatrical performances should be included in requirements.

IX. OTHER INFORMATION UNIQUE TO THE INSTITUTION

Examples:

Evaluation of Students

Intensive Writing Course

Cultural Diversity Course

Course availability/delivery methods

Special Populations Needs

Course Equity

Faculty