

TH 101 · Introduction to Theatre

Course Syllabus

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Office Location: EC117H | **Office Hours:** Tues/Thurs 2pm – 4pm, Fri 3pm – 5pm
Class Times: M/W 2:00 - 3:20 pm | **Location:** Fine Arts Theatre

**This document which may be subject to change*

BASICS ABOUT THIS COURSE

This course introduces the study of theatre. Course lectures include theatre history and production practices. Attendance at one UOG Theatre production, and active participation in the other, is required during the semester.

Course Content: There are lectures and discussions on various personnel involved in live theatre production. There are demonstrations of basic acting/performance exercises. There are lectures about the basics of theatre criticism. A brief overview of theatre history will be provided by the instructor. There are exams on the above materials. Students are required to attend one performance and be involved in the other production. The final project will be a group scene project.

Objectives: Upon successful completion of this course, students will have demonstrated the ability to:

0. Analyze a theatre performance;
1. Describe the responsibilities of the various creative personnel in a production;
2. Participate in a performance as an actor;
3. Participate in a production as crew;
4. Identify major themes and epic literature of world theatre history.

Course SLOs	Fine Arts PLOs	ILOs
Stand in front of an audience and perform with confidence;	PLO4 Demonstrate mastery of one artistic skill in public displays and performances using professional production values from coursework.	ILO3 Effective oral and written communication ILO6 An appreciation of the arts and sciences ILO7 An interest in personal development and lifelong learning
Project their voices to be heard in the back row of the audience	PLO4 Demonstrate mastery of one artistic skill in public displays and performances using professional production values from coursework.	ILO3 Effective oral and written communication ILO6 An appreciation of the arts and sciences ILO7 An interest in personal development and lifelong learning
Write a critique of a play using appropriate performance vocabulary	PLO1 Using common terms, techniques and methods of expression in the artistic languages of performing and visual arts, analyze the creations and presentations of other artists.	ILO3 Effective oral and written communication ILO4 Understanding and appreciation of culturally diverse people, ideas and values in a democratic context ILO6 An appreciation of the arts and sciences
Accept criticism of their work in front of others	PLO4 Demonstrate mastery of one artistic skill in public displays and performances using professional production values from coursework.	ILO3 Effective oral and written communication ILO6 An appreciation of the arts and sciences ILO7 An interest in personal development and lifelong learning
Be self-reflective as a performer	PLO3 Apply the interrelationship of the arts and its influence in society.	ILO4 Understanding and appreciation of culturally diverse people, ideas and values in a democratic context ILO6 An appreciation of the arts and sciences ILO7 An interest in personal development and lifelong learning

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1	<u>Wednesday, January 22nd</u> Introductions, Course Syllabus
Week 2	<u>Monday, January 27th</u> What and Why of Theatre <u>Wednesday, January 29th</u> Theater Spaces and Functions (Tour)
Week 3	<u>Monday, February 3rd</u> Departments and Personnel of the Theater <u>Wednesday, February 5th</u> Review Quiz #1 <i>*Production Assignments</i> <u>Friday, February 7th</u> <i>*Quiz #1 – Theater Terms and Jobs</i>
Week 4	<u>Monday, February 10th</u> History – Greek Theater <u>Wednesday, February 12th</u> History – Medieval Theater <u>Friday, February 14th</u> <i>*Quiz #2 – Greek and Medieval</i>
Week 5	<u>Monday, February 17th</u> History – Renaissance Theater <u>Wednesday, February 19th</u> History – Neoclassical Theater <u>Friday, February 21st</u> <i>*Quiz #3 – Renaissance and Neoclassical</i> <u>Thursday, February 20th</u> <i>The Last Five Years</i> Opening Night <u>Friday, February 21st</u> <i>The Last Five Years</i> Performance <u>Saturday, February 22nd</u> <i>The Last Five Years</i> Performance
Week 6	<u>Monday, February 24th</u> History – Elizabethan Theater <u>Wednesday, February 26th</u> Watch [<i>Show TBD</i>] <u>Thursday, February 27th</u> <i>The Last Five Years</i> Opening Night <u>Friday, February 28th</u> <i>The Last Five Years</i> Performance <u>Saturday, February 29th</u> <i>The Last Five Years</i> Performance

Week 7	<p><u>Monday, March 3rd</u> NO CLASS – CHamoru Heritage Day</p> <p><u>Wednesday, March 5th</u> History – Contemporary Theater (DEAL’s Conference Room, 2nd Floor EC)</p> <p><u>Friday, March 7th</u> <i>*Quiz #4 – Elizabethan and Contemporary</i> <i>*The Last Five Years Review Due</i></p>
Week 8	<p><u>Monday, March 10th</u> History – Eastern Theater Part 1</p> <p><u>Wednesday, March 12th</u> History – Eastern Theater Part 2</p> <p><u>Friday, March 14th</u> <i>*Quiz #5 – Eastern</i></p>
Week 9	<p><u>Monday, March 17th</u> NO CLASS – Spring Break</p> <p><u>Wednesday, March 19th</u> NO CLASS – Spring Break</p>
Week 10	<p><u>Monday, March 24th</u> Narrative Structure <i>*Assign [Script TBD] to Read</i> <i>*Assign Dramaturgical Presentations</i></p> <p><u>Wednesday, March 26th</u> Genre: Audience Expectations</p>
Week 11	<p><u>Monday, March 31st</u> Theatrical Form / Shape</p> <p><u>Wednesday, April 2nd</u> Theatrical Styles</p> <p><u>Friday, April 4th</u> <i>*Quiz #6 – Genre, Form, and Style</i></p>
Week 12	<p><u>Monday, April 7th</u> Watch [Show TBD]</p> <p><u>Wednesday, April 9th</u> Finish Watching [Show TBD] Discuss [Show TBD]</p> <p><u>Thursday, April 10th</u> <i>Gaslight</i> Opening Night</p> <p><u>Friday, April 11th</u> <i>Gaslight</i> Performance</p> <p><u>Saturday, April 12th</u> <i>Gaslight</i> Performance</p> <p><u>Sunday, April 13th</u> <i>Gaslight</i> Closing Matinee</p>

Week 13	<u>Monday, April 14th</u> <i>*Dramaturgical Presentations</i>
	<u>Wednesday, April 16th</u> <i>*Assign Final Performance Scenes</i> Read Scripts
	<u>Friday, April 18th</u> <i>*Gaslight Review Due</i>
Week 14	<u>Monday, April 21st</u> Rehearse Scenes
	<u>Wednesday, April 23rd</u> Rehearse Scenes
Week 15	<u>Monday, April 28th</u> Rehearse Scenes
	<u>Wednesday, April 30th</u> Rehearse Scenes
Week 16	<u>Monday, May 5th</u> Rehearse Scenes – Off Book
	<u>Wednesday, May 7th</u> Rehearse Scenes – Off Book
Week 17	<u>Monday, May 12th</u> <i>*Dress Rehearsal for Scenes</i>
	<u>Wednesday, May 14th</u> <i>*Dress/Tech Rehearsal for Scenes</i>
Week 18	<u>Monday, May 19th</u> Final Exams Week <i>Final Performance</i>

PROJECTS

Production Assignment (20):

Students are required to work for at least one of the shows during the semester, either as Front of House, Stage Crew, or Construction Crew.

Running Crew

Duties: You will be backstage during the productions, assisting with the technical aspect of the show. This may involve being up in the booth with the Stage Manager who will cue you for lighting or sound effects or being backstage to assist with scene transitions or costumes.

***Time Commitment:* April 7th – 12th from 6pm – 10pm, and April 13th from 1pm – 5pm (28 Hours Total)**

Construction Crew

Duties: You will work with the Scenic Designer during the mornings/afternoons to help build sets or props for the productions. Prior skill is encouraged but not required.

***Time Commitment:* Flexible hours, though they must add to 20 hours for full credit. (20 Hours Total)**

Quizzes (30):

There will be six quizzes given throughout the semester, based on the lectures given in class, each worth 5 points. The content ranges from theatrical terms relating to how a theater operates to the history of the artform, to the more detailed elements of what makes a play, such as form and style.

Papers (10):

There will be two required papers this semester, each worth 5 points. Standard MLA format, at least 1 page in length. I will be looking at the quality in which you express your thoughts and points rather than quantity.

The Last Five Years Review:

Due March 7th, Friday, before 12am.

This paper should be a simple reflection on what caught your attention regarding the performance, either positively or negatively. You will be expected to utilize terminology given from the prior lectures to supplement your thoughts.

Gaslight Experience/Review:

Due April 18th before 12am.

Most of the class will be working on *Gaslight* in some capacity. As a result, your second paper will focus on your experiences working in your designated area. What was the process like? Did you enjoy it, or did you struggle (or both)? What did you learn? Did anything interesting happen in the process?

This paper will be a little more relaxed—write it as if you were telling a friend who knows nothing about the theater, though proper grammar and spelling will be expected.

Extra Credit:

If you are interested in earning Extra Credit, you may also write a review on any other live performances such as **Breaking Wave Theater's production of *Romeo & Juliet* in March**, live bands, church, etc. Feel free to write about what you enjoyed or disliked, or any thoughtful commentary you may have on the theatrical elements of each performance.

Each Extra Credit paper will be worth 3 points to your overall grade.

Papers for *Romeo & Juliet* will be worth 10 points.

Dramaturgical Presentation (20):

Every group will choose a movie to present on, going over elements that make up the film from genre to style to technical elements. Criteria will be covered in class, and the goal is to analyze the films utilizing theatrical theories and terminology from the lectures.

Final Performance (20):

Each group will be required to perform a short play at the end of the semester, to get hands-on experience of what it takes to put on a performance. Scripts will be provided by the instructor, though requests may be taken into consideration. Students will be expected to handle their own props and costumes, though may seek guidance from fellow students. The instructor will be looking for how well you've memorized your lines and actions, your commitment to the project (both in attendance and willingness to perform), and how much effort you are putting into the final product (to avoid one student doing majority of the work.) Theater is a collaborative space, so working together is important!

**That said, you will be graded as individuals, with each element worth 5 points.
(Memory, Commitment, and Effort.)**

MOODLE

Quizzes will be held online via Moodle.

The Moodle Key for this class is: **th101sp25**

Any links or texts relating to the class will also be uploaded to the Moodle page if able.

COURSE ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance/Participation in Class:

Students will be expected to attend every class and participate in various activities/discussions. Should you not be able to attend for any reason, please notify the instructor and your group members as soon as possible.

Missing a group presentation or performance will result in a failing grade for that assignment.

Three tardies (coming in 15 minutes late to class) will equal to one absence.

Two unexcused absences will be permitted, each one after that will dock 10% from your attendance grade.

Production Assignment Attendance

Students will be required to complete their Production Assignments in order to receive full credit for their work.

Those in Construction Crew will be expected to **complete 20 hours, each hour representing 5% of their Production Assignment grade.** Hours are totaled at the end of the semester.

Those working as Running Crew will be expected to be present each night they are called in.

Failure to communicate any absences or tardiness on the required nights will result in a failing of your Production Assignment grade. Please inform the instructor or Stage Manager as soon as you are aware of a scheduling conflict.

GRADING

•	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>100%</u>
•	<u>Production Assignment</u>	<u>20%</u>
•	<u>Dramaturgical Presentation</u>	<u>20%</u>
•	<u>Quizzes</u>	<u>30%</u>
•	<u>Papers</u>	<u>10%</u>
•	<u>Final Performance</u>	<u>20%</u>

Grade	Points	Description
A+	98 - 100	Outstanding Honors-level performance with superior quality and extraordinary distinction.
A	93-97	
A-	90-92	
B+	87-89	Good Solid accomplishment, indicating a substantial mastery of course materials and a good command of skills required by the course.
B	83-86	
B-	80-82	
C+	77-79	Adequate Students have achieved the level of competency needed for advancing to a subsequent course that has this course as prerequisite.
C	70-76	
D	60-69	Deficient Minimal passing, but not adequate to take a subsequent course that has this course as prerequisite.
F	0-59	
		Failure Inadequate to receive credits.

Course Policies

Accommodation	<p>If you are a student with disability who will require an accommodation(s) to participate in this course, please contact the Student Counseling and Advising Service Accommodations office to discuss your specific accommodation needs confidentially. I will receive notification your approved accommodation(s) from the SCAS Accommodations office.</p> <p>If you are not registered, you should do so immediately at the Student Center, Rotunda office #4, ph/(TTY): 735-2460, to coordinate your accommodation request.</p>
Plagiarism Policy	<p>Plagiarism is a serious breach of the student code of conduct at UOG. It includes copying exam answers, copying writing without proper citation, paraphrasing another author without proper citation or representing another person's work as if it was your own (see the UOG Student Handbook p. 49). If you are caught plagiarizing (or cheating), the minimum penalty is failure of the project or exam. Severe cases will be turned into the student disciplinary board and may be failed from the course.</p>
Smoke-Free	<p>UOG is a tobacco-free, smoke-free campus. Thank you for not using tobacco products on campus, and for helping make UOG a healthy learning and living environment.</p>
Food/Gum	<p>No eating is allowed in class, unless required due to health-related issues. Drinks are permitted, though dairy or highly sugared drinks are discouraged for the sake of vocal performance. Chewing gum is not accepted during class or during performances whatsoever.</p>
Clothing	<p>Due to the nature of the class, please wear clothing that you feel comfortable moving around in. We will be stretching, laying on the ground, or even climbing onto elevated surfaces, so please keep this in mind. Close-toed, non-heeled shoes are also recommended in case there is moving scenery involved at any point in the class.</p>