Motlow State Community College
Course Syllabus - Spring 2011 Tuesday-Thursday 8 a.m.
Theater Appreciation - Fayetteville

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Office 393-1730 - 438-0028

I. Number, Title, and Objectives of Course
Communication 1030 Theater Appreciation

General Objective: This course surveys and emphasizes various topics of drama. Included in the study are the development of drama and the theater, mechanics of acting and characterization. Critical study of plays will be covered in the course.

Specific Objectives:
1. The student will study the theatrical event as it relates to theater and everyday life.
2. The student will study the composition of a theatrical event.
3. The student will study the forms of action as it relates to the plot, character, language, and inanimate elements of production.
4. The student will study various elements of dramatic text including tragedy, melodrama, comedy and farce.
5. The student will study the development of musical theater.
6. The student will study the various roles that make up theater.
7. The student will learn to write a play critique.

II. Relationship of course to College Curriculum: communication 1030 meets the humanities requirement

III. Pre-requisite: none

IV. Required Text(s): The Creative Spirit, An Introduction to Theater, 5th Edition, Stephanie Arnold

V. Required Supplies/Materials: Notebook for keeping notes.

VI. Attendance: The student will be expected to attend each class meeting. Excessive absences or tardiness will result in a lower grade.

VII. Grades: Daily grades, class participation, and conscientious attention and respect for fellow students will be considered in the final grade. Grades will be based on individual written play critiques, class participation, and test scores.

Assignments Available Points
Play Analysis 1 @ 100 points 100
Play Critique 1 @ 100 100
Character Analysis 1 @ 100 100
Test I 100
Exam - Midterm  Test II 100
Final Exam  Test III 100
Class Participation 50
Total 650

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<tr>
<th>Grade Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>650-585</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>584-520</td>
<td>B</td>
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<td>519-455</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td>454-390</td>
<td>D</td>
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VIII. Individual Assistance: Please feel free to call my office (393-1730) for help on any assignment, to discuss any problems you may be encountering or for an explanation and/or information on your grade for any assignment. Please make an appointment with me to see you in my Fayetteville office as I am also director of International Education and tend to be out of the office frequently.

IX. Cell Phone usage is strictly prohibited during class time...this includes texting, vibrating, ringing or dialing. This will be construed as cheating and your grade will be dropped a letter grade for each offence. DO NOT ALLOW YOUR PHONE TO RING IN MY CLASSROOM!

X. YOU ARE REQUIRED TO SEE THREE LIVE PRODUCTIONS FOR THIS CLASS. PLEASE BE AWARE THAT THIS MAY REQUIRE YOU TO ATTEND EVENING PERFORMANCES AWAY FROM THE CAMPUS.

XI. Finally: Never approach me and ask “Did I miss anything important when I was absent?” I will say “no” every time. This daily course outline will tell you what we are doing during each class for the semester. Refer to this document if you are absent.

Tentative Daily Course Outline

Week 1 – 1/13
Introduction to course and instructor. Sample some plays. Handouts. Syllabus.

Week 2 1/18-1/20
Part I – Chapter 1- The impulse to Perform – Read the Chapter
Chapter 2 – Theatre and Society

Week 3 1/25-1/27
The nature of Drama – Read Chapter 12 P373
The Elements of Drama and Dramatic Structure
Discuss writing a character analysis

Week 4 2/1-2/3
Read Chapter 13 – Genre in Theatre
Watch Medea in class – THE VIDEO IS AVAILABLE ON-LINE THROUGH THE MOTLOW LIBRARY
Write character analysis –Due 2/15/09
Test I OVER CHAPTERS 1,2,12,13 AND MEDEA

Week 5 2/8-2/10
The Playwright’s Vision – Read Chapter 3 P47 Listen to the music of Bessie Smith in class
Looking at Joe Turner’s Come and Gone – ASSIGN PARTS
Prepare to read aloud in class – Volunteers Only

Week 6 2/15-2/17
Chapter 3 Continues – Discuss How to write a play analysis
Chapter 4 – The Art of the Actor – Read Chapter 4
What are a protagonist and antagonist?

Week 7 2/22-2/24
Chapter 5
The Director

Week 8 3/1-3/3
Chapter 6 – The Designers – Read Chapter 6
Discuss writing play critique

3/6 – 3/14 – Spring Break

Week 9 3/15-3/17
Chapter 11 The Musical Theatre – Video series Part I
Video Series Part II – this material will be on the Exam II

Week 10 3/22 – 3/24
Complete Video Series Part III
Exam II

Week 11 3/29 – 3/31
Chapter 7 – Understanding Style: Realism P197
Chapter 8 – Expressing a Worldview Through Realism

Week 12 4/5-4/7
Chapter 9 – Understanding Style: Theatricalism
Chapter 10- Expressing Worldview through Theatricalism p.283

Week 13 4/12-4/14
Watch Video of Play – Full Musical- Instructors Choice

Week 14 4/19-4/21
Play Critique Due 4/23
TBA

Week 15 4/26-4/28
Complete Lectures – No make-up work will be accepted beyond 4/30

Final Exam Week
Tuesday May 3 - 8 a.m.
Final Exam