Introduction to Theatre
DRAM 1310-66001
Summer II- 2017
7/11/2017-8/10/2017

Professor: Michael Craig, MFA
Email: michaelcraig@dcccd.edu (preferred mode of contact)
Office Hours: by appointment
Meeting Days & Time: MTWR 10:10am-12:10pm
Room Number: E60
Credit Hours: 3 Semester Hours
Division: Arts and Communications
Office Phone: (214) 860-8671

Course Description:
This theater appreciation course provides students with the information and activities they need for an in-depth comprehensive understanding of the way theatre creates and reflects meaning in society. This course includes reading plays, seeing performances, and exploring a range of cultures and periods, contexts and performances, the voice of the theatre artists, and creative participation. You will learn and practice suggested approaches on how to perceive, consider, and interpret theatre through readings, self-generated questions, and lectures.

Course Pre-requisites: Developmental Reading 0093 or English as a Second Language (ESOL) 0044 or have met the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) standard in Reading.

Textbooks/Supplies Needed
A. The Creative Spirit: An Introduction to Theatre- 6th edition
   Authors: Stephanie Arnold
   ISBN 13 # 9780073514260
   ISBN # 0073514268
   Publisher: Mc Graw Hill

STATE REQUIREMENTS
Exemplary Educational Objectives
This course is intended to impart a general knowledge of theatre and how it functions as a multiple and multicultural form of art. Other objectives include:
   I. To demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the art of theatre.
II. To understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social context.

III. To respond critically to works in theatre arts.

IV. To engage in the creative process or interpretive performance and comprehend the physical and intellectual demands required of the performing artist.

V. To articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the art of theatre.

VI. To develop an appreciation for the aesthetic principles that guide or govern the art of theatre.

Intellectual Competencies
Drama 1310 satisfies the following Core Curriculum Intellectual Competencies defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

1. READING: The ability to analyze and interpret a variety of printed materials (books, documents, and articles) above 12th grade level.

2. WRITING: The ability to produce clear, correct, and coherent prose adapted to purpose, occasion, and audience above 12th grade level.

3. SPEAKING: The ability to communicate orally in clear, coherent, and persuasive language appropriate to purpose, occasion, and audience.

4. LISTENING: The ability to analyze and interpret various forms of spoken communication.

5. CRITICAL THINKING: The ability to think and analyze at a critical level,

6. COMPUTER LITERACY: The ability to understand our technological society, to use computer-based technology in communication, problem-solving, and information acquisition.

Course Objectives
- To develop the skills necessary for students to engage in and analyze the creative process as it is relevant to the art of theatre.
- To expand the student's terminology in theatre to be used effectively in course assignments.
- To increase student’s awareness of the variety of theatre forms available within his/her community and surrounding area.
- To develop an understanding of the significance of specific works of theatre and drama and how the role of theatre relates to the human experience.
- To compare and contrast theatre with television and other media in order to understand how the many forms of art are related.

Student Learning Outcomes
After successful completion of this course the student should be able to:
- Respond to various aspects of theatre by engaging in and analyzing the creative process (EEO’s I, III, IV; IC’s 2, 3, 4, 5, 6).
- Apply and demonstrate an awareness of the Aristotelian elements to his/her film, television, and theatrical viewing experience (EEO’s II, III, IV; IC’s 2, 3, 4, 5, 6).
- Demonstrate an understanding of theatrical terminology and the role theatre plays in the human experience (EEO’s I, III, IV; IC’s 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)
● Demonstrate an awareness of theatre in his/her community and/or surrounding area (EEO’S I, IV; 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6).
● Discuss the significance of a particular piece of theatre and compare/contrast the literary elements and/or production values to other forms of theatre/performance (EEO’s II, III, IV; 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6).

Course Outline:
Units of Instruction –
Each unit has its own set of emphasis, but all chiefly aim to enhance your ability to be an appreciative and critical audience, and to understand how theatre has functioned, and somehow continues to function, in enormously varying cultural contexts.
   Unit One: The Nature of Theater
   Unit Two: The Nature of The Production Process
   Unit Three: The Nature of Style: Realism and Theatricalism
   Unit Four: The Nature of Drama: Structure and Genre

DCCCD CRITICAL DATES –
Classes Begin: Tuesday, July 11th, 2017
Last Date to Withdraw with a "W": Friday, August 3rd, 2017
Last Class Day: Thursday August 10th, 2017
Semester Ends/ Grades Due: Monday-August 14th, 2017

Evaluation Procedures:
COMPLETION/ACHIEVEMENT OF ASSIGNMENTS- Students are expected to complete any assignments given with a high level of individual achievement. If a student does not understand an assignment, it is his/her responsibility to get clarification from the instructor at the time the assignment is given, and not wait until the assignment due date. The assignment will still be due and points will be deducted for not completing it according to the given specifications.

EFFORT – In order to receive a passing grade, students are expected to participate in all activities with a high level of concentration. Allow plenty of time for reading and other assignments.

QUIZZES – There will be three major quizzes based on readings from the text book and lectures. You will be given a list of terms to know for each of these a few days before the exam. Other quick reading quizzes will be given through the semester to reward those who have been keeping up with reading.

REQUIRED THEATRE PERFORMANCE: Each student must see and critique a theatrical productions from a professional company located within a 50 mile radius of the student’s location. If this poses a problem.
Students will respond to the performance in a critique and discuss the experience with the class. **Attendance of theatrical performances is a very important part of success in this class. If a student fails to complete this assignment, the overall grade for the course will be lowered by one letter grade for each incomplete critique.**

**WRITING STYLE/LEVEL:** Because INTRODUCTION TO THEATRE is a discipline within the Humanities; all Theatre papers must be written using MLA format and documentation style. Please consult the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers (6th edition), available in the bookstore (you can often find it at Half Price Books), and in our campus library. Additionally, all of your papers will be held to collegiate standards. Though content and thought are of utmost importance, points will be taken off for poor grammar, spelling, and sentence/paragraph structure.

**Instructor Attendance/Tardy Policy:**
**ATTENDANCE** – Students are expected to attend all classes. Students have the responsibility to attend class and to consult with the instructor when an absence occurs. This is crucial to the student’s success in the course. Many assignments are partially, if not entirely, completed in class. Students are expected to attend regularly all classes in which they are enrolled.

- Attendance will be taken daily.
- Using an absence as an excuse for not doing an assignment or turning it in late will not be permitted. **If a student is absent on a day that a project or assignment is due, or when a test is given, the student will not be allowed to make up the work unless arrangements have been made beforehand.**
- If a student is absent on a day that an assignment is given, it is the student’s responsibility to get the assignment and all support materials online or from fellow classmates. The instructor will not repeat a lecture for students who are absent for any reason. Retrieve this information online or from a fellow classmate.
- Make doctor or dental appointments around class.
- If for some reason an emergency takes place or the student develops an illness that takes time to heal, please notify the instructor and provisions can be made. However, if illness is the excuse for excessive absences, a doctor’s note must be provided by the student. It is the student’s responsibility to inform the instructor if a situation arises where coursework might be compromised.
- **Students must begin attendance in all classes of enrollment. No exceptions. Financial Aid will not be granted to students who have been certified as not attending, by the certification date. For this lecture course, your physical participation in class, on or before the certification date will allow you to receive credit for FA purposes. For certification dates, note the critical dates located in eCampus or check with the division or FAO for further information. Students, who are not certified as beginning class, are responsible for any payments due as a result of non-certification, to include the dropping of courses.**

**PROMPTNESS** – If you are late, be sure to speak with the instructor after class to change
the absence to a tardy. This is the student’s responsibility, not the instructor’s. A tardy that is 30 minutes or longer will result in an absence for that particular class day.

**GROUP PARTICIPATION** - Each student has the possibility of earning up to 200 points for class participation. Full points will be awarded to those students who excel in the following categories:

- **Attendance** - Attend class regularly. There are no unexcused absences. Many activities can be completed only in class.
- **Participation** - Respect others' views and differences of opinion and contribute to discussions with a positive attitude. Accept, understand, and acknowledge their role in the group.
- **Responsibility** - Holds themselves accountable to the group, completes his/her part, and is dedicated to the success of the project or assignment.

**LATE WORK POLICY:**
No late work will be accepted unless provisions are made prior to the due date.

**WITHDRAWAL POLICY:**
If you are unable to complete this course, it is your responsibility to withdraw formally. The withdrawal request must be received in the Registrar’s Office by Friday, August 3rd, 2017. Failure to do so will result in your receiving a performance grade, usually an "F." Students often drop courses when help is available that would enable them to continue. Please discuss your plans with your instructor if you feel the need to withdraw.

If you drop a class or withdraw from the college before the official drop/withdrawal deadline, you will receive a "W" (Withdraw) in each class dropped.

**STOP BEFORE YOU DROP**
For students who enrolled in college level courses for the first time in the Fall of 2007, Texas Education Code 51.907 limits the number of courses a student may drop. You may drop no more than 6 courses during your entire undergraduate career, unless the drop qualifies as an exception. Your campus counseling/advising center will give you more information on the allowable exceptions.

Remember that once you have accumulated 6 non-exempt drops, you cannot drop any other courses with a “W.” Therefore, please exercise caution when dropping courses in any Texas Public Institution of higher learning, including all seven of the Dallas County Community Colleges. For more information, you may access: https://www1.dcccd.edu/6drop

**Repeating This Course:**
Effective for Fall Semester 2005, the Dallas County Community Colleges will charge additional tuition to students registering the third or subsequent time for a course. This class **may not** be repeated for the third or subsequent time without paying the additional tuition.
Third attempts include courses taken at any of the Dallas County Community Colleges since the Fall 2002 semester. More information is available at:

https://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0506/ss/oep/third_attempt.cfm.

**Financial Aid:**
Students must begin attendance in all classes of enrollment. No exceptions. Financial Aid **will not** be granted to students who have been certified as not attending by the certification date. For this lecture class, your physical participation in class, on or before the certification date, will allow you to receive credit for FA purposes. For certification dates, check with the division or FAO for further information. Students, who are not certified as beginning class, are responsible for any payments due as a result of non-certification, to include the dropping of courses. Students who are receiving any form of financial aid should check with the Financial Aid Office prior to withdrawing from classes. Withdrawals may affect your eligibility to receive further aid and could cause you to be in a position of repayment for the current semester. Students who fail to attend or participate after the drop date are also subject to this policy.

If you are receiving financial aid grants or loans, you must begin attendance in all classes. Do not drop or stop attending any class without consulting the Financial Aid Office. Changes in your enrollment level and failing grades may require that you repay financial aid funds.

**The Texas Success Initiative (TSI):**
The Texas Success Initiative (TSI) is a statewide program designed to ensure that students enrolled in Texas public colleges and universities have the basic academic skills needed to be successful in college-level course work. The TSI requires assessment, remediation (if necessary), and advising of students who attend a public college or university in the state of Texas. The program assesses a student’s basic academic skills in reading, writing, and math. Passing the assessment is a prerequisite for enrollment in many college level classes. Students who do not meet assessment standards may complete prerequisite requirements by taking developmental courses in the deficient area and passing them with a grade of C or higher. Additional information is available at https://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0506/admiss/tsi_requirements.cfm.

**Academic Honesty:**
Academic honesty is expected, and integrity is valued in the Dallas County Community Colleges. Scholastic dishonesty is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, fabrication, plagiarism, collusion or facilitating academic dishonesty. If the problem persists or is overtly in violation, the student will be subject to disciplinary action as described in the “Student Code of Conduct”.

As a college student, you are considered a responsible adult. Enrollment indicates acceptance of the DCCCD Code of Student Conduct published in the DCCCD Catalog.
More information is available at https://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0406/ss/code.cfm.

ADA Statement:
Mountain View College and the Office of Special Services are committed to upholding the laws and the spirit of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) signed in 1990.

Disclaimer Reserving Right to Change Syllabus:
The instructor reserves the right to amend this syllabus as necessary.

Inclement Weather Statement:
In the event of severe weather conditions, please listen to local radio or television stations for information concerning official closing of Mountain View College facilities. You can also call the inclement weather hotline at 214-860-8888, or check for updates on this website. Decisions for evening classes will be made by 4:00 pm.

GENERAL INFORMATION:
CHANGE OF ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBERS – This is very important. Should the students mailing or email addresses or phone number change, it is your responsibility to communicate that change with the Admissions Office so that you can receive your grade. You must also change your address in eCampus in order to receive emails from the instructor.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE – Students are expected to operate under the “Student Code of Conduct” as stated in the Mountain View College Catalog. Please become familiar with it.

CONFERENCE – If a student needs to speak to the instructor, he/she should request an appointment by email (michaelcraig@dcccd.edu). Also, a student may leave a message for the instructor in the Fine Arts Office, (214) 860-8632.

COST OF TICKETS – Students should note that they will be expected to pay for the cost of tickets for all shows and films off-campus.

FINAL PROJECT – Failure to submit a final project will result in an automatic “F” for the entire course.

JOURNEY TO SUCCESS - Journey to Success (commonly known as "Early Alert") is a program designed to help DCCCD students identify and overcome obstacles they are facing during the pursuit of academic and career goals. The program is available to all DCCCD credit students who need help and guidance to achieve said goals. Specially trained coordinators, success coaches and faculty members at MVC volunteer their time to take part in Journey to Success.

Throughout the semester, if I notice problems with attendance, participation, preparation,
or completing and submitting assignments, I will give your name to a success coach. This referral is no way meant to scare or threaten the student. This system is designed to identify obstacles in the path to success and provide solutions for a better outcome.

If you have questions or wish to refer yourself, please contact:

Shirley Higgs, Dean of Student Success: 214.860.8507; croyall@dccc.edu
Kathy Taylor, First Year Experience: 214.860.8557; ktaylor@dccc.edu

OBJECTIONABLE MATERIAL – Please be advised that this course will include literature and material that contains strong language, adult subject matter, and adult situations.

CLASS ASSIGNMENTS & SUMMER ACADEMIC CALENDAR
(Reading Assignments are due on the date specified)

Week 1- The Nature of Theater
T/ 11 July-Course Introduction
W/ July 12 Chapter 1- The Impulse to Perform
R/ July 13 Chapter 2- Theater and Society

Week 2-The Nature of Performance/ The Theater Practitioners
M/July 17 Quiz #1. The Playwrights Vision “Joe Turner’s Come and Gone” August Wilson
T/ July 18 The Art of the Actor
W/July 19 The Directors
R/ July 20 The Designers
F/ July 21 A Midsummer Night’s Dream

Week 3- The Nature of Style and Realism and Theatricalism
M/July 24 Quiz #2. Understanding Style: Realism
T/ July 25 “The Soul Shall Dance” by Wakako Yamauchi
W July 26- Understanding Style: Theatricalism
R/ July 27 “Angels In America” by Tony Kushner. Theatre Critiques Due.

Week 4- The Nature of Drama: Structure and Genre
M/ July 31- The Elements of Drama and Dramatic Structure
T/ August 1 “Looking at Water by the Spoonful ‘by Quiara Allegrria Hughes
W/ August 2 Genre Quiz # 3.
R/ August 3 The Project Prep

Week 5- The Final Project Week Prep and Presentation
M/ August 7 – R/ August 10 -Students rehearse and present their final theatrical projects
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<tr>
<th>Grading (credit) Criteria</th>
<th>Attendance, Punctuality, and Participation: (10%) The student’s final grade will be lowered by 1/3 letter grade for each unexcused absence. To receive an excused absence, a doctor’s note is required immediately upon the student’s return to class. If you are late twice, that equals one unexcused absence and shall be reflected in your final grade. Students are graded on participation in class discussions, preparation, and in-class activities. The student’s ability to take direction, correction, preparedness, and willingness to readily participate and work as part of a team will be measured and graded by the instructor.</th>
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<td>Class Projects: (15%) The student will participate in a project that enhances course modules.</td>
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<td>Writing Assignments: (20%) The student will attend one artistic event (theatrical performance) and write a 2-3 page review of each event. A program and ticket stub must accompany each paper. Further guidelines for papers will be provided in class. Campus art events are included in this syllabus. All papers must be typed, 12pt, Times font. Each paper is due the class after the last day of each event. Late papers will not be accepted.</td>
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<td>Quizzes/Exam: (30%) Three multiple-choice type exams will be given covering lectures and reading assignments. If you miss you may not make it up.</td>
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<td>Final Collaborative Project: (25%) A group project will take the components of theatre and put them into practice. Every member of the group must participate in the performance and each member will be accountable for a theatrical aspect of the production of the final collaborative project (e.g., playwright, director, costumer, set, sound, etc..) The final presentation must be between 5-10 minutes. If it is longer or shorter, and/or each member of the group does not participate, and/or does not fulfill her/his theatrical aspect of production, the final project will not be graded for the entire group. Be prepared to meet with your group outside of class for rehearsals. If you miss the final, you may not make it up.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Make-up Exams</th>
<th>None</th>
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<tr>
<td>Extra Credit</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>Late Work</td>
<td>Not accepted</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Assignments</td>
<td>I have included at least 1 theatre/dance performances this semester that you may write your critical analysis theater critique</td>
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Class Attendance | Please be at all classes. Your brilliance enriches us all.