



Credit Hours: 3

Catalog Course Description:

This course provides an overview of theatre as an art form. Included in the study are development of drama and the theatre and an appreciation and understanding of the theatrical production process. This is not a production course.

How Program Site Will Be Incorporated into the Course:

Prerequisites: none

Textbook(s) and Other Courses:

- Notebook
- Writing Journal that is at least 8 x 10" with 6 bottles of acid free glue or acid free tape for journal entries
- *The Creative Spirit & Intro to Theatre*. 3rd or 4th Edition, McGraw Hill Publisher

I. Week/Unit/Topic Basis:

Week 1

What is theatre appreciation? Theatre: Performance and Art; Theatre: Cultural Expression, Business, and the Role of Audience; How to read a play; Read *Joe Turner's Come and Gone*; Mediators and Gatekeepers; Theatre Spaces; What and who are playwrights?; Responsibilities of directors; Genres of drama; Designers and Technicians for theatre; Golden ages of theatre; Shakespeare & theatre. Test I

Week 2

Basics of seeing a play; Theatre of Greece, The End of Athen's Golden Age; The Theatre of Rome; Theater in the Middle Ages; The Italian Renaissance. Test II

Week 3

Review theatre set-up; The Triumph and Decline of Neoclassicism; The Development of Broadway Musicals; Comparison of Development of London Theatre Musicals; Commercialism in Theatre; Theatre & Production Practices for Final Projects. Final Exam

II. Goals:

1. To analyze major theatrical works as a form of cultural and creative expression.
2. To trace the development of the history of theatre in the world.
3. To examine how theatre is a reflection of the culture.
4. To study and analyze the components of theatrical writings.
5. To evaluate the roles of theatre practitioners

III. Course Objectives:

- A. The student will study the theatrical event as it relates to the theatre and everyday life.
- B. The student will study the composition of a theatrical event.
- C. The student will study the forms of action as it relates to the plot, character, language, and inanimate elements of production.
- D. The student will study various genres including tragedy, comedy, melodrama, and farce.
- E. The student will learn to write a play critique.
- F. The student will be introduced to the terminology of theatre.
- G. The student will study the development of musical theatre.
- H. The student will study the various characteristics of the people in theatre including the actor, playwright, director, and set designer.
- I. The student will study the history of theatre in the world

IV. Instructional Processes:

Students will:

- 1. Read and discuss text.
- 2. Hear presentations on playwrights and drama genres
- 3. Read aloud at least one play script and discuss
- 4. Attend a minimum of seven theatrical productions and write critiques and analysis of plays
- 5. Participate in classroom theatrical events, i.e. improvisation, developing a script.

V. Expectations for Student Performance:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- 1. Read and analyze plays of ancient, pre-modern, and modern times, and understand the cultural and creative expression.
- 2. Explain the ways in which humanistic and/or artistic expression throughout the ages express the culture and values of its time and place – i.e. Shakespeare and his influence over European drama and his lasting influence over the culture of Stratford-upon-Avon.
- 3. Explain and understand the global/cultural diversity of theatre from comparing London and New York Theatres, as well as local and regional theatre.
- 4. To explain the forms of action as it relates to plot, character, language and inanimate elements; i.e. write a play analysis
- 5. Analyze a play for production.
- 6. To recognize theatrical terminology.
- 7. Recognize famous playwrights.
- 8. Recognize the ways in which both change and continuity have affected human history; i.e. Blood Brothers and its message about the cultural of England – both change and continuity

VI. Evaluation:

A. Testing Procedures:

1. Test I covers Chapters 1-7 – Essay and multiply choice
2. Test II Covers 8-10 Essay and multiply choice
3. Final Exam Covers chapters 11-15, Blood Brothers, Woman in Black

B. Laboratory Expectations: 10 hour minimum of workshops and seeing plays

C. Other Evaluation Methods

1. Play analysis - 3 @ 50 points each 150
2. Character analysis - 3 @ 50 points each 150
3. Plays and workshops attendance – 200 points
4. Journal – 200 points
5. 3 test – 300 points
6. Writing a Script for Production – 100 points
7. Total points - 1,100 points

D. Grading Scale:

1,100-990	= A
989-879	= B
878-768	= C
767-657	= D
656	= F

VII. Policies:

A. Attendance Policy:

Attendance is of utmost importance in study abroad courses. There are no unexcused absences permitted. Multiple unexcused absences are grounds for removal from the program. Being in class on time is also very important. Frequent tardiness will be considered an absence and appropriate action will be taken. Absences due to illness must be reported immediately to the program director.

B. Academic Dishonesty:

Academic misconduct committed either directly or indirectly by an individual or group is subject to disciplinary action. Prohibited activities include but are not limited to the following practices: Cheating, including but not limited to unauthorized assistance from material, people, or devices when taking a test, quiz, or examination; writing papers or reports; solving problems; or completing academic assignments. In addition to other possible disciplinary sanctions that may be imposed as a result of academic misconduct, the instructor has the authority to assign either (1) an F or zero for the assignment or (2) an F for the course.

C. Cell phone usage is strictly prohibited during class time.

VIII. Instructional Hours:

This class will consist of 37 formal classroom hours of instruction and 10 to 12 additional hours viewing live theater and participating in theater workshops for a total of more than 40 full instructional hours.