Theatre Appreciation: THE2000
RVHB 1205
SUMMER 2020: Session B
Florida International University

Instructor: Terry Hardcastle
ONLINE LEARNING
Email: thardcas@fiu.edu
Office Hours: Available one hour before and after class via Zoom until further notice.

Course Description

This is a fully online course. It is critical to your grade that you completely understand and fulfill all course requirements.

This is a Global Learning Foundations course that counts towards your FIU Global Learning graduation requirement.

Theatre Appreciation is designed to acquaint the student with fundamental components of theatre and how they combine and interact to create the live theatre experience. Lecture will investigate the nature and art of theatre. Students will engage historically significant plays through a variety of media to best understand various dramatic genres, including tragedy, comedy, and musical theatre. Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the theatrical performance as the product of interrelationships among participants (e.g. actors, audience, director, playwright, designers, critics) and context (e.g. history, current events, culture).

Through lecture, assignments, and viewing performances online, the student will gain a wider understanding of the importance of theatre to cultural life. By developing an appreciation for the history, architecture, and literature of theater, one can gain a greater connection to the human experience. Students will be able to analyze how theatre treats universal themes in various ways across the world. Additionally, Students will be able to engage with others to produce an online theatrical performance or product.

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Comprehend expectations/etiquette for an audience member by attending a Live Performance. This co-curricular activity fulfills CLCOC requirements.
2. Understand and explain the function each participant plays within the collaborative process of theatre - playwright, director, designers, and actors. This objective will be accomplished with a
Showcase of Short Scenes from masterworks of the world’s stages (when possible). Discussed in further in “Grading”. This collaborative learning experience is related to GLCOC Outcomes.

3. Explain the structural elements of a play.
4. Command a basic understanding of World Theatre History as well as theatre genres. Assessment will be accomplished through your active participation and collaboration in class on Canvas centered around how plays in different cultures (Greek, Elizabethan, Modern Era) explore universal themes to suggest potential solutions to problems of their time and culture. This collaborative learning experience is related to GLCOC Outcomes.
5. Improve analytical writing and reading skills.

Global Learning Outcomes:

- Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the theatrical performance as the product of interrelationships among participants (e.g. actors, audience, director, playwright, designers, critics) and context (e.g. history, current events, culture). (Global Awareness)
- Students will be able to analyze how theatre treats universal themes in various ways across the world. (Global Perspective)
- Students will be able to engage with diverse others to produce a theatrical performance or product. (Global Engagement)

Required Materials

- Tablet, Notebook, or Computer for note taking and writing assignments in and out of class.

Suggested Materials


Academic Integrity

Students in this course will be expected to comply with FIU Student Handbook. Plagiarism, copying or assignment, or cheating will not be tolerated. Violating this school-wide policy on academic honesty will result in automatic failure of the assignment and possible failure of the course.

Plagiarism is a double crime. It is using someone else’s work without attribution (stealing) and then lying about its source. *Do not do it.* When in doubt, use quotes and attribute your sources.
QUIZZES AND EXAMS

- **Quizzes** - Quizzes will cover reading assignments and topics discussed in class.

- **Exams** – There will be two exams: one Mid-Term Exam and a Final Exam.

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

- **Response papers** - You are required to write two papers in response to an online theatrical performance. Papers will be 3 pages in length, 12 point font, Roman or other standard font, double spaced & margins no more than 1". Spell checking and proof reading your papers is essential. EVERY DAY LATE ON A PAPER WILL MARK ITS GRADE DOWN ONE FULL LETTER GRADE.

Grading of Written Work ( reflections, essays, papers):

- **F paper** – Failure to complete assignment on time. Plagiarism, patch work or whole cloth, will result in failure of assignment, possible failure of course, or worse.

- **D paper** - Typically less than the minimum required pages; basically plot summaries or text regurgitation; a large number of grammar and spelling errors; unorganized and difficult to read.

- **C paper** - Clear thesis statement but paper does not support it; paper dwindles out at the end without conclusion; choppy, does not flow.

- **B paper** – Structured: Beginning, Middle, End. Fluid; well-organized; articulate; strong conclusion; well-supported. May have some major grammar or spelling errors or contain slang, personal references or social media speak.

- **A paper** - Structured: Beginning, Middle, End. Well-reasoned; well-organized; incisive; nice transitions from paragraph to paragraph. No grammar or spelling errors. No slang, personal references or social media speak.

GRADING

(2) Response Papers (50 Points each) (Total 100 Points)

Please note: With COVID restrictions easing, if possible, attending at least one live performance as a Co-Curricular activity will be required. This co-curricular activity fulfills CLCOC requirements.

Your Response Papers will focus on how collaboration between artists, context and personal experience contribute to the meaning and enjoyment of the performance.

In Class Assignments (3) (40 Points each) (Total 120 Points)

(2) Active participation and collaboration in class (and on Canvas) centered around how plays in different cultures (Greek, Elizabethan, Modern Era) explore universal themes to suggest potential
solutions to problems of their time and culture. This collaborative learning experience will be in graded on participation, quality of content, and demonstration/application of learned materials.

(1) Showcase of Short Scenes from masterworks of the world’s stages. Each student will be assigned a specific role (Director, Actor, Costume Designer, etc) which they will be expected to perform for class (when possible). This collaborative learning experience is related to GLCOC Outcomes.

| Quizzes | 30 Points each (Total 120 Points) |
| Mid-Term Exam | 60 Points |
| Final Exam | 100 Points |
| **TOTAL** | **500 Points** |

500 – 465 points = A  
464 – 420 points = B  
419 – 360 points = C  
359 – 315 points = D  
314 – 0 points = F

COURSE CALENDAR

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>IN CLASS</th>
<th>HOMEWORK BY WEEK</th>
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| **WEEK 1:**  
June 22 - June 26 | Watch Introductory Video on Front Page of Canvas.  
Review Syllabus  
Complete Module 1  
Complete Module 2  
Complete Quiz #1 covering Modules 1 and 2. | -Read Chapters 1, 2, and 3  
-Study for Quiz. |
| **WEEK 2:**  
June 29 - July 3 | Complete Module 3  
Complete Module 4  
Complete Quiz #2 | - Read Chapters 4, 5 |
| **WEEK 3:**  
July 6 - July 10 | Complete Module 5  
Complete Module 6 | - Read Chapter 6, 7  
- Study for Mid-Term Exam  
- Write Response Paper #1 |
WEEK 4:  
July 13 - July 17  |  Complete Module 7: Mid-Term Exam  
|  Complete Module 8  
|  Complete Quiz #3  
|  Response Paper #1 due.  
|  - Read Chapters 9

WEEK 5:  
July 20 - July 24  |  Complete Module 9  
|  Complete Module 10  
|  Complete Quiz #4  
|  - Read Chapters 10, 11, and 12.  
|  - Write Response Paper #2

WEEK 6:  
July 27 - July 31  |  Complete Module 11  
|  Complete Module 12: FINAL EXAM  
|  Response Paper #2 due.  
|  - Read Chapter 14  
|  - Study for Final Exam  
|  Then... have a great rest of your SUMMER!

*The Contents of this Syllabus and the Course Calendar are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor and to the benefit of the class. Should this occur, sufficient notice will be given on CANVAS and/or during class. Current as of 6/18/2020.

**SYLLABUS CONTRACT**

You have now read the syllabus and course timeline for THEATRE APPRECIATION for Summer A at FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY and understand the classroom policies, expectations, and rules as stated. By continuing forth with this class, you agree to comply with the policies, requirements, expectations, and consequences as set forth. You acknowledge the instructor’s right to adjust course assignments and their due dates with appropriate notice.

**Handshake**

Handshake is FIU’s portal to employment opportunities. Each student is required to activate their Handshake account by the end of the semester. Visit CARTA’s career website to activate your account, schedule a career advising appointment, search for jobs, and more.

**SDS 4320 | Career Development Post-Graduate Course**

FIU offers all of its graduates a free, 1-credit, 5-week online career preparation course that is designed to help you refine your career goals and personal portfolio, prepare for graduate school, and connect with career coaches and employers. This self-paced course has both general and discipline-specific pathways from which you can choose. Seniors in their last semester at FIU can register for the course before graduation.