

FALL 2013 SYLLABUS
Theatre 100: INTRODUCTION TO THE THEATRE
Lecture 002, Course #28286

Instructor:	Tony Horne	Classroom:	Mitchell 375
Office:	Theatre 264	Class Days:	Monday
Cell Phone:	901-233-7387	Times:	6:00 – 8:45 pm
Office Hours:	TUE 2 - 4 or by appointment.		
Credits:	3 (45 hours of direct classroom instruction and 80 hours of work outside of class spent reading, writing, viewing a performance, and reflecting)		

CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION

An introduction to the theatre as a form of artistic, social and human expression, both from the point-of-view of the audience and the theatre artist. Attendance at live theatrical performances required. **Prerequisites:** none.

DESCRIPTION:

This course is an introduction to the discipline and art of the theatre. The elements of theatre (including analysis, criticism, acting, directing, design, and playwriting) will be introduced and experienced. During the course of the semester, students will have the chance to question themselves and the theatrical experience. Since each piece of theatre is representative of the society from which it springs, the course provides opportunities to examine the value of theatre as an art form in society, the values of the artists and societies that create theatre, and the student's personal values.

TEACHING METHOD:

This course combines lecture, class discussion, and experiential activities.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS:

The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM) is dedicated to a safe, supportive, and non-discriminatory learning environment. It is the responsibility of all students to familiarize themselves with University policies. The policies can be found at this link:
http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/news_events/upload/Syllabus-Links.pdf

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES – After successfully completing this course, each student will:

- Have an appreciation and respect for artistic choices, values, and elements of style as they serve to communicate artistic vision and shape the experience of Theatre.
- Develop his understanding of how personal, cultural, and aesthetic factors shape his/her own and others' responses to Theatre and performance and be better able to articulate his/her reactions to Theatre.
- Increase his fluency in verbal and written communication through the close study of the art form. Students will have the opportunity to discuss and write about course materials, readings, and performances of live theatre.

FALL 2013 SYLLABUS
Theatre 100: INTRODUCTION TO THE THEATRE
Lecture 002, Course #28286

BA THEATRE PROGRAM GOALS

This course meets the following program goals:

Goal #2) Creative and Critical Thinking Skills and Effective Communication Skills

- Students critically analyze the work of theatre practitioners by writing a critique of a theatrical performance.
- Students interpret and collaborate around a piece of dramatic literature as if they were theatrical designers through a group design project.

Goal #4) Integrated Theatre and Art-Making

- Students are involved in the creation of a work of art by writing short play.

GER RATIONALE

This course is part of the GER Breadth requirement because it satisfies the Arts credit requirement and focuses on the UWM Shared Learning Goals (SLG) as well.

Shared Learning Goals (SLG) met by this course

SLG #1) Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Natural World

The course readings and lectures focus on the role of theatre in society, the artists who make theatre, and the elements that make up theatre. By writing a critique of the work of theatre practitioners, students demonstrate their knowledge of theatre

SLG #2) Critical and Creative Thinking Skills

Students use both Critical and Creative Thinking Skills in the group design project and the playwriting assignment.

Arts Divisional GER Criteria that are met by this course

Arts Criteria #1) Demonstrate comprehension of historical, philosophical, theoretical, or aesthetic perspectives commonly used in the understanding of Theatre

Arts Criteria #2) Apply knowledge of artistic principles, conventions, methods, and practices through the creation or production of works of Theatre.

REQUIRED TEXTS

- *The Theatre Experience* (11th Edition) by Edwin Wilson
- *Tartuffe* by Moliere, translated by Richard Wilbur
- *Take Me Out* by Richard Greenberg

REQUIRED PERFORMANCE (1)

Les Liaisons Dangereuses – UWM Mainstage, Nov. 20 – 24, 2013.

Ticket are \$5.00 in advance and \$8.00 at the door. It is recommended that you buy your ticket in advance online at arts.uwm.edu/ticketing OR at the UWM Peck School Box Office in Zelazo Hall. For general box office information, go to:

<http://www4.uwm.edu/psoa/newsevents/boxoffice.cfm/>

FALL 2013 SYLLABUS
Theatre 100: INTRODUCTION TO THE THEATRE
Lecture 002, Course #28286

GRADING/EVALUATION

In-class Participation/Exercises	20%
Homework	10%
Written Examinations	20%
Quizzes	10%
Critique	10%
Original Short Play	15%
Group Project: Design	15%
TOTAL	100%

93 – 100	A	73 – 76.99	C
90 – 92.99	A-	70 – 72.22	C-
87 – 89.99	B+	67 – 69.99	D+
83 – 86.99	B	63 – 66.99	D
80 – 82.99	B-	60 – 62.99	D-
77 – 79.99	C+	59.99 and below	F

In-class Participation/Exercises 20%

Completion of in-class writing assignments and full participation in exercises/discussion all combine to make up this grade. A note on class discussions: make it a point to raise your hand **at least** twice each class period.

Homework 10%

This includes all out-of-class, non-project work assigned over the term. This will include on-line research of theatrical critiques.

Written Examinations Midterm @ 10% and Final @ 10%

Examinations will cover assigned reading in *The Theatre Experience*, plays read, plays viewed, classroom lectures, guest lectures, discussions, and handouts. The exams are non cumulative.

Quizzes 10%

There will be 10 quizzes on the material you are assigned to read. These quizzes will cover the material (including plays) that you should have read for that particular day. Missed quizzes cannot be made up. Quizzes must be taken in ink.

Critiques 10% each

Each student will be required to attend one production and write a critique of it. The critique must be written according to the standard rules of composition. The paper should be a minimum of 3 pages in length (typed, double-spaced. Additional requirements will be provided. You may turn in critiques early. Your critique will be turned in via the dropbox on D2L. Late papers will not be accepted. Missing the production will automatically cause you to forfeit the opportunity to write a critique for the production. This show is fair game for quizzes, tests and discussion. The production to be critiqued is:

Les Liaisons Dangereuses –UWM Mainstage, Nov. 20 – 24

FALL 2013 SYLLABUS
Theatre 100: INTRODUCTION TO THE THEATRE
Lecture 002, Course #28286

Original Short Play **15%**

Each student will write a short 3 to 4 page play according to guidelines that will be provided. The play must be typed and in appropriate script form. This project also includes character sketches and a short process paper.

Group Project: Design (final project) **15%**

The class will divide into small groups to work as production teams on *Tartuffe*. Each team will have a group of three designers (costume, scenic, lighting). Each team member will write up an individual analysis of the play, then proceed with creative exploration. Each group will present its project to the class in a professional manner. The presentation must include visual support such as drawings, models, collages, etc.

COURSE POLICIES:

General Policies

- 1) **CLASS D2L WEBSITE:** D2L will be used extensively as a communication and resource tool for this course. Some written materials for this course will not be handed out, instead these materials will be posted on D2L in an effort to save money and “go green.” Please get in the habit of checking the D2L course site daily.
- 2) **LAPTOPS/IPADS:** You are encouraged to bring your laptop to class to take notes and do research as assigned. From time to time, you will be required to turn off your laptop. Using your laptop for personal communication or activities unsanctioned by the instructor will result in a loss of all participation points for the day.
- 3) **CELLPHONES:** All cellphones will be completely turned off for the entire class period. Ringing/vibrating devices are no more appropriate in the classroom than they are in the theatre! Please, turn them off before class.
- 4) **SPEAKING IN CLASS:** Participation is expected, but out of courtesy to others, please raise your hand to speak.
- 5) **FOOD/BEVERAGE:** Beverages are allowed in the classroom, but food is not.

Homework Policies:

- 1) Turning in late work is strongly discouraged. An assignment is considered late if it is turned in any time after the class period has ended. **LATE WORK:** The grade for late work will be reduced by 20% for each class period that it is late. No work will be accepted after the last class period.
- 2) Most work will be turned in digitally unless the assignment guidelines state otherwise.
- 3) **If you miss class for any reason, you must take the initiative to find out what material you have missed. You are still responsible for turning in all assignments on time. If you have to miss class due to required college business, you must alert the instructor and turn in all work early.**

FALL 2013 SYLLABUS
Theatre 100: INTRODUCTION TO THE THEATRE
Lecture 002, Course #28286

Attendance/Lateness Policies:

- 1) **This is a course, which requires the participation of everyone involved**, because like theatre itself, it is designed as a collaborative learning process. Similar to an actor in a production who is late to rehearsal or does not show up, the student who misses a class session or who is late seriously weakens the collaborative process to the point that it is disruptive to the other students who attend the course.
- 2) **Perfect attendance is your goal.** Attendance is taken at each class. Class policy allows one absence, no questions asked. Each subsequent absence will lower your grade by one step (for example, a B+ will become a B). Two lates are equivalent to one absence.
- 3) If you must, please “save” your absence for when you really need it. **If you must miss a class, please email and let the instructor know BEFORE CLASS if at all possible.**
- 4) **Arrive at class on time and be ready to go.** You will be considered late for class if you enter the room AFTER roll has been taken.
- 5) In case of an emergency, unforeseen illness, or other extenuating circumstances that result in an accumulation of absences, please see the instructor.

COURSE CALENDAR: Subject to change at the discretion of the instructor

CLASS #	DATE	DAY	ACTIVITY	PREPARATION
1	09/09	MON	Intro to course. Team building. What is Theatre? The Audience	
2	09/16	MON	QUIZ 1 (chap 2 – 4) Theatre Spaces Lecture (and tour) Acting Lecture	Read Chapters 1 - 4
3	09/23	MON	QUIZ 2 (chap 5) Acting (studio day) Viewing: <i>Fires in the Mirror</i>	Read Chapter 5
4	09/30	MON	QUIZ 3 (chap 6) The Director The Producer View: <i>Julie Taymor: Setting a Scene</i>	Read Chapter 6
5	10/07	MON	QUIZ 4 (<i>Take Me Out</i>) Discuss <i>Take Me Out</i> and reviews Introduce basic analysis – the main idea	Read <i>Take Me Out</i> Turn in internet research
6	10/14	MON	QUIZ 5 (chap 7-9) Playwriting Discuss Foundations of the plot & Character Analysis In-class writing exercise	Read Chapters 7-9 Turn in rough draft of Character sketches
7	10/21	MON	EXAM 1: Chapters 2-9, plus Take Me Out Work on Play in class	
8	10/28	MON	QUIZ 6 (chap 13) Musical Theatre Read plays aloud in class	Read Chapter 13 Turn in revised character sketches and a rough draft of the play on D2L, Sunday 10/27.

FALL 2013 SYLLABUS
Theatre 100: INTRODUCTION TO THE THEATRE
Lecture 002, Course #28286

9	11/04	MON	QUIZ 7 (<i>Tartuffe</i>) Discuss <i>Tartuffe</i> Read/Discuss plays in class	Read <i>Tartuffe</i> Turn in final draft of play and process paper on D2L
10	11/11	MON	QUIZ 8 (chap 10-12) Theatre Design View: <i>Taming of the Shrew</i> selections In-class project on <i>Tartuffe</i>	Read Chapters 10-12
11	11/18	MON	Quiz 9 (chap 14-15) Global Theatre Contemporary American Theatre Assign final project groups and work in class.	Read Chapter 14-15
12	11/25	MON	QUIZ 10: <i>Les Liaisons Dangereuses</i> Discuss <i>Les Liaisons Dangereuses</i> Watch portions of film Work in class on Projects	Critique Due on D2L
13	12/02	MON	Work in class on Projects	
14	12/09	MON	Final Project Presentations	
EXAM	12/16	MON	Exam 2: Chapters 10 – 15, plus <i>Tartuffe</i> Course Wrap-up	