

# History of Dramatic Art II

## TH 4312 | Fall 2019

### Instructor Information

Ashley Meyer, M.A., Director of University Theatre

[Ashley.meyer@angelo.edu](mailto:Ashley.meyer@angelo.edu)

Office: Carr EFA | Room 160 | Direct line: 325.486.6191

Office Hours: |Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00AM-12:00PM , or by appointment

### Course Meeting Information

Tuesdays and Thursdays | 2:00-3:15PM | Carr E/FA 228

### Required Text

*The Norton Anthology of Drama, Volume 2* | Gainer, Garner, Punchner | 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition | W.W. Norton & Company (does not matter which edition, just make sure that the reading assignments match up and all required information is contained)

*The Living Theatre: A History* | Wilson & Goldfarb | 7<sup>th</sup> Edition | W.W. Norton & Company (must be 7<sup>th</sup> edition, 6<sup>th</sup> will differ in chapter material)

Various play scripts (some plays will have pdf copies on Blackboard. For plays that are not on Blackboard students will be responsible to acquire copies on their own)

### Course Description

A historical study of the theatre from the Eighteenth Century to the present. Includes a study of the physical theatre, development of modern drama, acting styles, and theories of drama applicable to the various periods under consideration.

### Course Content

This course is a study and application of the various activities and methodologies of practices across the world in theatre history, with a focus on the period between 1700-current. It includes discussions, lectures, and course projects designed to analyze, evaluate, and contextualize events and trends in historical theatre.

### Course Specific Expected Learning Outcomes

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

- 1) Describe a comprehensive overview of the nature and development of theatre
- 2) Acquire an appreciation of historical periods, playwrights, and plays
- 3) Discuss theatre as a social force in, and a reflection of, the human condition since ancient times based its history and representation through literature
- 4) Examine how theatre reflects the assumptions of a culture and how theatre artists use their medium to express their belief or disbelief in those systems
- 5) Use their worldviews as lenses through which to view historical content

### Assessment of Expected Learning Outcomes

This course will use a "point system" for all work, including tests and participation. There are 1300 points possible in this class. The breakdown is as follows:

Assignment Type	Point Value	Total Assignments	Total Points
Play Journals	25	10	250
Partner Play Discussion Facilitation	50	1	50
Pop Reading Quizzes	15	10	150
Midterm Exam	200	1	200
Final Exam	200	1	200
Final Research Project (total parts)	250	1	250
Participation	200	-	200
		<b>Total Points</b>	<b>1300</b>

The methods of assessment described below are followed by the correlating outcomes that they assess.

- 1) **Play Journals:** Worth 25 points each for a total of 250 points. For selected plays read for class, you will answer a set of 5 questions that should help you begin to analyze the play's importance in its own time period, as well as in a more personal, modern context. Students may complete extra play journals for extra credit due on the date designated on the calendar (Handouts to follow) **(Outcomes 2, 3, 4, 5)**
- 2) **Partner Play Discussion Facilitation:** Worth 50 points. Each Student will lead an in-class discussion with a designated partner on 1 play of their choosing (1 student group per play choice). (Handouts to follow) **(Outcomes 2, 3, 4, 5)**
- 3) **Pop Reading Quizzes:** Random, pop reading quizzes will be given. Ten (10) quizzes will be given at random throughout the semester. Each quiz will be worth fifteen (15) points, for a total of one hundred (150) points possible. The questions will be related to the assigned readings (textbook and assigned plays). Completing assigned readings will insure success in these assignments. **(Outcome 1, 2, 3, 5)**
- 4) **Midterm Exam:** Worth 200 points. Students will take a comprehensive exam over chapters 11-13. Questions will cover material in the readings and from the lectures. **(Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4)**
- 5) **Final Exam:** Worth 200 points. Students will take a comprehensive exam over chapters 11-15. Questions will cover material in the readings and from the lectures. **(Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4)**
- 6) **Final Research Project:** Worth 250 points. Each Student will complete a 10-12 page research paper over the course of the semester which focuses on a specific topic in modern theatre and reflects an original argument/viewpoint. The research project is broken into the following sections: topic choice, project proposal, bibliography, outline, rough draft, final paper (Handouts to follow.) **(Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, )**
- 7) **Participation:** Students are expected to participate in class, including asking questions, answering questions, initiating classroom discussion, and participating fully in all classroom activities with a positive attitude. Students are also expected to demonstrate growth in all objective areas on a daily basis. (Handout to follow). If your final point count is between two grades, participation will be taken into account to raising or lowering the grade. **(Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)**

### Grading

Grades will be calculated using a 1300-point scale. You must earn the number of points listed below to receive the grade you want.

*Point Breakdown Scale*

Total Points	Letter Grade
1300-1250	A+
1249-1200	A
1199-1170	A-
1169-1140	B+
1139-1100	B
1099-1040	B-
1039-1000	C+
999-950	C
949-900	C-
899-850	D+
849-800	D
799-750	D-
749-0	F

### Blackboard

This course utilizes ASU's Blackboard system. Access to Blackboard is thru Ramport. Please familiarize yourself with how Blackboard functions, as it is key to your success in this course. All discussions, assignments will be turned in and all quizzes and tests will be taken via Blackboard. You can also see your grades in the My Grades area on Blackboard.

Help with Blackboard is provided thru Technology Services. It can be found on the Support tab in Blackboard or by going to [http://blackboard.angelo.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?tab\\_tab\\_group\\_id= 1\\_1](http://blackboard.angelo.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?tab_tab_group_id= 1_1)

### **Content Disclosure**

Courses within the Department usually deal with works of dramatic literature, both on the page and on the stage. Sometimes the situations, actions, and language of these works can be off-putting or offensive to some students, who might be offended on such grounds as sexual explicitness, violence, or blasphemy. As the Department is devoted to the principle of free expression, artistic and otherwise, and it is not the Department's practice to censor these works on any of these grounds, students who might feel unduly distressed or made uncomfortable by such expressions should withdraw at the start of the term and seek another course.

### **Electronics Policy**

Cell phone use is not permitted in the classroom or during any class activity. Phones and other electronic devices are to be turned completely off (not just silenced) the moment you enter the studio and must remain off during the class period. Likewise, text messaging is prohibited in the classroom or during any class activity. Students utilizing the phone or messaging during class will be asked to leave the classroom and will receive an absence for the day. Messaging during an exam/performance will be considered an act of academic dishonesty. Computers and Ipads can be used in class for the purpose of note taking and research. Students misusing their computers (i.e. being on-line, or on social media) will lose their computer privileges for the duration of the course. Be physically and mentally present.

### **Course Work Load**

According to the Angelo State University guidelines, students are expected to spend approximately two-three hours in preparation for each hour of lecture. The instructor anticipates that out-of-class work for this course will not exceed this guideline for most students.

**Late Work:** Written work is accepted late; however, for every day late the assignment will automatically lose a letter grade. If an assignment is turned in after class has ended, that will count as a day late. If an assignment is turned in three days late, it automatically loses a full three letter grades. Pop reading quizzes must be made up within one week of missing a pop quiz. Exams may be made up within one week. It is the student's responsibility to schedule make ups. In-class presentations cannot be made up.

### **Attendance Policy**

Timeliness and presence are crucial to excellence in the performing arts. Each student is allowed **two (2)** absences before your final grade is affected. For each absence beyond these allotted absences, your final grade will be reduced by ½ a letter grade with each subsequent absence. In addition to unexcused absences, three tardies or early exits will equal one absence. General rule: If you arrive to class after attendance has been taken, you are tardy. Pop quizzes and tests must be made up within one week of the original date of the assignment.

**Please note: The only university-recognized excused absences are participation in official university business or for bona fide religious holy days. Participation in official university business must be documented by written notice from sponsoring faculty or staff member at last one week prior to the event.**

### **Observance of a Religious Holy Day**

Texas House Bill 256 requires institutions of higher education to excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day. The student shall also be excused for time necessary to travel. An institution may not penalize the student for the absence and allows for the student to take an exam or complete an assignment from which the student is excused. No prior notification of the instructor is required.

### **ADA Statement**

Angelo State University complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you suspect that you may have a disability (physical impairment, learning disability, psychiatric disability, etc.), please contact the Office of Student Services at (325) 942-2191, Student Life Office, room 112. If you need disability accommodations in this class, please see me as soon as possible.

### **Academic Advising**

The College of Arts and Sciences and Department of Communication, Mass Media and Theatre require that students meet with a Faculty Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Faculty Advisor will set up a degree plan, which

must be signed by the student, faculty advisor, and the department chair. Communication, Mass Media, or Theatre majors who have questions about advising or declaring a major in the department, can call 942-2031. Undeclared majors are supported by ASU's Center for Academic Excellence located in Library A312, and can be reached at (325) 942-2710.

### **Grade Appeal Process (OP 10.03 Student Grade Grievances)**

A student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see Operating Procedure 10.03 at [http://www.angelo.edu/opmanual/docs/Section\\_10\\_Academic\\_Policies-Students/OP\\_10.03\\_Grade\\_Grievance.doc](http://www.angelo.edu/opmanual/docs/Section_10_Academic_Policies-Students/OP_10.03_Grade_Grievance.doc)  
<[http://www.angelo.edu/opmanual/docs/Section\\_10\\_Academic\\_Policies-Students/OP\\_10.03\\_Grade\\_Grievance.doc](http://www.angelo.edu/opmanual/docs/Section_10_Academic_Policies-Students/OP_10.03_Grade_Grievance.doc)>

### **Honor Code Policy**

Violations of academic integrity are very serious matters and are clearly documented in the ASU Student Handbook. The work a student submits in a class is expected to be the student's own work and must be work completed for that particular class and assignment. Plagiarism means intentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of another as one's own. This may include your own previous work. Plagiarism includes quoting or paraphrasing from other sources without acknowledging/citing the source of your information or presenting quoted material as your own words. You must be very clear about attribution of sources and you must know how to cite sources in a paper. Please see full Honor Code Policy at [http://www.angelo.edu/cstudent/documents/pdf/Student\\_Handbook.pdf](http://www.angelo.edu/cstudent/documents/pdf/Student_Handbook.pdf)

### **Civility In the Classroom**

Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. In order to assure that all students have an opportunity to gain from time spent in class, unless otherwise approved by the instructor, students are prohibited from using laptop computers, cellular phones or other text messaging devices, beepers, eating or drinking (except for water bottles), making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, or engaging in any other form of distraction in the classroom.

In instances where a student is proved to be a distraction, the student will lose five points from their grade. Second occurrence will result in ten points removed. On the third occurrence, the student will be removed permanently from the classroom.

Additionally, in the case of a violation of this policy, the instructor will talk with the student about the inappropriate behavior immediately and will follow-up after class or with a scheduled meeting.

In the case of a second incident, the instructor will refer the student to the department chair who will schedule a meeting with the student. At this meeting or any subsequent meeting, the chairperson will inform the student that repeated deviations from expected classroom behavior will result in removal from the class.

If a third incident occurs, the instructor will ask the student to leave the class. If the student refuses, the Campus Police will be called to remove the student. The student will be immediately dropped from the class and reported to the student Dean of Students office.

**Policy on Children in Class:** Currently, the university does not have a formal policy on children in the classroom. The policy described here is thus, a reflection of my own beliefs and commitments to student, staff and faculty parents. If you are a parent, I invite you to discuss the following accommodations with me ASAP.

1) All exclusively breastfeeding babies are welcome in class as often as is necessary to support the breastfeeding relationship. Because not all women can pump sufficient milk, and not all babies will take a bottle reliably, I never want students to feel like they have to choose between feeding their baby and continuing their education. You and your nursing baby are welcome in class anytime.

2) For older children and babies, I understand that minor illnesses and unforeseen disruptions in childcare often put parents in the position of having to choose between missing class to stay home with a child and leaving him or her with someone you or the child does not feel comfortable with. While this is not meant to be a long-term childcare solution, occasionally bringing a child to class in order to cover gaps in care is perfectly acceptable.

3) I ask that all students work with me to create a welcoming environment that is respectful of all forms of diversity, including diversity in parenting status.

4) In all cases where babies and children come to class, I ask that you sit close to the door so that if your little one needs special attention and is disrupting learning for other students, you may step outside until their need has been met. Non-parents in the class, please reserve seats near the door for your parenting classmates.

5) Finally, I understand that often the largest barrier to completing your coursework once you become a parent is the tiredness many parents feel in the evening once children have *finally* gone to sleep. The struggles of balancing school, childcare and often another job are exhausting! I hope that you will feel comfortable disclosing your student-parent status to me. This is the first step in my being able to accommodate any special needs that arise. While I maintain the same high expectations for all student in my classes regardless of parenting status, I am happy to problem solve with you in a way that makes you feel supported as you strive for school-parenting balance. Thank you for the diversity you bring to our classroom!

### **Title IX at Angelo State University**

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex. You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

**Online:** [www.angelo.edu/incident-form](http://www.angelo.edu/incident-form)

**Face to Face:** Mayer Administration Building, Room 210

**Phone:** 325-942-2022

**E-Mail:** [michelle.boone@angelo.edu](mailto:michelle.boone@angelo.edu)

*Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325- 942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).*

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State's policy please visit: [www.angelo.edu/title-ix](http://www.angelo.edu/title-ix).

## Fall 2019 Syllabus Contract

Return this signed page to the instructor

*Due August 30<sup>th</sup>*

I \_\_\_\_\_ have read the **TH 4312** syllabus and understand its contents. I will fulfill the requirements necessary for the grade I want.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date