

# Introduction to Dramatic Art

## TH 1310 Online | Summer 2021

*"The Theatre is one of the few places left in the bright and noisy world where we sit in the quiet dark together, to be awake." -Sarah Ruhl*

### Instructor Information

Ashley M. Love, M.A., PhD Candidate

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

Office: Carr Education-Fine Arts Building, Room 164 or online appointments

Office Hours: By Phone or Virtual appointment only. To make an appoint, please visit [calendly.com/ashley-love](https://calendly.com/ashley-love)

### Course Meeting Information

This course meets entirely online.

### Required Text

*The Theatre Experience (Connect eBook)* | Edwin Wilson | 14<sup>th</sup> Edition | McGraw Hill Education (instructions for registering for the online portion of the course is included at the end of the syllabus)

### Course Description

A historical survey of the development of the dramatic arts and an introduction to contemporary theatre practices.

### Course Content

This course is a study and application of the various activities and methods of theatrical practice. It includes discussions, assignments, and lectures designed to analyze and evaluate all aspects of the theatre experience: scripts, design, acting, directing, staging, history and criticism.

### Course Objectives

1. Gaining factual knowledge (terminology, classifications, methods, trends) about theatre
2. Learning fundamental principles of theatre
3. Gaining a broader understanding and appreciation of theatre

### Learning Outcomes

1. The student will develop a comprehensive overview of the nature and development of theatre
2. The student will be able to identify the different artists involved in creating theatre and apply criteria to the contributions of each of these artists
3. The student will 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
4. The student will identify and evaluate criteria for theatre art
5. The student will apply criteria to plays read or viewed & form articulated responses to plays and performances
6. The student will recognize the collaborative nature of theatre – audience, playwrights, directors, actors, designers

## Core Learning Objectives

CT1: Analysis of assigned play performances & evaluate them for the elements of drama. Compare theatre through history with modern theatre and its role in society

CS1: Write analyses of performances. Analyze the stage design and visual elements of the productions viewed

TW1: The student will complete discussion groups

SR1: Written analysis of plays whose theme involves social justice and change

## Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

### Creative Arts Foundational Component Area Content Description

- 1) Courses in this category focus on the appreciation and analysis of creative artifacts and works of human imagination.
- 2) Courses involve the synthesis and interpretation of artistic expression and enable critical, creative and innovative communication about works of arts.

### Assessment of Expected Learning Outcomes

This course will use a “point system” for all work, including test and participation. There are 1000 points possible in this class. The breakdown is as follows:

Assignment Type	Point Value	Total Assignments	Total Points
Quizzes	10	19	190
Tests	100	2	200
Creative Project	120	1	120
Final Exam	300	1	300
Discussion Board Posts	10	19	190
<b>Total Points</b>			<b>1000</b>

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

- 1) **Quizzes:** Quizzes will be given for each chapter and video. Nineteen (19) quizzes will be given, and each quiz will be worth one hundred (10) points, for a total of one hundred ninety (190) points possible. The questions will be related to the assigned readings and/or assigned video. Completing assigned readings will ensure success in these assignments. **(Outcomes 2, 5)**
- 2) **Tests:** Worth one hundred (100) points for each exam, for a total of two hundred (200) points possible. The tests cover material from the textbook and videos. **(Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)**
- 3) **Creative Project:** Worth one hundred twenty (120) point, the student will read a ten-minute play and complete a creative assignment based on their interests. They will then choose from one of the possible production roles and complete the creative assignment for that production assignment. **(Outcomes 2, 3, 6)**
- 4) **Final Exam:** One final exam, worth one thousand (1000) points. Cannot be made up. Mandatory and comprehensive essay format. **(Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)**
- 5) **Discussion Board Posts:** Worth ten (10) points each for a total of 19 discussions for a total of one hundred ninety (190) points. After each chapter and/or video, students will be expected to participate in the course discussion board. For full credit, students must respond to the Instructor’s prompt AND to one other classmate. Responses to classmates should be respectful, thoughtful, and specific. If you agree with someone’s point, give a detailed reason why with examples from our material to back up your reasoning. Unclear, vague, or too-brief responses will not count. If you only respond to the Instructor’s prompt, that is worth half-credit (5 points). **(Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)**

## Grading

Grades will be calculated using a 1000-point scale.

### *Point Breakdown Scale*

Total Points	Letter Grade
1000-970	A+
969-920	A
919-890	A-
889-850	B+
849-810	B
809-780	B-
779-750	C+
749-710	C
709-660	C-
659-620	D+
619-590	D
589-550	D-
549-0	F

## In-Course Technology Use

This course utilizes the following platforms: Blackboard, and Connect (McGraw Hill e-textbook). It is your responsibility to ensure that you are familiar with the platforms and seek the necessary help you require if you have questions. All assignments are in Blackboard. All chapters are located in the McGraw Hill e-book. All lecture notes, recorded lectures, PowerPoints, and lesson materials are in Blackboard. In the event of technology issues, please maintain open and honest communication. Instructions for registering on Connect for your e-book are included in a separate handout.

## Content Disclosure

Courses within the Department 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, value judgments, 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 speak with the Instructor immediately about their concerns at the start of the semester.

## Electronics Policy

I invite you to be physically and mentally present in our time together, and I request that you do not allow your devices to impact the learning environment, which involves many of us, in any negative manner.

## Course Workload

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

Due to the fast-paced nature of this course, no assignments will be accepted late. All assignments are due by 11:59 p.m. (CST) on the day they are due. You may turn in assignments early or work ahead in the calendar. In the event of COVID-related issues or an emergency, please consult with the instructor prior to an assignment's due date.

## Attendance Policy

Quality participation in class is required. Students contribute to the learning environment and demonstrate their understanding of the material by participation. Therefore, class attendance is required and the attendance policy is as follows:

- **Online attendance will be taken by your logging into Blackboard and accessing the course content on the designated days. You may work ahead for attendance and participation credit.**
- My attendance policy is strict. Even though this is an online class, missing classes means missing a lot of information. Missing 2 weeks of lecture and assignments will lower your final grade significantly. If you work ahead, your participation with that content will count towards your daily attendance.
- Students representing ASU (traveling groups, class field trips, etc.) will be granted an excused absence, but prior notification must be given to the instructor at least one week in advance.
- Remember, an absence is not an excuse for a late assignment. If you have prior knowledge of your absence, please turn in your assignment prior to your absence.

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.

## Civility in the Classroom

Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Higher Education is challenging, and new to many of you. We are also in an unprecedented time, and many of you are facing difficult circumstances.

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.

## 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. The University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination including: sexual assault, sex-based discrimination, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence and/or dating violence), and stalking. As a faculty member, I am a Responsible Employee meaning that I am obligated by law and ASU policy to report any allegations I am notified of to the Office of Title IX Compliance. This is done in order to connect students with resources and options in addressing the allegations reported. As a student, are encouraged to report any incidents of sexual misconduct directly to ASU's Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator. You may do so by contacting:

**Michelle Miller, J.D.**

*Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator*  
Mayer Administration Building, Room 210

325-942-2022

[michelle.miller@angelo.edu](mailto:michelle.miller@angelo.edu)

**You may also file a report online 24/7 at [www.angelo.edu/incident-form](http://www.angelo.edu/incident-form).**

If you are wishing to speak to someone about an incident in confidence you may contact the *University Health Clinic and Counseling Center* at 325-942-2173 or the *ASU Crisis Helpline* at 325-486-6345.

The Office of Title IX Compliance also provides accommodations related to pregnancy (such as communicating with your professors regarding medically necessary absences, modifications required because of pregnancy, etc.). If you are pregnant and need assistance or accommodations, please contact the Office of Title IX Compliance utilizing the information above.

For more information about Title IX in general you may visit [www.angelo.edu/title-ix](http://www.angelo.edu/title-ix).

### 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 they 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)

## Course Calendar

MODULE 1	Topic Covered	Read Online Chapter	Lecture Video	Discussion Board Due	Assessment Due
Monday, July 12	Introductions to the class/Syllabus		Start Here	Introductions	About Me Quiz & Syllabus Quiz
Tuesday, July 13	What is Theatre?		What is Theatre	What is Theatre	
Wednesday, July 14	The Audience	CH 1	Ch. 1	CH 1	Ch. 1 Quiz
Thursday, July 15	Background	CH 2	CH. 2	CH.2	Ch. 2 Quiz
Friday, July 16	Theatre Spaces	CH 3	CH. 3	CH. 3	Ch. 3 Quiz
Monday, July 19	Acting for the Stage	CH 4	CH. 4	CH. 4	Ch. 4 Quiz
Tuesday, July 20	Watch Cabaret musical			Cabaret	Cabaret Quiz
Wednesday, July 21	The Director and the Producer	CH 5	CH 5	CH. 5	Ch. 5 Quiz
Thursday, July 22	Review for Test #1				
Friday, July 23	Test #1				Test #1
<b>MODULE 2</b>					
Monday, July 26	Creating the World of the Play	CH 6	CH 6	CH 6	Ch. 6 Quiz
Tuesday, July 27	Dramatic Structure and Dramatic Characters	CH 7	CH 7	CH 7	CH. 7 Quiz
Wednesday, July 28	Theatrical Genres	CH 8	CH 8	CH 8	Ch. 8 Quiz
Thursday, July 29	Scenery	CH 9	CH 9	CH 9	Ch. 9 Quiz
Friday, July 30	Exploring Theatre Video Assignment			Exploring Theatre	Video Assignment Quiz
Monday, August 2	Costumes	CH 10	CH 10	CH 10	Ch. 10 Quiz
Tuesday, August 3	Lighting & Sound	CH 11	CH 11	CH 11	Ch. 11 Quiz
Wednesday, August 4	Watch Sing Faster Documentary			Sing Faster	Sing Faster Quiz
Thursday, August 5	Review for Test #2				
Friday, August 6	Test #2				Test #2
<b>MODULE 3</b>					
Monday, August 9	Theatre Today	CH 12	CH 12	CH 12	Ch. 12 Quiz
Tuesday, August 10	Diverse & Global	CH 13	CH 13	CH 13	Ch. 13 Quiz
Wednesday, August 11	Watch Shakespeare Behind Bars Documentary			SBB	SBB Quiz
Thursday, August 12	Creative Project due and Mandatory Online Final Exam (essay style)				Creative Project and Final Exam

## Textbook Registration Information



connect<sup>®</sup>

### student registration information

#### course

Introduction to Dramatic Art

#### instructor

Ashley Love

#### section

Intro to Drama Summer 2 Online

#### registration dates

07/11/21 - 08/13/21

#### online registration instructions

Go to the following web address and click the **"register now"** button.

<https://connect.mheducation.com/class/a-love-intro-to-drama-summer-2-online>

This is a unique address for  
**Intro to Drama Summer 2 Online**

Having trouble registering?  
Get help here: <https://bit.ly/StudentRegistration>