

Introduction to Dramatic Art TH 1310 Online | Summer 2022

“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

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Office: Carr Education-Fine Arts Building, Room 162 or online appointments

Office Hours: By appointment only. Masks encouraged for in-person appointments. Zoom and Facetime appointments preferred.

Course Meeting Information

This course meets entirely online.

Required Text

The Theatre Experience (Connect eBook) | Edwin Wilson | 15th 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

Assignment Type	Point Value	Total Assignments	Total Points
Quizzes	60	5	300
Tests	100	1	100
Creative Project	200	1	200
Final Exam	300	1	300
Discussion Board Posts	20	5	100
Total Points			1000

The methods of assessment described below are followed by the correlating outcomes that they access:

- 1) Quizzes: Quizzes will be given for each chapter and video. Five (5) quizzes will be given, and each quiz will be worth one hundred (60) points, for a total of one hundred ninety (300) 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 one hundred (100) points possible. The tests cover material from the textbook and videos. (Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)

3) Creative Project: Worth two hundred (200) points, the student will read a 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 three hundred (300) points. Cannot be made up. Mandatory and comprehensive essay format. (Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)

5) Discussion Board Posts: Worth ten (20) points each for a total of 5 discussions for a total of one hundred ninety (100) 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 Boone, J.D.
Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator
Mayer Administration Building, Room 210 325-942-2022 michelle.boone@angelo.edu

You may also file a report online 24/7 at www.angelo.edu/incident-form.

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).

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 resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State's policy, Please visit:

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. A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day for more information.

<https://www.angelo.edu/live/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of>

ADA Statement

Angelo State University complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from the participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans

with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student's responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu.

For more information, about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website at:

www.angelo.edu/ada

The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dallas Swafford
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu
325-942-2047
Houston Harte University Center, 112

If you suspect that you may need accommodations for 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 Integrity

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject to disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU. For more information, please consult the student handbook:

<https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/student-handbook/>

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU's Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else's work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one's own. Plagiarism is literary theft. In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality via Turnitin. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.

https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/writing-center/academic_honesty.php

Copyright Policy

Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.

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

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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

COURSE CALENDAR

WEEK	AGENDA FOR THE WEEK	HOMEWORK	ASSIGNMENT DUE
1	Syllabus, Chapters 1-3, Unit quiz	Review and sign syllabus, Chapter lectures, discussion boards, Unit 1 Quiz	Discussion Boards, Unit 1 quiz
2	Chapters 4-6, Unit quiz	Chapter lectures, discussion boards, Unit 2 Quiz	Discussion Boards, Unit 2 Quiz
3	Chapters 7-10, Unit quiz	Chapter lectures, discussion boards, Unit 3 Quiz	Discussion Boards, Unit 3 Quiz
4	Chapters 11-13, Unit quiz	Chapter lectures, discussion boards, Unit 4 Quiz	Discussion Board, Unit 4 Quiz
5	Finals week	Creative Project, Final	Creative Project, Final

*This syllabus is subject to change