



EAST TENNESSEE STATE
UNIVERSITY

College of Arts and Sciences

Theatre and Dance

Introduction to Theatre - THEA 1030

Course Description: Studies the dramatic arts and modes of theatrical production for the understanding and appreciation of the living theatre as a cultural force in society.

COURSE PURPOSE: This course is offered to provide students with an understanding and appreciation for the many aspects of theatre: dramatic literature, acting, theatrical design, stage direction, theatre history and the role of the audience. Lectures and guest lectures, power point presentations, video presentations, and reading assignments will be the educational methods used in this class. (3 credit hours)

COURSE GOALS: The hope is that after having taken this course the student will become a regular theatre attendee and will appreciate the role the arts have in our culture and society.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: As a result of taking this course the student will be able to:

- Recognize the different theatrical genres
- Identify the varying types of dramatic structure
- Identify general historical and socio-political movements in theatre
- Understand the process of acting, design and production
- Appreciate how the varied crafts of the stage interrelate and ultimately combine to create the art form we know as *Theatre*.

RECOMMENDED TEXT: *The Theatre Experience*. Thirteenth Edition. McGraw-Hill Higher Education 2011. Edwin Wilson. ISBN: 9780073125558 *An earlier edition is acceptable – however it is the student’s responsibility to translate any page assignments, power points, or other references for this edition (chapter numbers and contents vary).*

TEACHING METHODS: The teaching methods for this course will include lecture, guest lecturers, videos, and discussion. This course is web-enhanced. Students are expected to access the online Desire 2 Learn course site regularly for updates, supplemental information, and for tracking their grades. [Link to D2L Access](#).

MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS: The grade for this course is based on four exams and two play review papers.

EXAM INFORMATION

- There will be four unit exams and an optional comprehensive final exam given this semester. The exam grades are averaged at 22.5% each. *The optional comprehensive final can be used as a replacement grade for one exam.*
- The four unit exams are multiple choice, true false, and/or identification. These exams will be taken at the Center for Academic Achievement located in the Sherrod Library on the ETSU Main Campus. The Testing Center now requires students to schedule their testing appointments. The CFAA provides certain accommodations for students who have followed ETSU's protocol for documenting disabilities. Please contact the center at 439-6708 with questions regarding these accommodations.
- [LINK to register and schedule an Exam in the CFAA](#)
- [LINK to CFAA Testing Center Rules](#)

PLAY REVIEW INFORMATION

The student must attend at least two theatrical performances this semester and write a review for each of the plays attended. The review must include information on what was produced (the play title), where and when you viewed the performance, and who produced the piece. Please address what you liked and/or disliked about the play rather than retelling the play's plot. You should also attempt to integrate information from the course lectures into your response. The last day to submit reviews to the D2L Play Review Dropbox Folder is midnight on Friday, May 1st.

Play reviews must be submitted via the D2L Dropbox, *do not* email your play reviews to me. *Please note: The D2L Dropbox submissions are automatically checked for originality through Turnitin.* Additional information on writing a play review can be found on the Contents Page of D2L.

Any professional theatre, community theatre, or school/church play production is acceptable as long as it is a *live theatrical* performance. If you want verification on whether a specific event qualifies, just ask me in class or send me an email. The following *live theatrical* events are scheduled to be offered on the ETSU main campus this semester:

***Daughter of the Struggle* by Ayanna Gregory**

January 23 at 7:00 pm

ETSU Millennium Center Ballroom

Contact Multicultural Center at 423-439-4844 or etsumc@etsu.edu

***Antigone* by Sophokles, translated by Anne Carson**

Department of Theatre and Dance production

February 20 through 22 at 7:30pm; February 23 at 2:00pm;
Bud Frank Theatre, Gilbreath Hall
\$10 general admission/\$5 student [Department of Theatre and Dance Box Office Link](#)

***Independence: The True Story of Dr. Mary Walker* by Lloyd J. Schwartz**

Mary B. Martin event
March 12 at 7:30pm
Bud Frank Theatre, Gilbreath Hall
\$20 general admission/\$5 student [Mary B Martin School of the Arts Box Office Link](#)

***Bridge to Terabithia* book by Katherine Paterson and Stephanie S. Tolan,**

Department of Theatre and Dance production
April 19 and 20 at 7:00pm; April 19 at 2:00pm; April 21-22 at 10:00am
Bud Frank Theatre, Gilbreath Hall
\$10 general admission/\$5 student [Department of Theatre and Dance Box Office Link](#)

Additional production review opportunities will be posted on the D2L news page as information becomes available.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: While I do not formally take roll, your attendance in class impacts your grade. Test material comes from lectures, videos, and performances, as well as from the recommended text. There is a direct correlation to a student's attendance and their ability (or inability) to succeed on tests.

CLASS PARTICIPATION AND DISCUSSION: This course will require your attention and participation. The quality of the course will depend heavily on each student's participation in class discussion and exploration. Please turn off your cell phone while in class.

COURSE EVALUATION: There will be four unit exams given throughout the semester. The grades are averaged at 22.5% each. The exams will be multiple choice, true false and/or identification and will be taken at the Center for Academic Achievement located in the Sherrod Library on the ETSU Main Campus.

The optional comprehensive final can be used as a make-up exam or replacement grade for one exam. I will average the highest 4 test grades out of the 5 exams taken – therefore the optional final cannot hurt your average, only help it.

Attendance to the plays and the response papers make up the remaining 10% of the final course grade (two at 5% each).

MAKE-UP EXAMS: As the final exam is optional, it will be treated as a make-up exam for any test missed. ***Only one missed exam can be made-up. The scheduled final exam period is the only time to make up a missed exam.***

EXTRA CREDIT: Extra Credit may also be earned by attending additional play productions and writing a brief review of the experience. Each play attended (*with accompanying review*) will count as two points added to the student's final average for a maximum of 10 points. The student must attend the entire production, write a one-page review (not a synopsis) of the show, and turn it in to the D2L Drop Box by midnight Monday, December 9th.

GRADE SCALE:	A = 100-94	A- = 93-90
B+ = 89-87	B = 86-84	B- = 83-80
C+ = 79-77	C = 76-74	C- = 73-70
D+ = 69-67	D = 66-60	F = 59 or below

Test Proctoring at the CFAA - Student Guidelines for Course Testing

[Center for Academic Achievement Link](#)

Advance appointments are required for all course tests proctored in CFAA Testing Services. To make an appointment:

- [Click here to register for an exam.](#) Next click on "Choose Exam" to find the tests associated with this class (THEA 1030-001).
- Select an upcoming test; you will be given the opportunity to reserve a convenient time on the day or days that the test is available.
- The sooner you make your appointment, the more likely you are to get a seat on the day and time you prefer. It is strongly recommended that you make all of your test appointments as far in advance as possible.
- Important: Don't wait. You must register and make your selection at least 6 hours prior to your preferred test time in order to save your reservation.

When you arrive for your testing appointment:

- Bring your ETSU ID. You will not be seated for a test without an ETSU ID.
- Bring the materials your instructor has permitted you to use (e.g. notes, calculators, textbook). These will be verified by CFAA staff before you are seated. All other belongings must be put in a CFAA-provided bag and placed under your seat, or in a cubby/locker in the CFAA.
- If your instructor permits the use of scratch paper, CFAA staff will give it to you one piece at a time. All scratch paper will be collected before you exit the testing area.
- Don't bring gum, food, drinks, or children into the testing area.
- Don't wear sunglasses, hats, or hooded sweatshirts, coats, or jackets into the testing area.

- If you are concerned about distractions or especially sensitive to background noise, ask for a free pair of disposable earplugs at check-in.
- Turn OFF your cell phone, tablet, laptop, iPod, or any other electronic devices. These must be powered OFF and stored in the bag under your seat or in a cubby/locker, not on your person, during testing.
- If you are spotted with an electronic device on your person while seated for testing, or if your device rings, vibrates, chimes, or otherwise goes off in the testing area, you will be asked to power it off in sight of a CFAA staff member and place it in your bag or cubby/locker. This is considered disruptive behavior, and as such will be reported to your instructor.
- Suspicions of cheating, or any sort of disruption, will be documented by an Incident Report and sent to your instructor; further investigation and disciplinary actions will be left to them.

CFAA Testing Services is on the 1st floor of Sherrod Library. Call 423-439-7111 or 423-439-6708 for directions

PLEASE NOTE:

Plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited. Students guilty of academic misconduct, either directly or indirectly, through participation or assistance, will receive an “F” or a zero (“0”) for the exercise or examination. In addition, notification of misconduct may be reported to the Dean of Students and, if applicable, Student Athlete Advisors. Any subsequent infraction will result in an “F” in the course. [Link to ETSU Academic Misconduct Policy](#)

Please observe the rights of others while in this class and treat your peers, guest lecturers and instructor with dignity and respect.

Any student who may need an accommodation based on disability should make an appointment to see the instructor during office hours or after class. A Faculty Accommodation Form from Disability Services authorizing your accommodations is required. [Link to ETSU Disability Services Syllabus Statement](#)

[Link to ETSU Syllabus Attachment](#)

COURSE CALENDAR

Chapters correspond to 13th edition of text. Students are responsible for lining up appropriate chapters if using a different edition. Subject to change at discretion of Instructor. Students will be notified of updates through D2L

WEEK 1

Tue. Jan. 21- Introduction to Course
Thu. Jan. 23- The Audience- Chapter 1

WEEK 2

Tue. Jan. 28-The Audience- Chapter 2
Thu. Jan. 30- Theatre Spaces- Chapter 3

WEEK 3

Tue. Feb. 4- Acting- Chapter 4
Thu. Feb. 6- Acting

WEEK 4

Tue. Feb. 11- Directing- Chapter 5
Thu. Feb. 13- Directing and Review for Exam 1

WEEK 5- EXAM 1- TAKE IN THE CFAA

Tue. Feb. 18- The Playwright and Play- Chapter 6
Thu. Feb. 20- The Playwright and Play

WEEK 6

Tue. Feb. 25- Dramatic Structure and Characters- Chapter 7
Thu. Feb. 27- Dramatic Structure and Characters

WEEK 7

Tue. Mar. 3- Genres- Chapter 8
Thu. Mar. 5- Genres and Review for Exam 2

WEEK 8- EXAM 2- TAKE IN THE CFAA

Tue. Mar. 10- The Design Process: Scenery- Chapter 9
Thu. Mar. 12- Design Process: Scenery

WEEK 9

Tue. Mar. 17- Spring Break
Thu. Mar. 19- Spring Break

WEEK 10

Tue. Mar. 24- Design Process: Costuming- Chapter 10
Thu. Mar. 26- Design Process: Costuming

WEEK 11

Tue. Mar. 31- Design Process: Lighting and Sound- Chapter 11
Thu. Apr. 2- Design Process: Lighting and Sound and Review for Exam 3

WEEK 12- EXAM 3- TAKEIN THE CFAA

Tue. Apr. 7- Musical Theatre- Chapter 12

Thu. Apr. 9 Musical Theatre

WEEK 13

Tue. Apr. 14 Oklahoma (watch performance in class)

Thu. Apr. 16 Oklahoma (watch performance in class)

WEEK 14

Tue. Apr. 21- Oklahoma discussion

Thu. Apr. 23- Global Theatre- Chapter 13

WEEK 15- EXAM 4- TAKE IN THE CFAA

Tue. Apr. 28 Current US Theatre- Chapter14 and review for Exam 4

Thu. Apr. 30- Review for Final Exam (only attend if planning to take the final exam)

OPTIONAL FINAL EXAM IS TUESDAY, MAY 5: 8:00 AM- 10 AM OR 10:30 AM- 12:30 AM

SAMPLE