

Theatre Arts 207-100

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:

Read plays and analyze them as pieces of literature and as blueprints for theatre artists
Recognize different genres of theatre and their role in sculpting the art form
Identify various elements of playwriting and understand how they apply to the production as a whole.
Identify various elements of acting and understand how they apply to the production as a whole
Identify various elements of directing and understand how they apply to the production as a whole
Identify various elements of technical theatre and understand how they apply to the production as a whole.
Communicate an understanding of vocabulary, concepts, materials, techniques and methods of intellectual inquiry within the arts and/or humanities;
Describe and evaluate texts using primary and secondary materials;
Analyze and synthesize texts, recognizing the diversity of cultures and historical contexts.
Illuminate the idea that theatre is much more than actors dealing with emotions.

Required Text and Materials

We will use excerpts from the *Norton Anthology of Drama Second Edition Volume 1 & 2*, and *The Actor In You*, By: Robert Benedetti

You will need to buy the play packet from the administration. The price is \$5.00

You will also need a ruler, a box of colored pencils and a sketch pad.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Attendance and Participation	150 Points
Quizzes	150 Points (6 Quizzes – 25 Points Each)
Play-Reading Papers	200 Points
Design Project	50 Points
Director's Concept	50 Points
Costume Project	50 Points
Open Scene	50 Points
Scripted Scene	50 Points
Playwriting Project	100 Points
Mid-Term	150 Points
Group Work (Cumulative)	100 Points (4 Opportunities – 25 Points Each)
Final Project	200 Points

You will be given 6 quizzes and the lowest quiz grade will be dropped at the end of the semester.

Grade Distribution

A+	4.0	97 – 100
A	4.0	94 – 96
A-	3.7	90 – 93

B+	3.3	86 – 89
B	3.0	83 – 85
B-	2.7	80 – 82
C+	2.3	76 – 79
C	2.0	73 – 75
C-	1.7	70 – 72
D+	1.2	66 – 69
D	1.0	63 – 65
D-	0.7	60 – 62
F	0.0	59 and lower

CLASS POLICIES

Each student is responsible for active participation and contribution to the course; therefore, each student should arrive to every class on time, fully prepared and ready to work. **If you are more than 5 minutes late, you will lose participation points for that class and whatever in-class assignments you missed before you arrived.**

Please turn off all cell phones when you come in to class! If you answer your cell phone during class, I will ask you to leave and you will be counted absent for that day.

PLEASE NO CELL PHONE USAGE (cell phone conversations, text messaging, web surfing, listening to music, etc.) **DURING CLASS!** Students disobeying this policy will be counted absent for that class period and asked to leave class. If student is asked to leave class, they will not be allowed to return to class until speaking with the instructor. Student will also be counted absent for that day.

The use of laptops in this class is prohibited. It's important to pay attention to what is said in lectures and discussions—quizzes and essay assignments will sometimes include this material.

Students should show maximum respect for their fellow students and the professor. College students are expected to be mature, disciplined and intelligent people; therefore, immature, undisciplined, or arrogant behavior will not be tolerated in this class. This includes eating, drinking, chewing gum, and propping legs on furniture among other similar behaviors. Violent or threatening behavior will be immediately turned over to University authorities for disciplinary action.

Please be familiar with Blackboard! I will use it frequently to communicate with you about assignments, grades, other opportunities for attending performances, suggestions for further reading, etc.

If you have an unexcused absence on a quiz date, you cannot make up that quiz. No exceptions. A zero because of an unexcused absence will count as your 6th quiz grade.

Academic Integrity:

Academic dishonesty is prohibited at the University of Louisville – Panama. It is a serious offense, because it diminishes the quality of scholarship, makes accurate evaluation of student progress impossible, and defrauds those in society who must ultimately depend upon the knowledge and

integrity of the institution and its students and faculty. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to: cheating, falsification, plagiarism, multiple submission, fabrication, and complicity in academic dishonesty. Penalizations for engaging in academic dishonesty may include: an F on the assignment, and F on the course, a permanent letter placed in the student's file, suspension, and expulsion. The extent of the penalization will be decided by the professor with due support from the university's academic authorities. For more information regarding academic integrity, you may access the document "Student's Rights and Responsibilities" at www.qlu.ac.pa. Even though artists sometimes use quotations, images, sounds, etc. from other sources by way of example, it is important to remember that you are entering a conversation with the author of any material you use rather than simply re-stating what he or she has said. **Submitting another person's work and claiming it as your own is plagiarism, and is unacceptable.** If you do use outside sources in your work, please be sure to cite them completely. (On a side note: be sure to seek out resources other than Wikipedia.) Be honest, please. Cheating of any kind is disrespectful to everybody involved. Any unacceptable act of conduct such as cheating, plagiarism, harassment of others, etc. will not be tolerated. Students committing such acts will be sanctioned according to University policy. Students should consult a current student handbook for more detailed information regarding unacceptable acts of conduct, sanctions, procedures, and students' rights.

Students with Disabilities:

The University of Louisville Panama is committed to providing access to programs and services for qualified students with disabilities. If you are a student with a disability and require accommodation to participate in and complete requirements for this class, contact the the Academic Dean of UofP-QLU, Mariana Leon for verification of eligibility and determination of specific accommodations. Please speak to me about any concerns you may have. You may also access the complete Disability Policy at www.qlu.ac.pa.

Late Work

NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED. All work is due on the assigned date unless arrangements have been made with the instructor. Students are responsible for contacting the instructor to make up missed assignments or obtain materials covered during excused absences. If you have questions, see your professor. Assignments missed during an **unexcused absence** may be made up at the discretion of the instructor, meaning the instructor reserves the right to deduct points or **refuse to accept the assignment.** As the semester proceeds, specific instructions will be given for various assignments. It is the responsibility of the student to adhere to all instructions and to seek help from the instructor to clarify any questions concerning the assignments.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance in class is mandatory; however University policy allows Four (4) TOTAL absences per semester. Use them wisely. This means on the 5th absence for class you will receive a failing grade for the course.

In addition, **each student must be present on Presentation days!** Class members act as the audience for class presentations and, as such, must attend class when others present.

TARDINESS is unacceptable! The professor may refuse a student entry to the class if the student is more than 10 minutes late to the class.

IMPORTANT DATES

Last day to drop without penalty, Sept. 5th
(no "W" on transcript)

Last day to register/add a class,
September 3rd

Last day to withdraw, October 10th

Week 1:

Introductions

What is theatre?

Components of Professional Theatre

How to read a play

In-Class Read: ***Riders to the Sea*** by: John Millington Synge

Homework: Read ***Oedipus the King***

Week 2:

Quiz #1: What Makes Theatre and Components of Professional Theatre/ ***Oedipus the King***

Aristotle's Poetics

Plot Structure Vs. Story

Freytag's Plot Triangle

Present findings from ***Riders to the Sea***

Read: ***Song of Death***

Paper: Analyze the ***Song of Death*** in terms of the subject matter of Aristotle's Poetics. Then write a one – two page paper identifying the six elements of Aristotle's Poetics and noting how or whether they enhance the production.

Week 3:

Song of Death paper due

Genre

Theatre Spaces

Theatre Terms

Intro to Technical Theatre

Design Project (In-Class)

Costume Project

Playwriting Project

Using a linear plot structure and 2 – 3 characters, write a 1-3 page scene complete with an inciting incident, exposition, rising action, climax and denouement. You will be graded on your plot structure as well as your use of Aristotle's poetics.

Week 4:

Quiz #2

Finish Design Projects

Director

Playwriting project due

Read *The Dog Lady*

Read Chap. 1 *The Actor in You*

Mid-Term Week

Day 1: Review

Day 2: Mid-Term

Director's Concept Paper

Week 6

Quiz #3

Intro to Acting

Entrances and Exits

Read *Buried Child*

Director's Concept Paper Due

Week 7

Quiz #4

Acting Cont'd

Stanislavski's System

Begin Open Scenes

Week 8

Quiz #5

Stanislavski's System Cont'd

Rehearse Open Scenes

Present Open Scenes

Begin Scripted Scenes

Week 9

Quiz #6

Creating the Production and the Rehearsal Process

Scripted Scenes Cont'd

Week 10

Meet with Group for Project
1st Showing of Final Project

Week 11

Meet with Group for Project
Present Final Project

The professor retains the right to adjust the syllabus at his discretion.