

DRAMA 110

introduction to the theatre

Description: A basic survey of theatre practice. Fulfills the Fine Arts Requirement. 3 credits.

Instructor: Dr. Leon J. Van Dyke
Ph. D., Wayne State University
Office: P.A.C. 1048. M.W.F. 10 - 12
T.- R. 8:00 - noon & other, by appt.
lvandyke@usouthal.edu 460 - 6305

Text: Weinscott & Fletcher: Theatre, Collaborative Acts. Boston: Pearson, 2004

Plays: Sam Shepard's Buried Child
Ibsen's A Doll House

Goals:

- To review and comprehend the theatre's creative process....from inception to performance
- To share a variety of theatre experiences
- To understand theatre as a collaborative act
- To enable student to form a "world view" of contemporary theatre and it's common elements
- To foster a broad understanding of the evolution of the theatre
- To develop an appreciation of the jobs of various artists and technicians who contribute to theatrical production

Other Required Costs:

Attendance at two **THEATRE USA** productions. @ \$8.00 each.

Evaluation based upon

- Three exams 200 points each
- quizzes on chapters 100 points total
- a pair of critiques or reviews 50 points each
- a creative project 100 points
- attendance each class 100 points

Total points	1000
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Class attendance garners you points, but this will include being on time and acting like you're interested. I will deduct points for interruptions you cause, such as receiving or making cell phone calls during class, or consuming loud or distracting food or drink.

Chapter Assignments in Text, and Play reading required, by date of week:

Aug. 23 Intro & Chapter I: Cultural Collaboration, Theatre and Society

August 30 Chapter II: Actor, Audience, & Space

Sept. 6, Labor Day Holiday, Sept. 8 Doll House, Sept. 10: Chapter VI

Sept. 13 Chapter IV The Play as blueprint

Sept 20 Chapter III: Analyzing Theatre...writing about a performance

Sept. 24: **EXAM I**

Sept 27 Chapter XI: Actor Sept 30 - October 1: See Show 1, The Illusion

October 4 Chapter X: Director: **Critique #1 Due**

October 11 Chapter XIII: Designers

October 25: Playwright, Chapter XII

October 29 **Exam II**

Nov. 1 **Group Presentations**

Nov 8 Above, continue Nov. 11 - 20, The Laramie Project

Nov 22 **Critique # 2 Due**

Nov. 15 History of Classical form, Chapter VII

Nov. 22: Theatre Rediscovered, Chapter VIII

Nov. 29 Revolution, Chapter IX

Dec. 6 Individual Presentations & Review

Dec 10 **Exam III: Final Exam**

There is a departmental policy that there will be no make-up exams, unless an extenuating circumstance is overwhelmingly proven.

If you have a specific disability that qualifies you for academic accommodations, please notify the professor to provide certification from Disability Services (OSSS is located in Room 270 of the Student Center (460 - 7212)

Certainly the above dates are all subject to change based upon the class discussions, and to allow for some flexibility. Since all classes do not progress at the same rate, the requirements and timing of assignments may fluctuate. Every attempt will be made to give adequate notification of such changes.

If you are confused about any of the expectations, do not hesitate to ask for clarification.

Exam I will cover Chapters 1,2,3,4, & 6 as well as Doll House

Exam II will cover Chapters 11, 10, 13, & 12 as well as Buried Child

Exam III will cover Chapters 7, 8, & 9.

Group presentations may be about scenic design, costume design, a specific director, a playwright, a historical era, a particular theatre worker. It will be a presentation of research, and more information about it will be forthcoming.

In this presentation, which could be an original script or a rehearsal of a scene from a play, be sure that the instructor approves of the project you are undertaking.