
THEA 4360 02

History of Theatre II

Instructor: Dr. Victoria (Vicky) P. Lantz
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CRN: 23831 Spring 2018
MWF 9 – 9:50 AM / CJ A205

****Sign up on my office door**

I regard the theatre as the greatest of all art forms, the most immediate way in which a human being can share with another the sense of what it is to be a human being.

—Oscar Wilde

Art is not a mirror with which to reflect reality, but a hammer with which to shape it.

—Bertolt Brecht

Catalogue Description

A survey of changing styles in theatre, from the Romantic revolution through the Realistic movement to the innovations of the twentieth century theatre. Prerequisites: ENGL 1301 and 1302. **Writing Enhanced.** Credit 3.

Course Description

This course covers major movements and figures in theatre over the last 200 years, divided into three units that are organized chronologically and/or topically: one, 19th century theatre; two, ISMs to 1945; and, three, European and Global theatre practice in the late 20th century.

The emphasis of the course will be on major periods, typical plays, important personages, and major architectural and production techniques.

Because the course is writing enhanced, at least 50% or more of your final course grade will result from your own, original writing

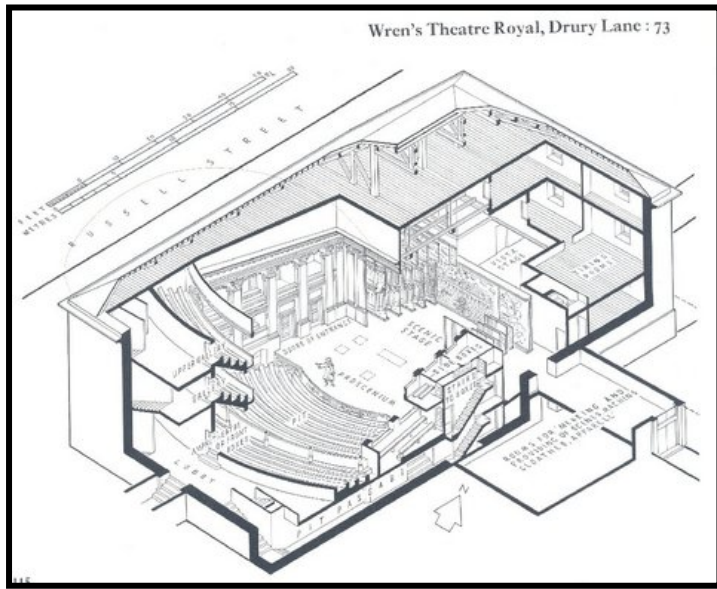
Course Goals:

For each period and/or genre we explore within a given unit, you should be able to:

- understand why theatre was created: understand and appreciate the historical and cultural context;
- understand how theatre was produced: theatrical conventions, writing, financing, performance, design, technology, architecture, etc

By the end of the semester, you will be able to:

- Articulate major similarities and differences in theatrical production approaches, theatre architecture, and dramatic forms of major historical periods between the Romantic period and the late 20th century.
- Demonstrate a working vocabulary of basic theatrical terms and concepts from diverse historical periods, and apply those terms effectively in oral and written communication.
- Identify major theatre artists, companies, and locations and articulate their importance, and articulate their importance, influence, or contribution to the historical development of the theatre.
- Conduct independent research to create a production history.



Readings and Texts

We will be studying **9 plays** that you must prepare before class (plus a few in class too). You will have to read one for your Presentations and watch and/or read the others for your responses.

All material is one Blackboard.

Recommended but not required: Oscar Brockett and Franklin Hildy, *History of the Theatre, Foundation Edition*.

You are encouraged to buy a play anthology that you can use throughout your (college) career.

Grade Breakdown

	Points
DADA Day	50 (5% of final grade)
In class/Play Highlights Participation	100 (10% of grade)
Play Highlights Presentation	150 (15% of grade)
Play Response/Question (4 total)	100 (10% of grade)
2 Online Exams (150 points each)	300 (30% of grade)
Creative Project	100 (10 % of grade)
Production History	200 (20% of grade)

1000 TOTAL

GRADING SCALE

900-1000 pts	— A
800-899 pts	— B
700-799 pts	— C
600-699 pts	— D
599 and below	— F

Bonus Points

The following receive bonus points, which will be added to your final course grade:

4 points for attending each of the five UTC spring productions = 20 points max

- Easy; just show ticket stubs to me.

DADA Day (50 pts): Do you get Dadaism? Does anyone?? We will see with a day of Dada-related art.

Participation (100 pts): You will be expected to listen actively to lectures and TALK on presentation days. You will come prepared and ready to talk about the plays we are looking at. I keep track of who talks and levels of engagement.

Play Highlights Presentation (200 pts): You will be presenting, with 2-3 other people, an assigned play. You will prepare material about the play's characters, genre, language, etc. as it relates to the historical period we are discussing. You will also answer questions from your peers. You will provide a typed written response to the play as well. DETAILED assignment guidelines will come.

Play Questions/Response, 4 total (100 pts, 25 pts each): You will pick 4 of the plays throughout the semester to respond to in a typed one-page response. You can respond to the play as written or film version offered. You will come up with questions to ask about the play as well. DETAILED assignment guidelines will come.

Online Exams (300 pts, 150 pts each): There will be two exams, one at mid-term and another during the last week of classes. For each exam, there will be two parts: multiple choice vocabulary questions and slides from my lectures as well as questions that will require detailed responses based on your notes and work throughout the semester.

If you attend class and take effective notes, these exams should be quite simple and straightforward. You will turn them in through TurnItIn on Blackboard.

Production History (200 pts):

Your production history will cover five (5) noteworthy productions of your assigned play title. For each of the five productions, you will provide two production stills and two highlighted reviews. For each production, you also will provide two 100-word paragraphs: the first is a description of the production and what makes it noteworthy (not a plot summary), and the second is your personal response to the production choices. DETAILED assignment guidelines will come mid-semester.

Final Exam Week

There is no final exam during finals week; however, your production history is due during that week, no later than Monday, May 8th, by 5:00 p.m. in my office or the UTC Office.

Late & Makeup Work

You may submit and/or makeup a test or assignment after the deadline without penalty only if you have legitimate and documented reason approved by the Dean of Students, e.g., university obligation, hospitalization, court appearance, jury duty, funeral. The Office of the Dean of Students is located in the Lohman Student Center; just take your document(s) to that office, which, in turn, will notify all of your professors by e-mail.

Any assignment submitted after the deadline without approved reason will receive a one-letter grade penalty (minus 10 points) for **each week overdue**.



CLASSROOM POLICIES

Attendance Policy: By university policy for classes that meet three times each week (MWF classes), you may not be penalized for up to 3 absences, nor may you be penalized for any absence due to pre-approved religious observance; anything beyond that depends on the instructor's discretion.

- After 3 absences, you will be penalized -3 points from your final course grade for each additional absence, unless there is written communication (email with specific dates, times, and reason) from the Dean of Students Office.

Classroom Conduct: Food and candy are not permitted in the classroom. Beverages are permitted as long as they are in spill-proof containers. Unless otherwise noted, laptops and tablets are not permitted. Please turn off cell phones and refrain from texting during class.

Office: I will have a sign-up sheet on my office door for appointments (for class and/or advising). If you have questions or concerns, please come talk with me; that's what office hours are for. If you want to talk about projects or need advising, just sign-up for an office appointment.

Weekly Schedule (including Topics and Assignments)

UNIT 1: The 19th Century—Romanticism to Realism/Naturalism

	W 1/17 ICE DAY	F 1/19 Introduction to the course
M 1/22 Sturm und Drang // The Stress of the New Century	W 1/24 Theatres of Romance, Melodrama, and Spectacle	F 1/26 <i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> // Wagner's Theatre

M 1/29 Realism/Naturalism // Ibsen's <i>Hedda Gabler</i>	W 1/31 Russian Realists and Moscow Arts Theatre	F 2/2 Play Highlight 1: <i>Hedda Gabler</i>
M 2/5 British Theatre at the Turn of the Century	W 2/7 European Realism and Departing Realism	F 2/9 Play Highlight 2: <i>Pygmalion</i>
M 2/12 Ireland and America, 1900s-20s	W 2/14 Play Highlight 3: <i>Riders to the Sea</i>	F 2/16 Modern Designers

UNIT 2: -ISMs to Epic Theatre and American Giants

M 2/19 Metatheatre // <i>Six Characters in Search of an Author</i>	W 2/21 -ISMs: Dadaism, Futurism, and Expressionism	F 2/23 German Expressionism and -ISM Plays
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KCACTF Festival Feb 28 – March 3

M 2/26 Early 20 th Century Women in Theatre	W 2/28 Play Highlight 4: <i>Machinal</i>	F 3/2 No Class TAKE-HOME EXAM 1 DUE Sunday Night
M 3/5 -ISMs: Surrealism	W 3/7 Artaud's Theatre of Cruelty, <i>Jet of Blood</i>	F 3/9 DADA DAY!!!! (Showcase Theatre)

*****Spring Break 3/12-3/16*****

M 3/19 Brecht: Epic Theatre	W 3/21 Brecht: Epic Theatre	F 3/23 Play Highlight 5: <i>The Caucasian Chalk Circle</i>
M 3/26 America: Federal Theatre Project / Modified Realism: Thornton Wilder	W 3/28 America: Modern Tragedy / Modified Realism: Williams and Miller	F 3/30 **Good Friday University Closed

UNIT 3: Global Theatre and the end of the 20th Century

M 4/2 Play Highlight 6: <i>Death of a Salesman</i>	W 4/4 Post-WWII: The Absurdist	F 4/6 Absurdist: Beckett Examples CREATIVE PROJECTS DUE
M 4/9 Play Highlight 7: <i>Rhinoceros</i>	W 4/11 African Theatre	F 4/13 **NO CLASS
M 4/16 Play Highlight 8: <i>Ubu and the Truth Commission</i>	W 4/18 African American Theatre	F 4/20 Radical '60s Art Movements
M 4/24 Play Highlight 9: <i>Dutchman</i>	W 4/26 Latinx and Latin American Theatre	F 4/28 Modern Asian and Asian American Theatre
M 5/1 LGBTQ Voices on Stage	W 5/3 Make up day	F 5/5 No Class TAKE-HOME EXAM 2 DUE

*SHSU Production *Lady Windermere's Fan*, Feb. 21-Feb 24**SHSU Production *Clybourne Park*, March 21-March 24*

SHSU Director Debuts, April 10-April 14

*SHSU Production *Pippin*, April 18-April 21***PRODUCTION HISTORY DUE no later than MONDAY, May 8th by 5pm in my office or UTC office.****IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO KEEP TRACK OF DUE DATES**

The instructor reserves the right to change or alter the calendar to meet the individual and unique needs of the course. You are responsible for noting any and all changes to the syllabus.



UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Academic Honesty

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. Any students found cheating on exams, or plagiarizing papers will FAIL the course.

Classroom Environment

Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Students are to treat faculty and peers with respect and dignity. Section 5.2.22 in the Code of Student Conduct and Discipline defines classroom disturbances as any activity which proves distracting to the learning environment including but not limited to the use of cell phones or text messaging; the reading of materials (newspapers, magazines, texts) not assigned to the class; the use of profanity or abusive behavior toward the instructor or other students; having off-topic conversations which disturb or disrupt the learning environment; the use of computers and/or other electronic devices (Ipods, MP3 players, etc.) during classroom instruction, therefore, as a result, under no circumstances are cell phones or any other electronic devices to be used or seen during classroom instruction or examination. Even the visible presence of such a device during an examination will result in a zero on that examination. All such devices should be turned off or put in a silent mode and not be taken out during class. **Violations of the code of conduct will not be tolerated. Failure to comply with this policy will result in expulsion from the classroom and may at the instructor's discretion result in the student(s) being referred for disciplinary action to the Dean of Students.** Any assignments missed because of disciplinary action cannot be submitted for a grade.

Students with Disabilities Policy:

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should register with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Lee Drain Annex (telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786, and e-mail disability@shsu.edu). They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Services for Students with Disabilities and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Services for Students with Disabilities. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/documents/aps/students/811006.pdf>

Religious Holy Days

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. "Religious holy day" means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20, Tax Code.

Visitors in the Classroom

Unannounced visitors to class must present a current, official SHSU identification card to be permitted into the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom. This policy is not intended to discourage the occasional visiting of classes by responsible persons. Obviously, however, the visiting of a particular class should be occasional and not regular, and it should in no way constitute interference with registered members of the class or the educational process.