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THE 1310 Honors Intro to Theatre

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2021

Instructor: Andrea Williams

Office Location: PAC 107

Office Hours: By appointment

University Email Address: Andrea.Williams@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: **e-mail**

Communication Response Time: M-8:00 am through F- 5:00pm within 24 hours

Class will meet M/W/F at 11:00 am, via Zoom.

COURSE INFORMATION

Software Required: Office, a web browser, e-mail, zoom (or some other form of video conferencing)

Required Text:

The Theatre Experience 14th Edition by Edwin Wilson and Alvin Goldfarb

Oedipus by Sophocles (pdf provided)

Much Ado About Nothing by Shakespeare (pdf provided)

Raisin in the Sun by Lorraine Hansberry (pdf provided)

Semester Viewing:

***Recipe of Life* by Jaylan Fennell**

Directed by Jaylan Fennell

Produced over Zoom by the University Playhouse at A&M Commerce

February 23rd – 28th, with live broadcast on the 23rd and the 26th at 7:30pm.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

The New Play Development Series

Title TBD

Directed by Rebecca Worley

Produced as a stage reading via Zoom by the University Playhouse at A&M Commerce April 13th – 18th, with live broadcast on the 13th and the 16th at 7:30pm.

Tickets are available for a nominal fee from the University Playhouse Box Office. You may make reservations by email at playhouseboxoffice@tamuc.edu. All of the shows will be offered through streaming and if you don't get a ticket you won't get the code to access the site.

Course Description

Introduction to Theatre gives students an overview of what makes theatre. Students learn about not just the types of the drama that exists but the many and varied roles to be found within the theatre.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Identify and differentiate genres and styles of theatre, placing them in their historical context
2. Discuss and analyze how theatrical performance elements come together
3. Have an understanding of how theatre is important and can be used
4. Complete a basic play analysis
5. Learn to think and write analytically about a production.
6. Gain an understanding of the global and historical influence of theatre on society.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

In this course we will be covering writing resumes and cover letters, as well as how to build various types of portfolios to maximize your hiring potential. You need to have reliable access to a working computer and the internet as well as various Microsoft office products. You will also need a working e-mail address that you check daily. If you have not already acquired an

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email address through the university or otherwise, please make arrangements to do so.

Instructional Methods

This course will be taught online utilizing d2l

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

In addition to the book, there will handouts made available on d2l as needed over the course of the semester. It is expected that you read them. All assignments will be available through d2l and that is also where I expect assignments to be turned in. If you experience difficulty with that, please let me know. Any changes to the calendar will be announced in class and updated on d2l. Check d2l regularly for assignments and updates.

Assignments:

This class will be a combination of quizzes, papers, discussion, and group projects.

The final for this class is a 7-10 page paper.

Quizzes (4)	25 pts (ea)
Script Analysis paper	50 pts
Dramatic Structure project	25 pts
Acting Project	20 pts
Production Concept group project	75 pts
Design group project	75 pts
Response papers (2)	30 pts (ea)
Final Paper	100 pts

Total Points: 505 pts

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

- A = 90%-100%
- B = 80%-89%
- C = 70%-79%
- D = 60%-69%
- F = 59% or Below

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Assessments

You will be graded on the timeliness and thoroughness of your work. In group projects you will be graded on your contribution as well as the project as a whole, it is possible to people within in a group to get different grades. Papers should be proofread and done in essay format. I do not require MLA formatting (but feel free to use it if you want) but your papers should be clear and well structured. Remember this is a theatre class so feel free to get creative on your projects.

A grade of "A" will not be assigned to any individual who has not completed ALL outside of class assignments. (Final, Attendance at departmental productions) regardless of average.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

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COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement:

If at any time during this course you are in need of further explanation or should need to speak with me about the course or its outcomes, please reach out to me. I am always available by email. Please communicate, I can't help if I don't know there's an issue or a question.

Email Policy:

Before sending me an email with a general course-specific question, **review your syllabus/look at the handouts/check myLeo Online/ask a classmate first**. If your question has already been addressed in one of those places, then you will have the answer you need. If your question does not exist, please feel free to email me.

When emailing me: Please make your emails clear and concise, written with proper grammar in order to assure my earliest attention. In addition, please follow some common "email etiquette" procedures in order to keep our electronic communication effective and efficient. Specifically:

- Write a relevant subject line (e.g., "Intro question," or "THE 1310 meeting request")
- Address me by name (ie: "Dear Professor Williams" or "Hi Andrea" or just "Andrea")
- Bonus: "meaningless niceties" are never a bad idea!
- Concisely state what it is you need. If it can't be communicated in a concise manner, perhaps request an appointment. **If requesting an appointment**, give me times that you are available **in the initial email!!!** It helps things go faster if I have your availability to compare to mine.
- Use a "sign-off" ("Thank you" is always good) and **sign your name**.

Not following these guidelines potentially puts you at the bottom of my list for response time.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Late Work:

I do not accept late work.

Extra Credit:

Can be offered at the discretion of the instructor.

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Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

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Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

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COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Wk 1 – Introduction, Chapters 1&2
January 11th – 15th

Wk 2 – Chapters 3
January 18th – 22nd (No class on Jan 18th – MLKjr Day)

Wk 3 – Chapter 5 & 7 – Dramatic Structure & Characters
January 25th – 29th

Wk 4 – Read Oedipus by Feb 1st
February 1st – 5th

Wk 5 – Chapter 4
February 8th – 12th

Wk 6 – Chapter 5
February 15th – 19th

Wk 7 – Read Much Ado by Feb 22nd
February 22nd – 26th

Wk 8 – Group Project
March 1st – 5th

Wk 9 – Chapters 9-11 Designers
March 8th – 12th

Wk 10 – Designers cont.
March 15th – 19th

Wk 11 – Read Raisin in the Sun by Mon March 22nd
March 22nd – 26th

Wk 12 – Group Project
March 29th – April 2nd

Wk 13 – Global Theatre
April 5th – 9th

Wk 14 – Theatre Today
April 12th – 16th

Wk 15 – Theatre today cont. and Musicals
April 19th – 23rd

Final Exam: Paper due Wednesday April 28th by 12:00 pm (noon)

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