



**THE 340: HISTORY OF THEATRE I
COURSE SYLLABUS: FALL 2021
ONLINE**

Instructor: Rebecca Worley, MFA, Associate Professor of Theatre
Office Location: Performing Arts Center #105
Office Hours: M 2-4 p.m., T/R 11 a.m.-noon; W noon-2 p.m. or by appointment
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Communication Response Time: M-F within 24 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Required Textbook:

Living Theatre: History of Theatre, Edwin Wilson & Alvin Goldfarb (6th edition preferable)
Antigone, Sophocles, trans. Peter Arnott **(PDF)***
Lysistrata, Aristophanes **(PDF)***
Trojan Women, Seneca, trans. David R. Slavitt **(PDF)***
The Brothers Menaechmus (Menaechmi), Plautus, trans. Erich Segal
Dōjō-ji **(PDF)***
Love Letter from the Licensed Quarter, Anonymous **(PDF)***
Everyman, Anonymous **(PDF)***
Dulcitius, Hrotswitha of Gandersheim **(PDF)***
The Servant of Two Masters, Carlo Goldoni
La Mandragola (The Mandrake), Niccolo Machiavelli
Fuente Ovejuna, Lope de Vega **(PDF)***
Dr. Faustus, Christopher Marlowe
Comedy of Errors, Shakespeare
 Hand-Outs posted online

***All PDF texts will be provided for you by your instructor in the "Plays" folder on D2L**

Course Description:

Detailed study of the development of all phases of theatre art and drama from its origins to English Renaissance theatre. Includes study of theatre conventions, plays, and major dramatic movements.

Prerequisite:

THE 1310–Introduction to the Theatre or permission of the instructor.

Student Learning Outcomes: By the end of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate understanding of theatrical forms and styles of production across cultures and centuries.
2. Apply theories and terminology to discussions on theatre
3. Develop skills necessary to think and write critically and clearly about theatre history and theatre practices.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments:

Play Response (Best 10 @ 2.5 pts. each = 25 pts. total): For each play you read you must write a 1-2 page response that addresses: 1. What type of play is it 2. How the play is an example of the period 3. How it upholds or challenges the status quo of when it was written. 4: How does the play hold up today, does it still carry the same weight or influence or meaning to a modern audience (meaning how do we see it vs. how they saw it). References to the script, lectures, or textbook are always beneficial to your argument.

All Play Responses are due on Fridays VIA EMAIL by 11:30 p.m. (CST)

Quizzes (Best 5 @ 5 pts. each = 25 pts. total): Our synthesis of material will be tested through D2L (MyLeo Online) quizzes for each era we study. They will cover the textbook chapters and material from lecture presentations.

All Quizzes (except Quiz 1) are due on Mondays by 11:30 p.m. (CST)

Discussion Posts (Best 10 @ 2 pts each = 20 pts. total): In order to successfully complete this assignment, students will need to post **one** initial response to the Discussion Prompt and **two-three** responses to your classmates' initial posts. **Your first post** must be **30-50 words** in length & should address the prompt. Please include insights, thoughts, and comments into the prompt & the way in which it connects to the play or presentation. The ideal initial post is one that is open ended and allows for ongoing conversation & further consideration.

The remaining two-three posts should be in conversation with the others in the class & should be **25-30 words** in length. You may choose to respond to two-three different classmates' initial posts (ie: multiple discussions) OR you may remain engaged in a single classmate's post via two-three replies (ie: an ongoing discussion with a single classmate).

Your responses will be assessed in the following manner:

- An **exemplary** response is multi-faceted and allows respondents to craft well-reasoned replies.
- A **proficient/competent** response may spark conversation but does not allow the respondents room to dig deep.
- A response in **need of improvement/novice** level is not on topic, is too simplistic and/or is late (past automatic deadline without requesting extension).

Your replies to your classmates' responses will be assessed in the following manner:

- An **exemplary** reply engages in & allows for thoughtful, reasoned, and supported discussion with examples from the play(s) &, potentially, outside investigation.
- A **proficient** reply demonstrates relevance to the topic and is well written, but may be missing some support or other necessary components.
- A **competent** reply lacks depth, is not fully on topic, or does not fully allow for further discussion.
- A reply **needing improvement** does not fully engage in the discussion, is off topic, and/or is late (past automatic deadline without requesting extension).
- A **novice** reply is one that is inappropriate and/or is late (past automatic deadline without requesting extension).

	Exemplary	Proficient	Competent	Needs Improvement	Novice
Response	1	.75	.75	.5	0
Reply 1	.5	.5	.25	.10	0
Reply 2	.5	.5	.25	.10	0
(Reply 3)	Extra Credit	Extra Credit	Extra Credit	NA	NA

You will not be able to see what your classmates have posted until after you post. In your replies: try to start with classmates whose posts have no replies.

Disrespect, rudeness, or offensive language of any kind has no place in the discussion threads. If any occurs (either toward another student or the instructor), I will block the student from discussion until the student & I conference. Point deductions will also result.

All Discussion Posts are due on Fridays by 11:30 p.m. (CST). DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO POST! THE EARLIER IN THE WEEK YOU SUBMIT AN INITIAL POST, THE BETTER!

Mid-term Exam (10 pts.): Your midterm will cover information from French Renaissance Theatre to Theatre from 1800-1875 and will pull from the bank of questions created for your quizzes. You will take the exam via D2L (MyLeo Online). Once you begin the exam, you will have exactly 1 hour to complete the exam.

The Mid-term Exam is due on Monday, October 25th by 11:30 p.m. (CST)

Final Exam Presentation (20 pts.): You will be required to submit a well-researched, detailed presentation (PowerPoint, Prezi, Google Slides, or another presentation platform) on a topic of your own selection (a theatre practitioner or playwright NOT covered/discussed in class; **you MUST receive approval on your topic**). This includes: 1) reading and relating scripts or other foundational materials/documents; 2) finding appropriate resources; 4) sharing visual aids. This presentation must include web addresses and bibliographical material for sources utilized in

preparing it (your last slide). Your research should utilize both primary and secondary resources. A primary source is anything that the artist created (including quotations from the artist). A secondary source is anything that someone else has written about the artist or their art. Avoid generalized internet sources such as *Encarta* and *Wikipedia* because the information therein is often inaccurate.

Your presentation should be a **MINIMUM of TEN (10) slides in length**. You will be graded on the content and construction of your material and your thoroughness in research.

The Final Exam is due on Wednesday, Dec. 15th, VIA EMAIL by 11:30 p.m. (CST)

Grading Breakdown:

The following grading scale will be used to determine all individual grades as well as the student's overall grade in the course:

Play Responses	25 pts.	100-90 =	A
Quizzes	25 pts.	89-80=	B
Discussion Posts	20 pts.	79-70=	C
Mid-Term	10 pts.	69-60=	D
Final Presentation	20 pts.	59 and below=	F
Total	100 pts.		

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

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.

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>

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Contacting Me:

Please feel free to visit me during my office hours at any time during the semester. I am here to help! If you can't make my office hours due to a scheduling conflict, please set up an appointment with me. The easiest and most reliable way to contact me is **via email**. Please do not leave a message for me in the main department office.

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., "Theatre History question," or "THE 340 meeting request")
- Address me by name (ie: "Dear Professor Worley" or "Hi Becca" or just "Becca")
- 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!!!** My office hours are posted above.
- 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.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES
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Course Specific Procedures:**Late Work:**

Under normal circumstances, I do not except late work; however, if you have difficulty submitting **Quizzes or Discussion Posts in D2L DUE TO TECHNICAL ISSUES:**

1. Contact Technical Support with the problem
2. Contact me regarding a technical problem with the case number assigned to the problem

For all other reasons (work, family, illness, etc.), please contact me via email ASAP.

For both technical & personal issues, I will determine the need for an extension on a case by case basis.

Extra Credit:

The instructor reserves the right to offer extra-credit to all students, and to gauge its application appropriately and uniformly for all.

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.

Incompletes:

Under normal circumstances, an Incomplete (I or X) will NOT be given for a final grade in this course. Per University policy, students who **because of circumstances beyond their control** are unable to attend classes will, upon approval of their instructor, receive a mark of X (incomplete) in all courses in which they were **maintaining passing grades at the time of the request** for an incomplete.

University Specific Policies and 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](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

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

ADA Statement**Students with Disabilities**

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

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 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.

A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

**All assignments are due by 11:30 p.m. on the day in which they are listed below.
All written assignments are due via email. Quizzes & Discussion Posts are completed in D2L.**

WEEK	DATES	MODULE	READING	WHAT'S DUE	
1	AUG 30- SEPT 3	INTRO	SYLLABUS Wilson & Goldfarb Chpt 1 (Theatre: Its Origins)	Quiz 1: The Syllabus	SEPT 3
2	SEPT 6-10	GREEK	Wilson & Goldfarb Chpt 2 (Greek Theatre) Sophocles, <i>Antigone</i>	Play Response for <i>Antigone</i>	SEPT 10
				Discussion Post 1	SEPT 10
3	SEPT 13-17	GREEK	Aristophanes, <i>Lysistrata</i>	Quiz 2: Greek Theatre	SEPT 13
				Play Response for <i>Lysistrata</i>	SEPT 17
				Discussion Post 2	SEPT 17
4	SEPT 20-24	ROMAN	Wilson & Goldfarb Chpt 3 (Roman Theatre) Seneca, <i>Trojan Women</i>	Play Response for <i>Trojan Women</i>	SEPT 24
				Discussion Post 3	SEPT 24

WEEK	DATES	MODULE	READING	WHAT'S DUE	WEEK
5	SEPT 27- OCT 1	ROMAN	<i>Plautus, Brothers Menaechmi</i>	Quiz 3: Roman Theatre	SEPT 27
				Play Response for <i>Brothers Menaechmi</i>	OCT 1
				Discussion Post 4	OCT 1
6	OCT 4-8	EARLY ASIAN	Wilson & Goldfarb Chpt 4 (Early Asian Theatre) <i>Anonymous, Dōjō-ji</i>	Play Response for <i>Dōjō-ji</i>	OCT 8
				Discussion Post 5	OCT 8
7	OCT 11-15	EARLY ASIAN	<i>Anonymous, Love Letter from the Licensed Quarter</i>	Quiz 4: Early Asian Theatre	OCT 11
				Play Response for <i>Love Letter...</i>	OCT 15
				Discussion Post 6	OCT 15
8	OCT 18-22	MEDIEVAL	Wilson & Goldfarb Chpt 5 (Medieval Theatres in Europe) <i>Anonymous, Everyman</i>	Play Response for <i>Everyman</i>	OCT 22
				Discussion Post 7	OCT 22

WEEK	DATES	MODULE	READING	WHAT'S DUE	WEEK
9	OCT 25-29	MEDIEVAL	Hrotswirtha of Gandersheim (Hrotsvit) "Intro" and <i>Dulcitius</i>	Mid-Term Exam	OCT 25
				Quiz 5: Medieval Theatres in Europe	OCT 25
				Play Response for <i>Dulcitius</i>	OCT 29
				Discussion Post 8	OCT 29
10	NOV 1-5	ITALIAN RENAISSANCE	Wilson & Goldfarb Chpt 6 (Italian Renaissance) Goldoni, <i>The Servant of Two Masters</i>	Play Response for <i>The Servant of Two Masters</i>	NOV 5
				Discussion Post 9	NOV 5
11	NOV 8-12	ITALIAN RENAISSANCE	Machiavelli, <i>The Mandrake</i>	Quiz 6: Italian Renaissance	NOV 8
				Play Response for <i>The Mandrake</i>	NOV 12
				Discussion Post 10	NOV 12
12	NOV 15-19	SPANISH GOLDEN AGE	Wilson & Goldfarb Chpt 8 (Spanish Golden Age) Lope de Vega, <i>Fuente Ovejuna</i>	Play Response for <i>Fuente Ovejuna</i>	NOV 19
				Discussion Post 11	NOV 19

WEEK	DATES	MODULE	READING	WHAT'S DUE	WEEK
13	NOV 22-26	THANKSGIVING BREAK	NONE	Approval for Final Exam Topic	NOV 22
				Quiz 7: Spanish Golden Age	NOV 22
14	NOV 29- DEC 3	ENGLISH RENAISSANCE	Wilson & Goldfarb Chpt 7 (English Renaissance) Christopher Marlowe, <i>Dr. Faustus</i>	Play Response for <i>Dr. Faustus</i>	DEC 3
				Discussion Post 12	DEC 3
15	DEC 6-10	ENGLISH RENAISSANCE	Shakespeare, <i>Comedy of Errors</i>	Quiz 8: English Renaissance	DEC 6
				Play Response for <i>Comedy of Errors</i>	DEC 10
				Discussion Post 13	DEC 10
FINAL EXAM WEEK	DEC 13-17			FINAL PRESENTATION	DEC 15