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THE 497.06
Advanced Playwriting: Adaptations

MWF 10am – 10:50 am PAC 112
COURSE SYLLABUS: SPRING 2022

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor:	Jackie Rosenfeld, MFA
Office Location:	PAC 128
Office Hours:	TBD
Office Phone:	903-886-5337
University Email Address:	Jackie.Rosenfeld@tamuc.edu
Preferred Form of Communication:	E-mail or D2L e-mail
Communication Response Time:	Mon-Fri within 24 hours

“The best adaptations are the ones that really excavate the material. The movies that work are the ones in which somebody very smart figured out how to take all the thematic material, all the character material, all the filigree, all the beautiful writing and put it into a story.”
- Scott Rudin, producer

“If you write an original, it's like you went in and dug a well, and you hit oil. But an adaptation, it's like the oil well's on fire, and they bring you in to put the fire out and get it working again - or something like that.”
- Brian Helgeland, screenwriter

“Writing an adaptation is not so much a collaboration as it is a series of steps. You're basically creating a blueprint for something else.”
-Susan Minot, novelist, short story writer, poet, playwright, screenwriter

"Any adaptation is a translation."
David Mitchell, novelist, television writer, and screenwriter

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

You may acquire these materials from the campus bookstore or an online retailer.

Textbook(s) Required:

Writing Adaptations and Translations for the Stage: A Guide and Workbook for New and Established Writers by Allison Horsley and Jacqueline Goldfinger

(Book will be provided as a pdf by the instructor. This course will be piloting this textbook.)

Software Required: Microsoft Word or other word processing software

Course Description

This course covers the development of new theatrical scripts based on existing stories and source material. Students explore a variety of potential source materials, develop adaptation ideas from multiple sources, and complete a written script.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. The student will be able to understand the basic tenets of playwriting within the parameters of a dramatic work.
2. The student will be understand the process both creative and legal of writing adaptations for the stage.
3. The student will be able to participate as a professional in workshops with both their own and other students' works.
4. The student will be able to complete a complete draft of an adaptation.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Students must have access to a computer and the ability to use Microsoft Word or other word processing software. Students must also be familiar with how to use the D2L Brightspace platform including uploading documents to Dropbox as .pdfs.

Instructional Methods

Students will be graded on a series of reading selections, class projects, practical application of the knowledge that they have learned, the completion of a draft of dramatic work, as well as in class discussion and exams.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

1. Be on time.
2. Be prepared. Read what needs to be read. Write what needs to be written.
3. Participate. There is a great deal of exciting discussion in this course, and it will be even more exciting with your ideas.
4. Check your school e-mail regularly.
5. Be respectful of your instructor, your classmates, and yourself.

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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

Total points corresponding to the final letter

gradesA = 451- 500 Points

B = 401- 450 Points

C = 351- 400 Points

D = 301- 350 Points

F = 300 & > Points

Weights of the assessments in the calculation of the final letter grade.

Short Writing Assignments	30%
Discussion/Participation	20%
<i>A Doll's House Part 2</i> Response	10%
Complete Draft of Adaptation	30%
TOTAL	100%

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Assessments

Short Writing Assignments: Through the first half of the semester at least once a week I will assign a short writing assignment based on a prompt given in class. Often you will have class time to begin writing. They will be due, typed and formatted correctly, on D2L each Sunday night by midnight.

Discussion/Participation: This is not simply about showing up but about being involved in the class discussion and participating as a respectful collaborator. The largest part of this grade will be related to your participation during in class readings/workshops of your and your classmates plays. Guidelines for the workshops will be provided in class.

A Doll's House Part 2 Response: Students will watch a production of OR read the script for *A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen and then watch the TAMU-C Playhouse Production of *A Doll's House Part 2*. Students will write a 700 word response comparing the two works. More details will be provided in class.

Complete Draft of Adaptation: At midterms, each student will choose from their short writing assignments the beginnings a short play (15-30 pages). The second half of the semester will be spent developing that play through writing in and out of class as well as in class readings/workshops. The final assignment for this course, due on the last day of class, will be a complete draft of the play. Further instructions will be given in class.

Interaction with Instructor Statement

I welcome visits during my office hours and am always happy to make appointments during a time that works best for both the student and I. I don't believe in dumb questions, though I do believe often times the syllabus has not been checked before some questions are asked. If you think it might be on there (a due date or a class policy) check there first. Otherwise feel free to e-mail me or stop by my office. Monday through Friday I will respond to e-mails with 24 hours.

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>

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

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

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.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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.Ro.01](#).

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

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.Ro.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.Ro.03](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

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

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf>

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

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.

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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

Department or Accrediting Agency Required Content

COURSE CALENDAR

TBD

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