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**THE 1310 INTRO TO THEATRE**  
COURSE SYLLABUS  
PAC 100

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor: Jaylan Fennell, MS [jaylan.fennell@tamuc.edu](mailto:jaylan.fennell@tamuc.edu)

GA: Trevor Banks [tbanks6@leomail.tamuc.edu](mailto:tbanks6@leomail.tamuc.edu)

Office Location: PAC 108

Office Hours: By appointment only, (I am also available before and after class.)

Preferred Form of Communication: University email address

Communication Response Time: Within one (1) business day

**COURSE INFORMATION**

**Textbook(s) Required: *Experiencing Theatre* by Anne Fletcher and Scott Ireland  
ISBN 978-1-58510-408-6**

(Accessible On Libray Website)

[https://tamuc.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/discovery/search?query=any,contains,%22991006702621806041%22&tab=Everything&search\\_scope=MyInst and CI&vid=01TEXAM\\_C OM:DEFAULT](https://tamuc.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/discovery/search?query=any,contains,%22991006702621806041%22&tab=Everything&search_scope=MyInst and CI&vid=01TEXAM_C OM:DEFAULT)

Software Required:

- Access to D2L via MyLeo
- Word-processing software (Microsoft Word, Google Docs, etc.)
- Presentation software (Google Slides, PowerPoint, Prezi, etc.)

Required Viewing: Productions performed by the Department of Theatre.

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

Optional Texts and/or Materials:

- Access to video services (Netflix, Hulu, YouTube, Disney+, etc.)
- Supplementary readings as necessary provided via D2L

### **Course Description**

This course provides a survey of the fields of theatre, designed to provide an introductory knowledge of the phases of drama, performance, literature, and production procedures.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Students will learn fundamental principles, vocabulary, and theories of Western theatre.
2. Students will develop creative capacities through exercises, assignments, and discussions.
3. Students will learn to critically apply course materials to live performances.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

1. Students are required to attend class and login to D2L weekly in order to complete assigned discussions, quizzes, and other assignments.
2. Students are required to attend two productions via the Department of Theatre at TAMUC.
3. Students are required to participate in all class requirements to the best of their abilities.

### **Minimal Technical Skills Needed**

1. Students must be able to navigate D2L via MyLeo.
2. Students must be able to use a word processing software (Microsoft Word, Google Docs, etc.) as well as presentation software (Power Point, Prezi, etc.).
3. Students must be able to check their email regularly.

### **Instructional Methods**

1. **Attendance: Students must participate in all weekly assignments in order to receive credit for participation for that week. These will include:**
  - a. Group Discussions and Quizzes
    - i. These will be based on the assigned chapter each week.
  - b. Exploration Assignments

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- i. These will be assigned based on the content of each exploration and will be explained further in classes each week. There will be 6 assignments/quizzes throughout the semester. You will also present 3 of your assignments. 3 Presentations Will be done **The presentation is worth half of your grade.**

**c. FINAL PROJECT This will be discussed further closer to the due date.**

Your final project will be a performance of a monologue/scene of your choosing (scene work is encouraged) accompanied by written script work. You will also have a workshop to develop your work. (More on that in class.)

- Monologues are individual based and will consist of a 2 minute performance.
- Scenes will consist of 2-5 students. Students should share the load and roles equally by ensuring that there is a fair amount of work per student. A scene must be a 5-10 minute performance.

2. **Play Attendance: All students are required to see two plays at TAMUC this semester. Production/Ticket information will be provided in class and via D2L. Students must provide proof of attendance with the following:**
  - A photo of yourself seeing the show before or after the performance. NOT DURING!

3. **Play Response: Students will complete a response for the two productions they attend at TAMUC.**
  - a. This will consist of short answer responses based on questions given to you by the instructor. You will have access to these before the performance.
  - b. This is an academic assignment, so elements such as spelling, grammar, and scholarly tone will be part of the grade.

4. **Late work will ONLY be accepted at the discretion of the instructor, and only with appropriate documentation. YOU MUST EMAIL ME FOR APPROVAL!**

5. Extra credit may be provided at the discretion of the instructor and will be announced via D2L.

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### **Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course**

1. Students are encouraged to engage in class and login to D2L multiple times per week in order to participate fully, stay on track, check for updated information, and stay in contact with the instructor and fellow students.
2. You will get as much out of this course as you put into it. Please come with a positive attitude and a willingness to learn and appreciate what we learn.
3. Communication is key - students should feel free to contact the instructor with any questions, concerns, or to meet any needs necessary.

### **GRADING**

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

A = 800 - 900 Points

B = 700 - 799 Points

C = 600 - 699 Points

D = 500 - 599 Points

F = 598 or Fewer Points

### **Assessments**

Attendance and Participation = 100 Points (total)

Assignments (3 Presentations) = 180 Points (total)

Play Attendance (x2) = 100 Points (each)

Performance Response (x2) = 50 Points (each)

Quizzes = 180 Points (total)

Final Presentation = 100 Points

### **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:

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[https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_support.htm](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](mailto: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>

### **Interaction with Instructor Statement**

If at any time you feel that you need further instruction or explanation, please feel free to speak with me at your convenience. I have an open-door policy with all students. If you do not feel that you are getting what you need please let me know. I cannot help you find a solution if I do not know that there is a problem.

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Please observe the following basic email etiquette:

- Informative Subject Line
  - Class name and/or number
  - Topic of discussion
- Address me by name
  - Jaylan is perfectly fine, or Mrs. Fennell if you do not feel comfortable calling me by my first name.
- Salutation
  - Does not have to be “formal”
  - “Niceties” are always a good idea
    - I hope you are having a nice day
    - I hope you had a great weekend
    - Congrats on being an amazing human being
- Briefly and concisely state what it is you need
  - If you cannot state your needs in a few sentences, consider requesting an appointment
  - If requesting an appointment, please:
    - State the reason for your appointment (I want to discuss my grade; I have questions about...)
    - GIVE YOUR SPECIFIC AVAILABILITY
      - Good idea—I am available Monday 1-3 or Tuesdays after 2:30
      - Bad idea—What works for you? I am free whenever.
- Sign off
  - Does not have to be “formal,” and thank you is always appreciated
  - Give your name
    - Always a good idea to provide CWID, especially
    - if paperwork is involved

## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

### **Course Specific Procedures/Policies**

Assignment information (including requirements, due dates, etc.) will be posted in D2L.

### **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.

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## **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 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](mailto: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

<b>Week 1</b>	<b>1/17 - 1/22</b>
T- Introduce course / Introduce yourself Discussion on D2L TH- Theatre DISCUSSION/Stage Directions Learning Warmups EXPLORATION 1 Assignment (Metaphors) <b>Review Syllabus &amp; Schedule DUE - Discussion Read EXPLORATION 1</b>	
<b>Week 2</b>	<b>1/23 - 1/29</b>
T- EXPLORATION 1/Stage Directions TH- EXPLORATION 1 Introduce EXPLORATION 2 Assignment (Monologue Writing) <b>DUE: Quiz 1 &amp; EXPLORATION 1 Assignment ) Read EXPLORATION 2</b>	
<b>Week 3</b>	<b>1/30 - 2/5</b>
T- Discussion, EXPLORATION 2 TH- Discussion, EXPLORATION 2 <b>DUE: Quiz 2 &amp; EXPLORATION 2 Assignment )</b>	
<b>Week 4</b>	<b>2/6 - 2/12</b>
T- EXPLORATION 2 Presentations TH- EXPLORATION 2 Presentations <b>Read EXPLORATION 3</b>	
<b>Week 5</b>	<b>2/13 - 2/19</b>
T- Discussion, EXPLORATION 3 Play Response Introduction TH- Discussion, EXPLORATION 3 <b>DUE: Quiz 3 &amp; EXPLORATION 3 Assignment )</b>	
<b>Week 6</b>	<b>2/20 - 2/26</b>
<b>HERE KITTY KITTY PLAY OPENS</b>	
T- EXPLORATION 3 Presentations TH- EXPLORATION 3 Presentations <b>Read EXPLORATION 4</b>	
<b>Week 7</b>	<b>2/27 - 3/5</b>
T- Play Discussion & Response Introduce Final and Begin Preparations (go over extra credit) TH- Work Day <b>DUE: Play Response</b>	
<b>Week 8</b>	<b>3/6 - 3/12</b>
T- Discussion, EXPLORATION 4 Introduce Script Work TH- Work Day <b>DUE: Quiz 4 &amp; EXPLORATION 4 Assignment )</b> Introduce EXPLORATION 5 Assignment (Critical Review) <b>Read EXPLORATION 5</b>	
<b>Week 9</b>	<b>3/13- 3/19</b>
<b>Spring Break NO CLASS</b>	

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<b>Week 10</b>	<b>3/20 - 3/26</b>
<p><u>T- EXPLORATION 4 Presentations GO OVER FINAL</u></p> <p><u>TH- EXPLORATION 4 Presentations Schedule Workshops for Final &amp; Schedule Slots for Final</u></p> <p><u>EXPLORATION 6 Assignment (Marketing and Promotion)Response Questions</u></p> <p><b>(*Prep. For Final/Meet w/ Scene Partners &amp; READ EXPLORATION 6</b></p>	
<b>Week 11</b>	<b>3/27 - 4/2</b>
<p>T- Discussion, EXPLORATION 5</p> <p>TH- Discussion, EXPLORATION 6</p> <p><b>DUE: Quiz 5 &amp; 6 *Prep. For Final/Meet w/ Scene Partners</b></p>	
<b>Week 12</b>	<b>4/3 - 4/9</b>
<p>T- Watching a Musical - Discussion/Applicaion</p> <p>T- Watching a Musical - Discussion/Applicaion</p> <p><b>Schedule Workshops for Final &amp; Schedule Slots for Final</b></p> <p><b>DUE: EXPLORATION 5 &amp; 6 Assignment Due )</b></p> <p><b>*Prep. For Final/Meet w/ Scene Partners</b></p>	
<b>Week 13</b>	<b>4/10 - 4/16</b>
<p>T- Watching a Musical - Discussion/Applicaion</p> <p>T- Workshops (Meet at scheduled time or rehearse)</p> <p><b>Schedule Workshops for Final &amp; Schedule Slots for Final</b></p> <p><b>DUE: EXPLORATION 5 &amp; 6 Assignment Due )</b></p> <p><b>*Prep. For Final/Meet w/ Scene Partners</b></p>	
<b>Week 14</b>	<b>4/17 - 4/23</b>
<p>TH- Workshops (Meet at scheduled time or rehearse)</p> <p>TH- Workshops (Meet at scheduled time or rehearse)</p>	
<b>Week 15</b>	<b>4/24-4/30</b>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>JULIUS CESAR OPENS (EXTRA CREDIT)</u></b></p> <p>T- Final Performances (Everyone Required to Attend)</p> <p>TH- Final Performances (Everyone Required to Attend)</p> <p><b>DUE: Final Performance/Script Work</b></p>	
<b>Week 16</b>	<b>5/1- 5/7</b>
<p><b>(Play Response 2 Due by WEDNESDAY) (EXTRA CREDIT)</b></p> <p><b>*Finals Week*</b> (If we stay on track we will be done before finals week, but I reserve this week to use if we fall behind.)</p>	

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[\\*Please research the movies you choose before watching to ensure you are prepared for the subject matter.\\*](#)

**MOVIE OPTIONS FOR ASSIGNMENTS - AS NEEDED**

- *The Princess Bride*
- *The Help*
- *The Greatest Showman*
- *A Knight's Tale*
- *The Patriot*
- *Hamilton*
- *Braveheart*
- *V for Vendetta*
- *Remember The Titans*
- *Snowpiercer*
- *The Wizard of Oz*
- *The Green Mile*
- *Tombstone*
- *Les Miserables*
- *Pride and Prejudice*
- *Extremely Wicked, Shockingly Evil, and Vile*
- *Clash of The Titans*
- *Little Women*
- *Django Unchained*
- *The Green Book*
- *Zodiac*
- *The Theory of Everything*
- *Tolkien*
- *Burlesque*
- *Miracle*
- *Million Dollar Baby*
- *Seventh Son*
- *Stardust*
- *Mary Poppins*
- *Mary Poppins Returns*
- *Titanic*
- *The Monuments Men*
- *A Time to Kill*
- *42*

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- *Forrest Gump*
- *The Notebook*
- *Draft Day*
- *The Highwaymen*
- *Good Will Hunting*
- *Mrs. Doubtfire*
- *Armageddon*
- *What Men Want*
- *Instant Family*
- *A Quiet Place*
- *A Simple Favor*
- *My Best Friend's Wedding*
- *Mamma Mia*
- *A Star is Born*
- *Phantom of The Opera*
- *The Hustle*
- *Knives Out*

**Please don't hesitate to email me!**

Attendance QR Code

