



THE 1310- INTRO TO THEATRE (Fall 2024)

MWF 9:00 - 9:50AM PAC 100

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Candace Brooks

Office Location: PAC 101

Office Hours: MWF 10:00AM-12:00PM

Office Phone: 903-886-5346

University Email Address: candace.brooks@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: Email

Communication Response Time: M-F 10:00-5:00PM, within 24 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Required Textbook:

Theatre: The Lively Art by Edwin Wilson and Alvin Goldfarb

Many readings for this course will be provided through D2L.

Required Viewing

Production Attendance: Please make note that I do expect you to attend two University Playhouse productions during the semester. Student admission to these productions is \$5, making a total of \$10 for the semester.

Please make plans accordingly to attend the following University Playhouse productions:

Student Showcase: An Evening of Shorts

(Mainstage Theatre)

September 20, 21 at 7:30PM and September 22nd at 3:00PM

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Stuart Little

(Mainstage Theatre)

November 19th- 23rd at 7:30PM and November 24th at 3:00PM

Required Technology

- Regular access to D2L is imperative for this course.
- Presentational programs such as: Word, Powerpoint, Google Docs, Google Slides, etc. are required to complete assignments. I have no preference as to which you use as long as the completed documents can be uploaded in to D2L.

I encourage you to use the library work stations or laptop check out if equipment is needed.

Optional Texts and/or Materials

Theatre by Robert Cohen 13th Edition

Course Description

Intro to Theatre is a survey of Theatre activity, designed to provide introductory knowledge of phases of dramatic elements, professional practices, performance, and production.

Student Learning Outcomes

Over the course of the semester students will:

1. Become critical, informed audience members.
2. Define Theatre and the elements that make it an effective art form.
3. Identify the objectives of Theatre.
4. Gain a conceptual knowledge of basic Theatrical vocabulary.
5. Make connections between Theatre, culture, and history.
6. Apply Theatrical practices to everyday life.
7. Analyze plays and performances.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Basic computer and word processing skills.

Instructional Methods

This course will be comprised of lectures, discussions, and active participation activities.

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Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

1. **Attend class!** Success in this course depends upon the information disseminated in class, as well as, participation in class projects and assignments.
2. **Regularly check** D2L and student email. Communications for this course will occur on these two platforms.
3. **Participate** in class discussion and group projects.
4. **Communicate** with the instructor and project partners.
5. **Conduct a professional demeanor** in regards to the instructor and fellow students. We have a common goal so make sure that you work productively and respectfully to achieve that goal.

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

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

Example:

Participation/

Discussions	15%
Quizzes	20%
Play Responses	25%
Projects	25%
Final Exam	15%
TOTAL	100%

Assessments

Participation/Discussions (15%): While this course does include lectures, it will also require active participation in discussions and explorations of Theatre. Students will be graded on their attentiveness, engagement, and willingness to participate.

Quizzes (20%): Over the course of the semester students will complete four online quizzes through D2L. These quizzes will review information from readings, lectures, and viewings in class.

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Production Responses (25%): Students are required to view two University Playhouse productions during the semester. They will write a response paper of those productions using terminology and concepts discussed in class.

Projects (25%): There will be several projects that students are required to complete during the semester. These projects will tie in to specific units being taught in the course. These projects are all about experiencing a certain element of Theatre and will be graded on the effort and learning applied to the project, rather than the quality of the final product.

Final (15%) Students will work in groups to collaborate on a production concept. Projects will be graded on a rubric that will be provided prior to the due date.

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

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

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

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

Contact: I am available during office hours at any time during the semester. If you are needing an appointment outside of those times, I am more than happy to make arrangements with you to meet.

The best way to contact me outside of class and office hours is through email. When emailing please:

- Give a subject line. (THE: 1310, 9AM Class, etc.)
- Open the email with a greeting (Ms. Brooks, Professor Brooks, Good morning, Hello, etc.).
- Please give as much information as possible regarding your inquiry.
- If you are requesting a meeting, please give time options that work best for you.
- Sign off on your email so that I know it was completed.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Attendance:

You are expected to attend class. Emergencies and illnesses do arise and with the proper communication alternatives can be worked out. Attendance will be taken in class every day, please be sure that you are marked here. The inability to be in class will hamper the amount of assistance I can give you in the event of a failing grade.

Late Arrivals:

If you are late to class please find a seat in the back and let the class continue uninterrupted. Be sure at the end of class that you let the instructor know you are here.

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Electronics:

Please use electronics (cell phones, laptops, headphones, etc.) in class for the purposes of the course only. All personal use of electronics should be done outside of class. **Silence or turn off** cell phones during class.

Late Work:

“Participation” work will not be accepted late. Late acceptance and extensions can be given to papers and projects at the discretion of the instructor.

Extra Credit:

Extra Credit will be offered at the discretion of the instructor.

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 [Procedures 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:

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[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>

[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.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

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

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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

AI use policy

Texas A&M University-Commerce acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

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13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty

13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Week 1: Aug. 26, 28, 30

Class Welcome, What is Theatre?

Week 2: Sept. 4, 6

The Audience, AKA you!

Week 3: Sept. 9, 11, 13

The Playwright, Theatrical Genres, *The Book of Will*

Jan. 28 11:59- **Quiz 1 Due**

Week 4: Sept. 16, 18, 20

The Book of Will, Acting for the Stage

Show Week! Student Showcase: An Evening of Shorts

Sept. 22 @ 11:59PM **Play Analysis Due**

Week 5: Sept. 23, 25, 27

Acting: cont. **Scene Projects Due**

Week 6: Sept. 30, Oct 2, 4

The Director and Producer

Oct. 6th @ 11:59PM **Production Response Paper 1 Due**

Week 7: Oct. 7, 9, 11

Scenery, Costumes

Oct. 13 @ 11:59PM **Inspiration Boards Due**

Week 8: Oct. 14, 16, 18

Lighting, Sound

Oct. 20th @ 11:59PM **Quiz 2 Due**

Week 9: Oct. 21, 23, 25

Theatre History: Early Theatre

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Week 10: Oct. 28, 30, Nov. 1
Theatre History: Asian Theatre

Week 11: Nov. 4, 6, 8
Theatre History: Restoration to Romanticism
Nov. 10th @ 11:59 PM **Quiz 3 Due**

Week 12: Nov. 11, 13, 15
The Modern Theatre

Week 13: Nov. 18, 20, 22
The Modern Theatre
Show Week! *Stuart Little*

Week 14: Nov. 25
Global Theatre Today
Dec. 1st @ 11:59PM **Production Paper 2 Due**

Week 15: Dec 2, 4, 6
Production Projects
Dec. 10th @ 11:59PM **Quiz 4 Due**

Week 16: Dec. 11
Production Projects

Final: Wednesday, Dec. 11th @ 11:59PM
Production Projects Due

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