

Introduction to Theatre / DRAM 110
Fall 2011

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Office Hrs: Mon. 11:30am-12:30pm
PV10, Drama Office

Mondays 12:40pm-3:30pm
Classroom: PV11

CRN: 81840
Course Units: 3

"I regard the theatre as the greatest of all art forms, the most immediate way in which a human being can share with another the sense of what it is to be a human being."—Thornton Wilder

Course Description

This course is designed to introduce you to the basic elements of the live theatre experience. Through the study and discussion of selected dramatic material, the history of live theatre, and the art and craft of theatre production, the course will develop students' appreciation for and understanding of this art form.

Learning Goals

- to instill an appreciation for the theater and the performing arts
- to provide students with an understanding of the history of theater
- to look behind-the-scenes at play production.

Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

- demonstrate a critical and working vocabulary surrounding the theater
- identify historical contributions to the theatre and how they have been integrated into our contemporary culture
- delineate the process of producing a play
- communicate their understanding of the art and craft of theater throughout the course and beyond.

Course Requirements

Papers

1. You will write a two-page (500 words) reaction paper to the COM's production of *The Arabian Nights*. (Sept. 29 – Oct.16.)
2. You will write a two-page (500 words) reaction paper to a live theater performance of your choosing.
3. You will write a two-page (500 words) analysis paper on a play read in class.

All papers must be typewritten, double-spaced, using a 12-point font and one-inch margins top, side, and bottom. All papers must be stapled. Papers that are not properly formatted will be marked down by one grade point. Late papers are marked down by a grade point for each late calendar day.

Quizzes

There will be six (6) in-class quizzes throughout the semester, covering material from the weekly lectures and presentations, as well as reading from the text.

Presentation

You will present a 5-10 minute oral report on a specific theatre topic approved by the instructor.

Participation

You are expected to be present and participate in all discussions, exercises, and other class activities. If you are absent for any reason – excused or unexcused – you are still responsible for all material covered in class. Theatre is an active, collaborative art, and *Introduction to Theatre* is similarly an active, collaborative class. Discussion and collaborative work are essential to the success of the theatre and of this class, and all students are expected to maintain respect and courtesy for each other to create a collaborative spirit in the classroom.

If you miss a class, arrive late or leave early, you are responsible for communicating with your instructor about your absence (in advance), finding out what course material and assignments you missed, and completing all assignments on time.

Final Exam

The Final Exam will be held on **Weds. Dec. 14th from 11:10am – 2pm.**

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Grading

You will be graded on the quality & quantity of your engagement and on your success in completing each of the above requirements. This course uses a cumulative point system; all assignments have a point value totaled for your final course grade.

Late assignments will not be accepted, unless significant extenuating circumstances can be substantiated, so please plan accordingly. The points total breaks down as follows:

3 Papers	=	300 points		801 – 1000	=	A
4 Quizzes	=	200 points		601 – 800	=	B
Presentation	=	150 points		401 – 600	=	C
Participation	=	100 points		201 – 400	=	D
Final Exam	=	250 points		0 – 200	=	F
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Total		1000 points				

Materials

Textbook: Theatre, 9th edition by Robert Cohen (available in the campus bookstore and library on reserve.)

CourseSmart: Cohen, Robert, Theatre, 9th Edition, (\$64.50)

http://www.coursesmart.com/0077333497?__professorview=false&__instructor=3697654

If you prefer, you may purchase the print version through Amazon or another book retailer, but please note that you are still responsible for reading the required chapters on time.

Class Policies

Points off for being late & no make-ups for unexcused absences.

We are committed to ensuring that all students have an equal opportunity to learn in this class. To avoid distracting your classmates and to allow you to participate fully in class, the use of cell phones, pagers, text-messaging devices, computers, or electronics of any kind are prohibited during class.

Class Communication through Email and phone.*

**Please create an email folder called "Intro to Theatre" and save all emails with attachments.*

Important Dates

Last day to add a full-term class: In-person: Fri. Sep 2. Online: Mon. Sep 5 (Labor Day)

Last Day of Classes: Mon. Dec. 5, 2011

Final Exam: Wednesday Dec. 14, 2011 from 11:10am - 2:00 p.m.

College of Marin's Disabled Students Program

(DSPS) offers many services and classes to ensure a successful and productive educational experience. Anyone with a physical, learning, psychological or communication disability who can profit from instruction is eligible for Disabled Students Programs and Services by enrolling at College of Marin. Monday through Friday from 8:30am to 4:30pm. Call us at (415) 485-9406.

Academic Honesty and Student Conduct

"Plagiarism means using another's words, ideas, materials or work without properly acknowledging and documenting the source. Students are responsible for knowing the rules governing the use of another's work or materials and for acknowledging and documenting the source appropriately." For a complete description go to:

<http://www.marin.edu/faculty/handbook/classroommanagement.htm#studentconduct>

Mission Statement - COM Drama Department

The mission of the College of Marin Drama Department is to use all aspects of theatre arts to encourage and engage students in enthusiastic participation in preparation for the larger world stage.

"I will accept anything in the theatre . . . provided it amuses or moves me. But if it does neither, I want to go home."

—Noel Coward