

Updated 07/18/2023



WACO, TEXAS

COURSE SYLLABUS

AND

INSTRUCTOR PLAN

THEATRE APPRECIATION

DRAM 1310 - 003

JOSEPH TAYLOR

NOTE: This is a 16-week course.

NOTE: This is a Face-to-Face course.

THEATRE APPRECIATION

DRAM 1310 - 03

Course Description:

Survey of theater including its history, dramatic works, stage techniques, production procedures, and relation to other art forms. Participation in productions may be required.

Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:

NONE

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:

It would be in the best interest of the student to be prepared to discuss the topic(s) at hand. Participation is a big part of this class.

Instructor Information:

Instructor Name: Joseph Taylor (aka Mr. Joe)

MCC E-mail: jataylor@mclennan.edu

Office Phone Number: 254-299-8173

Office Location: MTA 105-B

Office/Teacher Conference Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 12:30pm – 3pm

Other Instruction Information: Conferences Hours needed outside of scheduled times can be arranged via email and will be in form of Zoom call

Suggested Text & Materials:

Title: Theatre: Collaborative Acts

Author: Ronald Wainscott and Kathy Fletcher

Edition: 4th

Publisher: Pearson

ISBN: 978-0-205-11802-1

MCC Bookstore Website: <http://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/>

Methods of Teaching and Learning:

Text book reading assignments along with PowerPoint presentations, outlines, and lectures will be provided in class to accompany each textbook chapter for the learner. Lectures shall cover a wide variety of topics that will stimulate creative thought and focus on both inductive and deductive problem solving.

THEATRE APPRECIATION

DRAM 1310 - 03

While some of this class will be in lecture type format, most of it will involve discussion (i.e. you talking and sharing your ideas) about the given topic. You will need to be active in participating in these discussions. Classroom discussion will cover a wide variety of topics. Students are required to attend two live performances and write detailed critiques addressing and evaluating the specific theatrical conventions and devices utilized in each unique performance.

Links to online play scripts may be provided for reading and further discussions. Classroom discussions will be used as a vehicle for students to share ideas and insights into the nature of their exploration of theatre. Unit presentations will enhance the student's knowledge of the theatrical production process. Assigned readings will supplement the student's knowledge of the practices of theatre. Student is expected to keep up with homework assignments, tests, and discussions. Plagiarism or cheating of any kind will have serious consequences and may result in a failing grade.

Course Objectives and/or Competencies:

This course is an extensive investigation into the various activities and methods of theatrical practice. It includes discussions, readings, and lectures designed to discover, analyze and evaluate all aspects of the theatre experience: scripts, acting, directing, staging, history, criticism and theory. No previous experience or knowledge of theatre is required.

Course objectives include the following:

- To create a more knowledgeable theatre patron.
- To gain a better understanding of the theatrical process and identify the historical evolution of theatre as a cultural art form.
- To expand students' knowledge of the human condition and human cultures, especially in relation to behaviors, ideas, and values expressed in works of human imagination and thought.
- To engage in critical analysis and formulate aesthetic judgments.
- To develop an appreciation for the arts as fundamental to the health and survival of any society.

THEATRE APPRECIATION

DRAM 1310 - 03

Course Attendance/Participation Guidelines:

If a student is not in attendance in accordance with the policies/guidelines of the class as outlined in the course syllabus as of the course census date, faculty are required to drop students from their class roster prior to certifying the respective class roster. A student's financial aid will be re-evaluated accordingly and the student will only receive funding for those courses attended as of the course census date. (Sept. 6, 2023)

As this is a Face to Face class, attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class meeting. By departmental policy, students will be withdrawn by the instructor for exceeding the 25% absence limit, that translates to missing 6 classes. On the 7th absence, you will be withdrawn.

Before the 60% point of the semester, a student who is absent for 25% or more of a face-to-face or blended course or who misses 25% or more of assigned work for an online course will be withdrawn from the course with a grade of W. A student may also request to be withdrawn with a grade of W before the 60% point of the semester. After the 60% point of the semester, the student may request to be withdrawn if the student is passing, or be assigned the final grade earned at the end of the semester after grades have been updated to reflect missing work.

Course Outline or Schedule:

8/22 – First Day of Class – Syllabus Discussion

8/24 – What is Theatre/Theater Lecture

8/29 – Greek Theatre History Lecture

8/31 – Greek Theatre History Lecture

9/5 – Roman Theatre History Lecture

9/7 – Roman Theatre History Lecture

9/12 – Indian Theatre History Lecture

9/14 – Chinese/Japanese Theatre History Lecture AND Read *Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*

9/19 – The Director and the Actor Lecture

9/21 – Criticism and Writing a Critique

THEATRE APPRECIATION

DRAM 1310 - 03

9/26 – Review of Unit 1 AND Discussion of *Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*
9/28 – Unit 1 Test
10/3 – Aristotle Lecture AND *Musical Comedy Murders* Critique Paper DUE
10/5 – Aristotle Lecture
10/10 – Understanding Playwriting Lecture AND Playwriting Assignment Given
10/12 – Understanding Playwriting Lecture AND Final Project Discussion
10/17 – Scenic Design Lecture
10/19 – Scenic Design Lecture and Demonstration
10/24 – Lighting Design Lecture
10/26 – Lighting Design Lecture and Demonstration
10/31 – Make Up Design Lecture
11/2 – Make Up Design Lecture and Demonstration AND Playwriting Assignment DUE
11/7 – Sound Design Lecture
11/9 – Sound Design Lecture and Demonstration AND Read *A Christmas Carol*
11/14 – Discussion *A Christmas Carol* AND Written Critique Discussion
11/16 – Unit 2 Review
11/21 – Unit 2 Test AND *A Christmas Carol* Critique Paper DUE
11/28 AND 11/30 – Final Presentations (11/30 – Last Day of Class)

Course Grading Information:

GRADING CHART – Please make sure to look at the grading criteria chart for a breakdown of each letter grade

THEATRE APPRECIATION

DRAM 1310 - 03

A 100 – 91

B 90 – 81

C 80 – 71

D 70 – 61

F 60 or below

Extra Credit opportunities possible if necessary.

Written Assignments must be neatly typed, free of grammatical mistakes, spelling, etc.

College-level writing is expected. **PLEASE SEE WRITING YOUR CRITIQUE DOCUMENT FOR MORE CLARIFICATION**

Late Work and Make Up Work Policies:

Student is expected to keep with assignments, tests, and projects. Plagiarism or cheating of any kind will have serious consequences and may result in a failing grade. Course work will not be accepted past the due date. If you know you will have a conflict meeting a deadline please discuss this with the instructor ahead of time.

Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:

Active and relevant participation in classroom discussion is expected every day. Students are expected to be courteous to fellow students and respect their comments and questions.

Research may be conducted via the Internet, provided that it is properly cited and no more than 50% comes from the Internet. Wikipedia may not be used as a cited source under any circumstances. The use of Wikipedia as a cited source or using the Internet for more than 50% of research will result in a lower grade.

Please demonstrate acceptable “netiquette” when communicating with your peers and your professor. Communication is vital to a student’s success in this class. To chat with your professor, please e-mail or communicate via phone.

Plagiarism or cheating of any kind will have serious consequences and result in a failing grade.

[Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy](https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html)

(<https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html>)

THEATRE APPRECIATION

DRAM 1310 - 03

Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences. Your instructor may have additional guidelines specific to this course.

Updated 07/18/2023



ACADEMIC RESOURCES/POLICIES

Accommodations/ADA Statement:

Any student who is a qualified individual with a disability may request reasonable accommodations to assist with providing equal access to educational opportunities. Students should contact the Accommodations Coordinator as soon as possible to provide documentation and make necessary arrangements. Once that process is completed, appropriate verification will be provided to the student and instructor. Please note that instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification has been provided by the Accommodations Coordinator. For additional information, please visit www.mclennan.edu/disability.

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:

disabilities@mclennan.edu 2542998122 Room
319, Student Services Center

Title IX:

We care about your safety, and value an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. If you or someone you know experiences unwelcomed behavior, we are here to help. Individuals who would like to report an incident of sexual misconduct are encouraged to immediately contact the acting Title IX Coordinator at titleix@mclennan.edu or by calling, Dr. Claudette Jackson, (Accommodations/Title IX) at (254) 299-8465. MCC employees are mandatory reporters and must report incidents immediately to the Title IX Coordinator. Individuals may also contact the MCC Police Department at (254) 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at (254) 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a

confidential resource for students. Any student or employee may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting <http://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/>. Go to McLennan's Title IX webpage at www.mclennan.edu/titleix/. It contains more information about definitions, reporting, confidentiality, resources, and what to do if you or someone you know is a victim of sexual misconduct, gender-based violence or the crimes of rape, acquaintance rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence, or domestic violence.

Student Support/Resources:

MCC provides a variety of services to support student success in the classroom and in your academic pursuits to include counseling, tutors, technology help desk, advising, financial aid, etc. A listing of these and the many other services available to our students is available at <http://www.mclennan.edu/campus-resource-guide/>

Academic Support and Tutoring is here to help students with all their course-related needs. Specializing in one-on-one tutoring, developing study skills, and effectively writing essays. Academic Support and Tutoring can be found in the Library and main floor of the Learning Commons. This service is available to students in person or through Zoom. You can contact the Academic Support and Tutoring team via Zoom or email (ast@mclennan.edu) by going to our website (<https://www.mclennan.edu/academic-support-and-tutoring/>).

College personnel recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources or want to explore strategies for balancing life and school, we encourage you to contact either MCC CREW – Campus Resources Education Web by calling (254) 299-8561 or by emailing crew@mclennan.edu or a Success Coach by calling (254) 299-8226 or emailing SuccessCoach@mclennan.edu. Both are located in the Completion Center located on the second floor of the Student Services Center (SSC) which is open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff. To schedule an appointment, go to https://mclennan.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_07byXd7eB8iTqJg. Both the Completion Center and Paulanne's Pantry are located on the second floor of the Student Services Center (SSC).

MCC Foundation Emergency Grant Fund:

Unanticipated expenses, such as car repairs, medical bills, housing, or job loss can affect us all. Should an unexpected expense arise, the MCC Foundation has an emergency grant fund that may be able to assist you. Please go to

<https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html>

to find out more about the emergency grant. The application can be found at

https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency_Grant_Application.pdf.

MCC Academic Integrity Statement:

Go to www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity for information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating. The unauthorized use of artificial intelligence (AI) for classwork can be a violation of the College's General Conduct Policy. Whether AI is authorized in a course and the parameters in which AI can be used in a course will be outlined by each instructor.

Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace:

Go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teachingandlearning/FacultyandStaffCommons/requirements.html> for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.

Minimum Technical Skills:

Students should have basic computer skills, knowledge of word processing software, and a basic understanding of how to use search engines and common web browsers.

Backup Plan for Technology:

In the event MCC's technology systems are down, you will be notified via your MCC student email address. Please note that all assignments and activities will be due on the date specified in the Instructor Plan, unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

Email Policy:

McLennan Community College would like to remind you of the policy (<http://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXI-B.pdf>) regarding college email. All students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use their McLennan email addresses when conducting college business.

A student's McLennan email address is the preferred email address that college employees should use for official college information or business. Students are

expected to read and, if needed, respond in a timely manner to college emails. For more information about your student email account, go to www.mclennan.edu/studentemail.

Instructional Uses of Email:

Faculty members can determine classroom use of email or electronic communications. Faculty should expect and encourage students to check the college email on a regular basis. Faculty should inform students in the course syllabus if another communication method is to be used and of any special or unusual expectations for electronic communications.

If a faculty member prefers not to communicate by email with their students, it should be reflected in the course syllabus and information should be provided for the preferred form of communication.

Email on Mobile Devices:

The College recommends that you set up your mobile device to receive McLennan emails. If you need assistance with set-up, you may email Helpdesk@mclennan.edu for help.

You can find help on the McLennan website about connecting your McLennan email account to your mobile device:

- [Email Setup for iPhones and iPads](#)
- [Email Setup for Androids](#)

Forwarding Emails:

You may forward emails that come to your McLennan address to alternate email addresses; however, the College will not be held responsible for emails forwarded to an alternate address that may be lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

For more helpful information about technology at MCC, go to [MCC's Tech Support Cheat Sheet](#) or email helpdesk@mclennan.edu.

Disclaimer:

The resources and policies listed above are merely for informational purposes and are subject to change without notice or obligation. The College reserves the right to change policies and other requirements in compliance with State and Federal laws. The provisions of this document do not constitute a contract.