

Master Syllabus

1. Course Information

College: College of Liberal Arts
Department: Theatre Arts
Course Title: Script Analysis
Course Designation and Number: TH 250

GE Area: VI. College Component

Writing Intensive: Yes No

For WI Courses: For all sections Selected Sections are WI

Methods of Instruction: Lecture
 Discussion
 Web-enhanced
 Web-only
 Other

Includes Lab: Yes No

Prerequisites: None

2. Objectives

GE Program Objectives:

- Learn about the aesthetic, moral, social, and cultural dimensions of human experience needed for participation in the human community

GE Area Objectives:

Area VI. College Component

- a. communicate with individuals who are in the student's major, in allied fields, and non-specialists
- b. understand important relationships and interdependencies between the students' major and other academic disciplines, world events or life endeavors
- c. bridge General Education and the major

Course Objectives and GE Learning Outcomes:

Course Objectives - TH 250: Script Analysis is designed to offer those students who are interested in the serious investigation of dramatic texts an opportunity to develop analytical skills and research methods to do so.

GE Learning Outcomes –

Area VI: a. Communicate with individuals who are in the student's major, in allied fields, and non-specialists

b. Understand important relationships and interdependencies between the student's major and other academic disciplines, world events or life endeavors.

General Program Outcomes --

Helps students learn about the aesthetic, ethical, moral, social and cultural dimensions of human experience needed for participation in the human community.

Increases knowledge and understanding of the past, of the world in which we live, and of how both past and present have an impact on the future.

For WI Courses: WAC Objectives

Objective: "To encourage students to use writing as a learning tool to explore and structure ideas, to articulate thoughts and questions, and to discover what they know and do not know, thereby empowering students to use writing as a tool of discovery, self-discipline, and thought."

Integration Method: Students will apply the analytical methods explored in lectures and discussions to selected theatrical texts through two essay exams and a term paper.

3. Suggested Course Materials

The Poetics by Aristotle, translated by Preston Epps

Backwards and Forwards by David Ball

From Page To Stage by Rosemary Ingham

The Empty Space by Peter Brook

Medea by Euripides

Hamlet by William Shakespeare

Into The Woods by Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine

Buried Child by Sam Shepard

Supplementary coursepack materials from:

Script Analysis for the Musical Theatre by Joe Deer

Actors on Acting by Cole and Chinoy

Directors on Directing by Cole and Chinoy

Dramatic Theory and Criticism by Bernard F. Dukore

4. Suggested Methods of Evaluation

1) TERM PAPER: Students will write a 2500 word term paper applying one or several of the methods discussed in class to a play or musical chosen from an approved list. Students will provide an initial draft of the paper for evaluation and response by the instructor. Upon its return, students will revise the paper for final grading.

2) EXAMS: Students will also take two essay exams (approximately 1000 words each) discussing various topics related to the course material, applying the methods under discussion

or ALTERNATE WRITING ASSIGNMENTS: Instructors may choose to have students write several short papers (approximately 500 words each) on topics being covered in class, discussing some of the supplementary materials, or discussing departmental productions from the perspective of one of the analytical methods covered in class.

5. Grading Policy

All GE courses are graded A-F.

WI component is graded Pass/Unsatisfactory

6. Suggested Weekly Course Outline Including Typical Assignments

Week One

Tuesday - Introduction To Course, Aristotle and the world of Ancient Greece, Drama as a tool for social discourse, Introduction to Aristotle's Poetics

Thursday - Aristotle's Poetics

Week Two

Tuesday - Aristotle's Poetics, begin discussion of Euripides' Medea

Thursday - Conclude discussion of Euripides' Medea using Aristotle's Poetics

Week Three

Tuesday - Backwards and Forwards by David Ball

Thursday - Conclude discussion of Backwards and Forwards by David Ball, begin discussion of Shakespeare's Hamlet

Week Four

Tuesday - Conclude discussion of Hamlet,
Thursday - Other interpretations of Hamlet, Exam review

Week Five

Tuesday - Exam One, 1000 word essay exam
Thursday - Theatre as a visual medium: Design as an expression of the themes of the play,
From Page To Stage by Rosemary Ingham

Week Six

Tuesday - Continue discussion of design and From Page To Stage, begin discussion of
Buried Child by Sam Shepard
Thursday - Continue discussion of Buried Child
Term Paper - Draft One Due

Week Seven

Tuesday - Script Analysis for the Musical Theatre, A brief history of Musical Theatre
Thursday - Continue discussion of Script Analysis for the Musical Theatre, Introduction to
Stephen Sondheim

Week Eight

Tuesday - Begin viewing Into The Woods
Thursday - Complete viewing Into The Woods, Discuss Into The Woods by Sondheim and
Lapine

Term Paper Returned to Students

Week Nine

Tuesday - Conclude discussion of Into The Woods, Begin discussion of The Empty Space by
Peter Brooks
Thursday - Conclude discussion of The Empty Space by Peter Brooks

Week Ten

Tuesday - Discuss selected articles
Thursday - Catch up, Final Exam review
Final Draft of Term Paper Due

Final Exam Week

Final Exam - 1000 word essay exam

7. Other

Syllabus distributed to students should employ the format approved by UCAP and must include:

- Instructor name, office hours, and contact information
- Office of Disability Services information
- Information on how grades will be determined
- Attendance policy