COURSE OBJECTIVE: To equip students with skills necessary for reading and understand the action of a script to prepare them for making good choices in play production as playwrights, directors, actors, and designers.

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COURSE ASSIGNMENTS
1. All assignments MUST be typed and follow the appropriate format for each exercise, as detailed below. Handwritten and missing elements will be docked ½ letter grade.
2. The goal for each assignment is to illuminate the text with concise "filament" statements. Run-on or multiple statements will be docked 1/2 letter grade.
3. Your analysis need not be creative nor clever, however it must be workable. If your analysis choice is not workable it will be docked ½ letter grade.
4. Assignments will be presented and discussed in class. Assignments not presented will be ineligible for full credit. Partial credit will be at the discretion of instructor.

ASSIGNMENT #1 - PLAYWRIGHT/DIRECTOR: MICRO-ANALYSIS OF “THE PILLOWMAN” – MOMENT TO MOMENT

On one sheet of paper identify: 1.) Relationship, 2.) Setting, 3.) Preparation for the assigned scene. These choices should be stated in no more than a few words each. Xerox the assigned text and indicate, with a line drawn horizontally - margin to margin - marking boundaries between individual moments of action. Label the boundaries between moments with either an "S" (stake change) or "O" (obstacle change), and assign a single statement of action for the body of each moment, i.e. “what point was scored?”

ASSIGNMENT #2 - PLAYWRIGHT/DIRECTOR: MACRO-ANALYSIS OF "ANNA CHRISTIE" – A CREATED EXPERIENCE

On a single sheet of paper, outline the 3 Act structure of the play by identifying the following elements of the plot: 1.) Artifice, 2.) Inciting Incident [dramatic question raised], 3.) Complicating Incidents [list 3], 4.) Crisis Incident [dramatic question answered], 5.) Resolution: Loss and Gain.

ASSIGNMENT #3 - ACTOR: CHARACTER ANALYSIS IN “THE PILLOWMAN”

Macro Analysis: Choose a workable Primary Objective for your assigned role (XYZ).
Micro Analysis: Choose beat objectives for the assigned scene by writing "what the character wants to do to/get from the other character" for each moment, along with the Xerox copy from Assignment #2, showing your analysis of moments.

ASSIGNMENT #4 - DESIGNER: VISUAL WORLD OF "ANNA CHRISTIE"

Macro Analysis: Choose a workable Unifying Image for the play. Be sure that the image is a single visual image (not behavioral) and conflicted in a way that is analogous to the conflict of the play. Describe in a single paragraph how the central conflict is embodied in the image, by identifying the central conflict of the play and its visual analogy in the Unifying Image.
Micro Analysis: Identify Visual Clues from the first three moments of the assigned scene. Describe in single sentences how each clue raises the stakes in the “location” of the given moment.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Attendance – You MUST ATTEND EVERY CLASS. Two absence will be tolerated, lose five pts. per absence thereafter. NO EXCUSES WILL BE ACCEPTED, PLEASE DO NOT OFFER ANY. Six absences constitute course failure in accordance with departmental attendance policy.
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1 – Stakes
6 – Obstacles
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15 - Review: stakes/obstacles
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3 – Choosing Character - Macro: XYZ
8 – Practice Assignment: “Anna Christie” Micro & Macro application
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15 – ASSIGNMENT #3 DUE: “The Pillowman” Micro & Macro
17 – Creating Visual World - Macro Scale: Unifying Image
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29 – Creating Visual World - Micro Scale: Visual Clues

December
1 - Practice Assignment: “The Pillowman” Micro & Macro application
6 – Review
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13 – 1:00-3:00 – Debriefing

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