INTRODUCTION TO THEATRE
THEA 101- Spring 2012
THU 6:00 pm Gowen Field 813 Rm 4
SAT 8:30 am BSU MP 108

TEXTBOOK: The Norton Anthology of Drama – Shorter Edition

ATTENDANCE: Great grades happen when you come to class, do the work, and apply good scholarship to your efforts.

COMMUNICATION: If it’s an emergency, the timing of your email will be the important factor. Let’s set up an appointment if you want to talk or are concerned about your grade. No miracles available at the “11th hour”.

CLASS ETIQUETTE: Please arrive on time. No cell phone usage during class. No computers allowed. All work must be turned in on time. NO MAKE-UP PAPERS OR EXAMS.

DISHONESTY: Dishonesty will not be tolerated. This includes cheating on exams or plagiarizing. If you are unsure what this means, please review your Student Handbook. Disciplinary action will be taken.

CLASSWORK BY THE NUMBERS

Six plays to read with six 25 point reading quizzes.
Five in-class Observation Exercises based on videos with in-class discussions on Scenic Design, Costume Design, Central Idea and Acting.
One Poster Project with a one-page explanation paper on either Oedipus, the King or Everyman.
One Outline of the action of the play Hamlet, submitted in two parts.
One Performance Review based on the BSU production of Hamlet.
One Comparison Report on the BSU production of Rosencrantz & Guildenstern...
Three exams each covering classwork to date – none cumulative.
(Also available) Three extra credit reports. Up to 10 points per submission can be earned by attending approved productions at local theatre companies and submitting an Aesthetic Experience Report for each production.

GO EARLY!

GRADING BY THE NUMBERS
1000 TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS

Exams & Quizzes = 60% of your grade

- 3 Exams (150 pts each) = 450 points
- 6 Reading Quizzes (25 pts each) = 150 points

Writings, Creative Project and In-Class Observation, Discussion = 40% of your grade

- In-class Observations = 75 points
- Creative Poster Project = 50 points
- Outline of the play Hamlet = 50 points
- Performance Review Hamlet = 150 points
- R & G Comparison Report = 75 points

Grading Rubric – Count your points!

1000 – 990 = A+  780 – 799 = C+  
921 – 989 = A  721 – 779 = C  
900 – 920 = A-  700 – 720 = C-  
880 – 899 = B+  680 – 699 = D+  
821 – 879 = B  600 – 679 = D  
800 – 820 = B-  599 – Below = F
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Course Objectives

1. Critical thinking/problem solving skills...

--Apply critical analysis to the experience of theatrical performance and dramatic literature; *(think outside the box of your own experience.)*

--Develop a basic understanding of the structure of theatre and the themes that develop in both performance and dramatic literature; *(understand the process of the creation of the work of theatre.)*

2. Communication skills...

--Formulate and organize an *aesthetic response (emotional reaction)* to performance and be able to articulate that reaction in both verbal and written form; *(articulate that response.)*

3. Cultural perspective...

--Appreciate theatrical performance and dramatic literature within diverse social contexts; *(think about the greater world.)*

--Identify meaningful connections between theatrical productions and plays and the historical contexts in which they emerged throughout Western Civilization; *(understand the timeline.)*

--Cultivate an awareness of diverse perspectives and values of others as presented in a variety of plays and productions; *(work on your empathy.)*

--Develop an awareness of the ephemeral and communal nature of theatre; *(understand “zeitgeist” – the true nature of theatre.)*

4. Breadth of knowledge...

--Apply methodologies and strategies of inquiry specific to the performing arts; *(ask the right questions.)*

--Develop a basic understanding of the creative production process in theatre; *(understand what it takes to put on a play.)*

--Recognize similarities, differences, and the relationships between theatre and allied art forms; *(where does theatre fit in the arts?)*