

Dean's Syllabus Review Checklist



Date received by Dean's office:

Course:	Semester:
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Syllabus Content Requirement	Complete?
I. Course Information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Semester and year <input type="checkbox"/> Course title, number, & section <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting days, times, & location(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Instructor name(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone numbers 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
II. Office location & Office hours	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
III. Textbooks, readings and/or bibliography	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
IV. General Objectives or Expected Learner Outcomes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is this a General Education Course? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No • If yes, which competency does it meet? _____ 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
V. Instructional Methods	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
VI. Course Description/Course Content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Inclusive of catalog description and pre-requisite <input type="checkbox"/> Chronological outline inclusive of topics covered and course requirements (exams, quizzes, projects, papers, assignments, with indication of the course grading value for each) 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
VII. Evaluation and Grading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Includes specific grading system (number and type of evaluations; how final grade is determined, when assignment grades will be posted viewing in BB) 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
VIII. Absence Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Similar to or refers to one in catalog (is not stricter than catalog policy) 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
IX. Texas Wesleyan Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> University policies statement <input type="checkbox"/> Disability accommodations statement <input type="checkbox"/> Syllabus subject to change statement <input type="checkbox"/> Lab/chemical use statement (if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Repeating Courses statement <input type="checkbox"/> Title IX syllabus statement <input type="checkbox"/> COVID-19 policies statement 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Recommendations by Dean's Office

- Accept as is
- Reject
- Rationale: _____





FAR 2301-02 (3129), Enjoyment of Drama Fall 2021

Instructor: Karen Potter

Phone: 817-531-4925

Email: kapotter@txwes.edu

Course modality: Face-to-Face

**Meeting Times: T, TH 10:30-11:45am,
PMC 219**

Office: Dan Waggoner Annex 101A

Office Hours: M, W 10-1pm

Course Introduction

Welcome to the wonderful world of Theatre! You will be introduced to the life of Theatre and establish yourself as an active audience member to enjoy, appreciate and explore the different aspects of Theatre. In this class you will form relationships through text and in class exercises that build upon collaboration in writing, directing, acting and design. You get to experience a sampling of what it takes to be a theatre artist.

Course Description

This Class is an introduction to the Theatre for non-theatre arts/speech majors. Suggested to fulfill the general education fine arts requirement. In cultural literacy, it is the appreciation of and direct experience with the creative arts. In social literacy, it is the development of characters into a script using the social, psychological, and economic forces influencing the individual.

The Department of Theatre is committed to the long-term development of **four** specific student-learning capabilities: The student will implement each of these four capabilities in developing two theatrical pieces to be performed in class using various design elements. Additional Critical thinking will be used through class exercises.

Course Learning Objectives	
Artistry	Implementing the various acting and design techniques learned in class exercises.
Analytical Thinking	Attending and writing reviews of the theatre performances
Creative Problem Solving	Writing and developing scripts for performance in a group setting.
Communication	Presenting reports and performing in a theatre piece.

Required Materials

Textbook(s)

Author: Edwin Wilson

Title: **The Theatre Experience**

Edition: 13e. (you may use the 14 edition as an eBook)

Publisher: McGraw-Hill Education

Year: 2015

ISBN: 978-0-07-351427-7

Software/Apps/Equipment

Internet and computer, sometimes a personal phone will be used in class exercises.

Instructional/Learning Methods and Technologies

The learning methods used in this course include the following:

- Discussion forums and/or wikis
- Synchronous (real-time) virtual meetings with peers and/or the instructor
- Streaming video
- Quizzes
- Exams
- Collaborative assignments
- Independent homework assignments
- Writing-intensive assignments

Student Workload Expectation

- The course meets two times each week for 14 weeks. Instruction time is 2.5 hours.
- Students should expect to spend an additional 4 hours each week reading, researching, writing and otherwise preparing for class participation and assignments.
- The amount of time required to complete an assignment in the arts varies from one individual to another and is dependent, in part, on 1) the student's prior training and experience, 2) his or her instinct for work within the discipline and 3) the process each student must work through in order to achieve desired outcomes. Therefore, the suggested *minimum* preparation time noted above may vary widely from one student to another.

Course Requirements

Submitting and Returning Assignments

Assignment Submission

- Submit all assignments via Blackboard. Exceptions include assignments requested to be used in the class as part of the lesson.
- Use the standard Microsoft® Office programs such as Word, PowerPoint, and Excel (available to you through your txwes.edu Office 365 account) to complete your assignments unless assignment directions specify that you should use a different file format.
- Use the following guidelines when formatting your documents:
 - Submit all your work as a PDF.
 - Either MLA or APA standard format will be accepted.

Assignment Feedback

- I will provide feedback on assessments within 3 days after submission.
- My feedback will be provided in the form of written comments within the body of the paper.
- Your grades will be posted to the Blackboard Grade Center.

Assignments

- All assignments are due at the beginning of the class. Due to unforeseen circumstances in extreme cases (fire, flood, emergency) you may turn in your assignments at the beginning of the next class period

without the work being considered late. Please notify the instructor before class starts. Any assignments that are received after that will be marked down 10% and loss of points for each day the assignment is not turned in. It is to your advantage to get your work in on time.

Communication with the Instructor

- To contact me with questions and concerns related to this course, please email me or post to the Q and A section of Blackboard. Any questions posted the night before will be answered the following day except on the weekends. Send questions of a personal nature to me via email. I will respond to emails within 24 hours.

Quizzes and Exams

- All Quizzes and Exams will be handed out in class. You will be given ample time to complete.

Evaluation & Grading

All grades will be made available to students in Blackboard.

- All Assignments are given a point value. The accumulation of points determines your grade. Group projects will have additional points added by peer review following rubrics handed out with the assignment.

Assignment Category		Number of Graded Items	Point Value per Item	Total Points
Course Contract		1	20	20
Assignments	#1-3	3	10	30
	#4 Write a 5 min play	1	60	60
	#5, Peer Evaluations and performance	2	75	150
	#6 Play journal	1	25	25
Play Reviews	#7 Midsummer	3	75 points	225
	#8 Quiche			
	#9 One Arm			
Genre Presentation	#10 Presentation	1	100	100
	Journal of group	1	25	25
In Class Exercises		14	10	140
Quizzes		4	25 points each	100
Mid Term		1	50	50
Final Exam		1	75	75
Total Course Points:				1000

Final Grade	Final Points/Average
A	1000-900
B	899-800
C	799-700
D	699-600
F	599-0

Course Policies

Academic Integrity

- Cheating, plagiarism (submitting another person's material as one's own), or completing assignments for another person who will receive academic credit are not permitted. This includes the use of unauthorized books, notebooks, or other sources in order to secure or give help during an examination, the unauthorized copying of examinations, assignments, reports, or term papers, or the presentation of unacknowledged

material as if it were the student's own work. Disciplinary action may be taken beyond the academic discipline administered by the course instructor. [Read the University's Academic Integrity Policy.](#)

Class Attendance for Face-to-face Courses

Regular and punctual attendance at all scheduled classes is expected of all students. Students are **required** to notify instructors prior to any missed class and will be held responsible for all class and laboratory assignments.

The maximum number of **authorized** absences during one semester is:

- **Two** for a class that meets once per week
- **Three** for a Monday/Wednesday or a Tuesday/Thursday class
- **Five** for a Monday/Wednesday/Friday class

Additional authorized absences may be granted on an individual basis when extreme circumstances warrant.

A student who has been absent from any regular examination and has satisfied the instructor that the absence was due to serious illness or other avoidable cause may take a special examination at the discretion of the instructor concerned.

Students who have the following number of **non-consecutive unauthorized** absences may be dropped from the course by the instructor:

- **One** unauthorized absence for classes that meet one time a week
- **Two** unauthorized absence for classes that meet two times a week
- **Three** unauthorized absences for classes that meet three times a week

3 Tardies = 1 Absence. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU ARE ON TIME TO CLASS! More than 3 Absences will result in an automatic Dismissal from Class.

Faculty-Initiated Student Withdrawal from a Course

When a student accumulates **consecutive unauthorized absences** equal to the number of days the class meets per week (1, 2, or 3) AND has not communicated with the instructor about the absences, the instructor must drop the student from the class using the Faculty Initiated Student Withdrawal process within 10 calendar days from the last date of attendance.

The Registrar will record a grade of "DP" for the course on the student's transcript. The Registrar will record a grade of "WF" (failure) on the student's transcript if the instructor drops the student after the date for receiving a grade of "DP" as specified in the University catalog. *Note: Per the Office of Financial Aid, students who withdraw from a course **cannot** be re-enrolled in that course during the same semester.*

[The complete Attendance Policy is available in the Catalog.](#)

Other University Policies

- Links to selected University policies are available in [Blackboard under the Student Resources tab](#). The current Texas Wesleyan University [Catalog](#) and [Student Handbook](#) contain all University policies.

Other Class Policies

- Cell Phones need to be turned off and put away for all classes unless specified by the instructor.
- All assignments and course work are **due in the beginning of class on the date assigned**.
- In the event of a Campus wide shut down due to weather or other emergency during class time there will be an alternate makeup class date to be determined.

Note: Course syllabi are intended to provide students with basic information concerning the course. The syllabus can be viewed as a "blueprint" for the course. Instructors will inform students of any changes concerning examinations, the grading or attendance policies, or changes in project assignments.

Projects at a Glance:

Theatre Performance	
#1	Find a professional theatre review for class, upload to blackboard in Professional Theatre Reviews under discussion forum. Read a second review and comment on the differences, post to that thread.
#7	Attend a performance of "Midsummer Night's Dream" and write a review. Dates of performance are September 29, 30, October 1, 2, 3.
#8	Attend a performance of "Five Lesbians eating Quiche" and write a review. Dates of performance are October 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24.
#9	Attend a performance of "One Arm" and write a review. Dates of performance are November 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21.

Your life as a play	
#2	This is a two-page single spaced document that lists how you would produce and cast your own life if it were a play. What area would you focus on? How would you develop this and what type of the theatrical elements would you employ? Discuss how this would be produced; cast, presented and where would the action take place?

Create a 5 minute play	
	Read and become familiar with all plays
#3	Write a brief paragraph describing the content of your 5 min play. What is the action, what is the subject? How do you plan on executing the play? Visualize the core theatre elements and concepts.
#4	Write the full content of your 5 min play using a minimum of 2 actors. Use 1 light cue, 1 sound cue, 1 prop and have each actor costumed.
#5	Group Performance. Teams of three or four will produce two of their plays to the class. This will be voted on within the group to decide which pieces will be further developed.
#6	Write in the Blackboard Journal section logging all the rehearsals and comment on how well others are collaborating.

Theatre Genre Presentation	
#10	You will be given a random theatre genre that you will present to the class in either a power point or other visual format.

Additional Assignments for in class exercises including	
	Record and write down an overheard conversation
	Create a costume collage for specific characters
	Share your favorite song for Sound design

Calendar

Dates	Lessons	Due
24-Aug	T First Class, Introductions, Syllabus, Text. *Exercise Read Chapters 1, 2, 3, and 6.	
26-Aug	TH Chapter 1: What is Theatre? Audience participation. *Exercise	

		Professional review uploaded to blackboard, questions answered.	30-Aug
31-Aug	T	Chapter 2: Background and Expectations of the Audience. How to write a review, *Exercise	
2-Sep	TH	Theatre performance reviews for <i>Midsummer, Quiche, One Arm</i> Chapter 3 The Audience views the Stage: Theatre Spaces. Quiz #1 Assignment #2, Your life as a play	4-Oct, 25-Oct, 29-29-Nov Quiz 9-Sep
7-Sep	T	Chapter 6: Creating the World of the play Assignment #3, Paragraph on content of your 5 min play Assignment #4, 5 min play fully written, will present to group.	15-Sep 28, 30-Sep
9-Sep	TH	Chapter 6 continued and Chapter 7. *Exercise Your life as a Play Due!	X
14-Sep	T	Chapter 7 continued: Dramatic Structure and Dramatic Characters. Quiz #2 In class time for 5 min play development	Quiz
16-Sep	TH	Paragraph on content of 5 min play Due! Tour of Theatre Wesleyan	X
21-Sep	T	Chapter 4: Acting *Exercise	
23-Sep	TH	Chapter 4: Acting continued *Exercise	
28-Sep	T	5 min play presentations to the Class	X
30-Sep	TH	5 min play presentations continued	X
5-Oct	T	Jeopardy in class! Get your game on!! Theatre questions, including production questions for review for Mid-term. Written review of <i>Midsummer</i> Due!	X
7-Oct	TH	Mid-term Exam!	Mid-term exam
		Read Chapters 5, 8, 9, and 10	
12-Oct	T	Chapter 5: The Director and the Producer * Exercise	
		Mid-term Grades Due on 13-Oct	
14-Oct	TH	Chapter 8: Theatrical Genres *Exercise Group Assignment #2. Write and present a 6min report on one of the Theatre Genres.	Due 2, 4-Nov
19-Oct	T	Chapter 9: Scenery *Exercise	
21-Oct	TH	Chapter 10: Stage Costumes *Exercise	
		Read Chapters 11, 12, 13, and 14	
26-Oct	T	Costume Design and Character development Written review of <i>"Five Lesbians Eating Quiche"</i> Due!	X
28-Oct	TH	Chapter 11: Stage Lighting and Sound Quiz #3	Quiz
2-Nov	T	Theatre Genre presentations	X
4-Nov	TH	Genre presentations continued	X

9-Nov	T	Chapter 12: Musical Theatre	*Exercise	
11-Nov	TH	Musical Theatre Continued		
16-Nov	T	Chapter 13: Global Theatre Today	*Exercise	
18-Nov	TH	Quiz #4		Quiz
Thanksgiving Break Nov 22nd thru Nov 26				
30-Nov	T	Written review of " <i>One Arm</i> "	Due	X
2-Dec	TH	Chapter 14: Contemporary Theatre in the United States		
7-Dec	T	Last Class	Final Review	
9-Dec	TH	Finals 10:30am		

Assignments

Assignment #1: Submit a professional Theatre review for class. **Due 8/30**

Quiz #1. Chapters 1-3. **9/2**

Assignment #2: Your life as a play. This is a two-page single spaced document that lists how you would produce and cast your own life if it were a play. What area would you focus on? How would you develop this and what type of the theatrical elements would you employ? Discuss how this would be produced; cast, presented and where would the action take place? Submit to Blackboard. **Due 9/5**

Quiz #2. Chapters 6-7. **9/14**

Assignment #3: Write a brief paragraph describing the content of your 5 min play. What is the action, what is the subject? How do you plan on executing the play? Visualize the core theatre elements and concepts. Submit to Blackboard. **Due 9/15**

Group project #1, Assignments 4,5 and 6. Write a 5 min play using 1 light cue, 1 sound cue, 1 prop, minimum of 2 actors with each character costumed. Each person included in this piece must keep a log of his or her participation, meeting or rehearsals for this assignment in your journal. This will be graded by peer evaluation at the end of the performance. Please submit script to Blackboard. **Due 9/28. Journals turned in during and at the end of the performance.**

Midterm Exam. Chapters 1-7 and *Midsummer* questions. **10/7**

Assignments 7, 8, and 9.

Write a critique/review of 3 Theatre Wesleyan productions: *A Midsummers Night Dream*, *Five Lesbians eating Quiche*, and *One Arm*. This assignment includes, for each play: A two page single spaced essay listing the production, director, venue, actors, action of the play (very brief synopsis in 1 or 2 paragraphs), design elements, and most importantly, how you felt about the production. Please submit a copy of your finished review before midnight the day before it is due **and** a photo of the ticket stub and program. I recommend you attend the whole duration of the production and well before the last performance in order to have ample time in writing your review. **Due 10/5,10/26 and 11/30.**

Quiz #3 Chapters 8-11. **10/28**

Group project #2, Assignment 10: Write and present an 6-8 min report on one of the Theatrical Genres. List theatre leaders and plays known in that Genres. Describe what innovative technique they used or why they are well known for that particular type of Genres. This can be presented in Power Point or any other such method. A journal log will also be completed writing about the process of working in a partnership to present the power-point. Follow assignment #6 guidelines. A rubric will be given out for this project. This will be graded by peer review from the class after the report is given in class. **Due 11/2**

Quiz #4 Chapters 12-14. **11/18**

Group project #3. Write, develop and perform a short script that is 10 min in length. This can be the same 5 min play developed further or something completely different. Be as creative as possible. This 10 min piece will include 2 light cues, 2 sound cues and a minimum of 3 actors costumed. Again each person included in this piece must keep a log of his or her participation, meeting or rehearsal for this assignment in your journal. This will also be graded by peer evaluation at the end of the performance. Please submit script to Blackboard. **TBD 11/18 or 11/30. Journals turned in during the process and at the end of the performance.**

Additional Assignments/in-class exercises: There will be additional assignments given out and due the next class period.

Final Exam- 10:30 am 12/9

Syllabus is subject to change