

T/H 11:20-12:45

BDA 216

3 credit hours

CRN 11111



TRUE BLUE CORE

General Education Category: Creativity and Cultural Expression

C1: Students will demonstrate intercultural understanding by building knowledge, self-awareness, and conceptions of global and intercultural perspectives, values, systems, and attitudes.

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to analyze plays as a means to understand dramatic forms and components, as well as how plays help us document and process the human experience.

Student Learning Outcomes - Students will acquire creative and formal tools useful for analyzing a script. We will work towards this challenge by:

1. cultivating a spirit of curiosity for reading play scripts
2. discovering and honing techniques for analyzing a script
3. developing vocabulary for discussing scripts and our own analysis
4. exploring how meaning is made and changed in adaptation
5. expanding our abilities to think critically about scripts' context, world-views, and ideologies
6. investigating how our own background and experiences inform our understanding of a script

Course Evaluation Policy

Analytic Exercises 1--4 60%

Each play will have an exercise associated with it, and a **hard copy** of the assignment brought to class

Production Critical Responses 20%

Students are required to attend and submit written reflection on performances of two live productions

Participation 20%

Students are required to fully contribute to class activities and discussion

Plagiarism and cheating are unacceptable.

Course Texts and Materials (*provided in D2L)

Poetics by Aristotle*

Interpreting the Play Script by Anne Fliotsos*

Visit to a Small Planet by Elinor Fuchs*

Detroit '67 by Dominique Morriseau

Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare

Shakespeare's R&J by Joe Calarco

Waiting for Godot by Samuel Beckett

Eurydice by Sarah Ruhl

Classroom Expectations

No cellphones once class begins unless permitted for in-class. Clean up after yourselves. Be respectful of others.

Last Day to Drop the Course

August 31: Last day to drop this course without a grade.

Attendance Policy

Attendance and participation are highly encouraged. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. If you are not able to attend class at the scheduled class time, please email Kate. If you miss a class, you are responsible for a) watching the recording of class before the next class meeting and b) submitting any assignments that were due in class.

Tucker Theatre Student Ticketing and Attendance Policy

Students **MUST present a valid MTSU ID/MTSU ID app** to receive a free ticket at Tucker Theatre performances. M#'s are not accepted. Students may receive 1 FREE ticket per production (not per performance). The Box Office will open 90 minutes before each scheduled performance.

Attendance: Attendance will be reported by use of the student's MTSU ID. The card will be scanned at the close of each performance (no early scans permitted) and a report of attendance will be sent to all instructors following the close of a production. Attendance will not be credited without an ID (no M#'s).

Late Arrival: Tucker Theatre and The Studio Theatre maintain a late arrival policy. Students arriving more than five (5) minutes after the show has begun will not be admitted to the performance and are not eligible for attendance credit, regardless of whether they have a ticket. Note that lines can be long at the box office, so arrive early. Seating for shows begins 30 minutes prior to show time.

Respect: Please be respectful of the theatre and performers. Disrespect or the use of electronic devices may result in patrons being asked to leave the theatre. Students dismissed from a performance are not eligible for attendance credit.

Studio Theatre Student Ticketing

All Studio Theatre productions are \$5, and seating is limited.

Note to Students with Disabilities

If you have a disability that may require assistance or accommodation, or you have questions related to any accommodations for testing, note takers, readers, etc., please speak with your instructor as soon as possible. Students may also contact the Office of Disabled Student Services (898-2783) with questions about such services. No accommodations will be made unless and until the Office of Disabled Student Services verifies those disabilities.

Do you have a lottery scholarship?

To retain Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship (TELS) eligibility, you must earn a cumulative TELS GPA of 2.75 after 24 attempted hours and a cumulative TELS GPA of 3.0 thereafter. A grade of C, D, F, or I in this class may negatively impact TELS eligibility. Dropping a class after 14 days may also impact eligibility; if you withdraw from this class and it results in an enrollment status of less than full time, you may lose eligibility for your lottery scholarship. For additional lottery scholarship rules please refer to your Lottery Statement of Understanding form via RaiderNet/PipelineMT. Additionally, you may review lottery scholarship requirements by contacting the MTSU Financial Aid Office at (615) 898-2830 or by visiting them online at <http://www.mtsu.edu/financial-aid/scholarships/tels.php>.

Helpful Dates:

Production 1: Sept 27-30

Production 2: Nov 7-10

Extra Credit

Students can receive 1 point by attending or participating in theatrical productions outside of the MTSU Departmental and Student Success Series productions. Check with me to make sure they count.

Course Requirements and Outline

- Aug 27/Aug 29 Syllabus and Course Overview/ What's a Play?
- Sep 3/Sep 5 *Visit to a Small Planet/ Interpreting the Play Script*
- Sep 10/Sep 12 Discuss *Poetics* and Elements of a Play/ Read and Discuss *Detroit '67*
- Sep 17/Sep 19 Read and Discuss *Detroit '67*
Due 9/24: Analytic Exercise #1
- Sep 24/Sep 26 Introduce Adaptations/ Read and Discuss *Romeo and Juliet*
Due 10/1: Production #1 Response
- Oct 1/Oct 3 Discuss Production #1/ Discuss *Romeo and Juliet*
- Oct 8/Oct 10 Read and Discuss *Shakespeare's R&J*
- ~~Oct 15/Oct 17~~ **Fall Break/** Watch *West Side Story*
Due 10/22: Analytic Exercise #2
- Oct 22/Oct 24 Adaptation Wrap-Up/*Interpreting the Play Script*
- Oct 29/Oct 31 Read and Discuss *Waiting for Godot*
Due 11/5: Analytic Exercise #3
- Nov 5/Nov 7 Read and Discuss *Waiting for Godot/Interpreting the Play Script*
Due 11/12: Production #2 Response
- Nov 12/Nov 14 Discuss Production #2/The Visual World of a Play
- Nov 19/Nov 21 Read and Discuss *Eurydice*
Due 11/26: Analytic Exercise #4/Images
- Nov 26/~~Nov 28~~ Present *Eurydice* Images/**Thanksgiving**
- Dec 3 Present *Eurydice* Images