

IAH 241D: 740 –THEATRE AND SOCIETY IN THE WEST
COURSE SYLLABUS
SPRING 2017
TUESDAYS: 9:10 AM – 10:00AM
CLASSES HELD IN: 103 ERICKSON HALL (ERICKSON KIVA)

DR. DANIEL SMITH
MARK COLSON
KAREN KANGAS-PRESTON
CURRAN JACOBS (TA)
KATHRYN STAHL (TA)
MEREDITH WAGNER (TA)
ANGELA WENDELBERGER (GRADER)

GOALS OF INTEGRATIVE STUDIES IN ARTS AND HUMANITIES:

Integrative Studies at MSU seeks to assist students to become more familiar with ways of knowing in the arts and humanities and to be more knowledgeable and capable in a range of intellectual and expressive abilities. IAH courses encourage students to engage critically with their own society, history, and culture(s); they also encourage students to learn more about the history and culture of other societies. They focus on key ideas and issues in human experience; encourage appreciation of the roles of knowledge and values in shaping and understanding human behavior; emphasize the responsibilities and opportunities of democratic citizenship; highlight the value of the creative arts of literature, theater, music, and arts; and alert us to important issues that occur among peoples in an increasingly interconnected, interdependent world.

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Artistic creativity seen through the prism of theatre, presented in historical context. Influences from art, literature, music, and religion. Focus on translation of social visions into dramatic art. Plays and themes variable by term.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, the students will be able to:

1. Develop an understanding of theatre and its relationship to society.
 - a. Identify the impact of society on performance practices.
 - b. Identify technological developments that influenced performance.
 - c. Discuss the impact of society on dramatic themes and presentation.
2. Integrate the arts and humanities into an understanding and appreciation of theatre.
 - a. Grow through an exploration of the creative process of theatre.
 - b. Rethink creating with unique methods of observation and abstraction.
 - c. Explore the translation of social visions into dramatic art.
3. Analyze the spectrum of performance styles and designs.
 - a. Plotting the impact of theatrical design on audiences throughout history.
 - b. Discover cultural elements that influence genres and styles in theatre.
 - c. Discuss the perils and rewards of art-making, artistic license and interpretation.
 - d. Use writing effectively to discuss visual elements of performance

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- ❖ IAH 241D Coursepack (Available at Collegeville Textbook Company)
- ❖ *Additional readings, dance performance videos, music recordings and art works, will be provided to the class via D2L.*

REQUIRED PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE:

- ❖ *Blood at the Root* (February 3- February 12)
 - By Dominique Morisseau
 - Arena Theatre, Auditorium Building
 - *Students Tickets \$10.00-\$12.50:* Tickets are available from the Wharton Center Box Office or 1.800.WHARTON or www.whartoncenter.com
- ❖ *Theatre2Film* (February 17-26)
 - The Fairchild Theatre, Auditorium Building
 - *Students Tickets \$12.00:* Tickets are available from the Wharton Center Box Office or 1.800.WHARTON or www.whartoncenter.com
- ❖ *Urinetown* (April 14-23)
 - By Mark Hollman and Greg Kotis
 - The Pasant Theatre, Wharton Center
 - *Students Tickets \$17.00:* Tickets are available from the Wharton Center Box Office or 1.800.WHARTON or www.whartoncenter.com

****DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST DAY TO SEE A REQUIRED PRODUCTION. A SOLD-OUT SHOW IS NOT AN ACCEPTABLE EXCUSE.***

SUGGESTED TEXTS:

- ❖ Gibaldi, Joseph, MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, Sixth Edition

COURSE EVALUATION

Procedures for Accomplishing Objective:

1. Thoughtful and creative completion of class assignments.
2. Applied understanding of the terms and theory covered in readings and presentations. This is accomplished through postings, papers and related assignments.

Requirements of Students:

1. Active participation following each presentation. Participation involves completing assignments by the due date.
2. **NO late papers, posting or projects will be permitted.** NO make-up dates will be permitted due to the process oriented nature of the course.
3. Successful completion of writings, papers and projects.
4. Respect, support, and encouragement of classmates through participation in-class and online.

You, the student, will be held accountable for keeping up with class assignments and projects. Deadlines detailed below.

Web-enhanced Learning: For those of you unfamiliar with online or blended learning, the onus is on the student to keep up with assignments and participate in postings according to deadlines. The benefit of online learning is your ability to work at your convenience and without distraction. The downside is that specific questions or concerns may not be addressed as in a regular classroom on a regular basis. Your learning and study practices may be challenged through online courses, but through diligence and adaptation, you may find this form of education a perfect match for you.

It is the student's responsibility to verify that all assignments, quizzes and postings have been submitted successfully on D2L.

GRADING BREAKDOWN:

- There are a total of 400 points possible for the course.
- Each assignment grade is evaluated on three criteria: "completion of work," "application of course materials," and "quality of work."
- Academic dishonesty will result in a course grade of 0.0.

Homework Assignments and Projects

(***Additional guidelines will be provided during online presentations***):

- Attendance/Participation 30 Points
 - Grade will be based on online presence and participation in the class demonstrations in the form of questions, volunteering and discussion on the content. Attendance points for each class session will be tied to an in-class assignment.
- Critical response essay on *Blood at the Root* 30 Points
- Critical response essay on *Theatre2Film* 30 Points
- Critical response essay on *Urinetown* 30 Points
- Weekly Assignments on D2L (10 pts. each) 140 Points
- Midterm 70 Points
- Final 70 Points

GRADING SCALE:

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|-------------------|-------------------|
| • 360 – 400 = 4.0 | • 280 – 299 = 2.0 |
| • 340 – 359 = 3.5 | • 260 – 279 = 1.5 |
| • 320 – 339 = 3.0 | • 240 – 259 = 1.0 |
| • 300 – 319 = 2.5 | • Below 240 = 0.0 |

CLASS ATTENDANCE:

- Attendance is **Mandatory** at all class sessions. Being present and receptive to the information, discussions, and critique sessions presented in class is essential for successful completion of the course.
- Please be courteous to your instructors and fellow students by arriving on time.

COURSE CALENDAR

Week	Date	Topic	Assignment	Assigned Reading in the Coursepack
1	1/10	The Audience/What is Theatre?	Audience Training Quiz	
2	1/17	Drama = Action	Storytelling Through Action Quiz	<i>Art in the Theatre</i>
3	1/24	Dramatic History	Fan Language Quiz	Dramatic History
4	1/31	Text & The Playwright	Dialogue Revision	<i>Text & The Playwright</i>
5	2/7	Theme	Whose Job is It Quiz	<i>Theme</i>
		Go see <i>Blood at the Root</i> (2/3-2/12)		
6	2/14	The Stage	Scenic Design StampIT	<i>Scene Design</i>
		Go see <i>Theatre2Film</i> (2/17-2/26)	<i>Blood at the Root</i> Critical Response due 2/19 by 10:00 PM	
7	2/21	Costumes	Costume Design StampIT	<i>Costume Design</i>
8	2/28	Lighting	Lighting Design StampIT	Lighting Design
			Critical response essay for <i>Theatre2Film</i> Due March 5 by 10:00pm	
9	3/14	MIDTERM (Class does not meet)	ONLINE (Due March 19 at 10:00 pm)	
10	3/21	Sound	Sound Design Quiz	Sound Design
11	3/28	Media	Media Design Quiz	Media Design
12	4/4	The Actor	Tactics, Objectives, Obstacles	The Actor
13	4/11	The Director	Premise Quiz	The Director
		Go See <i>Urinetown</i> (4/14-4/23)		
14	4/18	Dance	Dance StampIT	Dance
15	4/24	Musical Theatre	Musical Theatre Quiz	Musical Theatre
			Critical response essay for <i>Urinetown</i> Due April 30 by 10:00pm	
Final	5/2	FINAL	ONLINE (Due FRIDAY May 5th at 10:00pm)	

SYLLABUS SUBJECT TO CHANGE BASED ON THE NEEDS OF THE CLASS

UNIVERSITY POLICY AND PROCEDURES:

1. **Academic Honesty:** Article 2.3.3 of the [Academic Freedom Report](#) states that "The student shares with the faculty the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards." In addition, **The Center for Integrative Studies - Arts and Humanities** adheres to the policies on academic honesty as specified in General Student Regulations 1.0, *Protection of Scholarship and Grades*; the all-University Policy on *Integrity of Scholarship and Grades*; and Ordinance 17.00, Examinations. (See [Spartan Life: Student Handbook and Resource Guide](#) and/or the MSU Web site: www.msu.edu.)

Therefore, unless authorized by your instructor, you are expected to complete all course assignments, including homework, lab work, quizzes, tests and exams, without assistance from any source. You are expected to develop original work for this course; therefore, you may not submit course work you completed for another course to satisfy the requirements for this course. Also, you are not authorized to use the www.allmsu.com Web site to complete any course work in **IAH 241D: 740**. Students who violate MSU academic integrity rules may receive a penalty grade, including a failing grade on the assignment or in the course. Contact your instructor if you are unsure about the appropriateness of your course work. (See also <http://www.msu.edu/unit/ombud/dishonestyFAQ.html>)

2. **Accommodations for Students with Disabilities** (from the *Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities (RCPD)*): Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Requests for accommodations by persons with disabilities may be made by contacting the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities at 517-884-RCPD or on the web at rcpd.msu.edu. Once your eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, you will be issued a verified individual services accommodation ("RISA") form. Please present this form to me at the start of the term and/or two weeks prior to the accommodation date (test, project, etc.). Requests received after this date will be honored whenever possible.
3. **Drops and Adds:** The last day to add this course is the end of the first week of classes. The last day to drop this course with a refund and no grade reported is **2/3/17**. The last day to drop this course with no refund and no grade reported is **3/1/17**. You should immediately make a copy of your amended schedule to verify you have added or dropped this course.
4. **Commercialized Lecture Notes:** Commercialization of lecture notes and university-provided course materials is not permitted in this course.**
5. **Attendance:** Students whose names do not appear on the official class list for this course may not attend this class. Students who fail to attend the first four class sessions or class by the fifth day of the semester, whichever occurs first, may be dropped from the course.
6. **Internet:** Some professional journals will not consider a submission for publication if the article has appeared on the Internet. Please notify your instructor in writing if you do not want your course papers posted to the course Web site.
7. **Disruptive Behavior:** Article 2.3.5 of the [Academic Freedom Report](#) (AFR) for students at Michigan State University states: "The student's behavior in the classroom shall be conducive to the teaching and learning process for all concerned." Article 2.3.10 of the [AFR](#) states that "The student has a right to scholarly relationships with faculty based on mutual trust and civility." [General Student Regulation 5.02](#) states: "No student shall . . . interfere with the functions and services of the University (for example, but not limited to, classes . . .) such that the function or service is obstructed or disrupted. Students whose conduct adversely affects the learning environment in this classroom may be subject to disciplinary action through the Student Faculty Judiciary process.

**Note: The Code of Teaching Responsibility requires instructors who permit students to commercialize their class lecture notes to include a statement in their course syllabi that gives such permission. Absent such permission, students may not do so.

Integrity of Scholarship and Grades

At its February 24, 2009 meeting, Academic Council approved a motion from the University Committee on Academic Policy to revise the policy on Integrity of Scholarship and Grades. This policy is located in the Academic Programs catalog at <https://www.reg.msu.edu/AcademicPrograms/Text.asp?Section=112#s534>.