

TH 121-03 Fall 2019

**Capital University
INTRO TO THEATRE**

Instructor: Colton Weiss

Office Hours:

Tu/Th 2-3pm

Spielmen Hall #27

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COURSE OBJECTIVES:

To heighten the awareness of the theatre as a long-established fine art form; to examine theatre as it relates to the other fine arts; to aid the student in developing an awareness of the aesthetic and intellectual values to be obtained through the study of the art of the theatre, its literature, forms, styles, and contributing artists. To experience the art form in a variety of active ways. To examine the historical development of the theatrical arts and to study other forms involved with the theatre. Special emphasis is given to theatre as a means of communication and as a collaborative art. Classroom participation and a bit of performance are involved.

CLASS MEETINGS:

This class will meet 11-12:15 on Tuesday and Thursday in Blackmore room #203. Attendance and punctuality are vital to the class. Roll will be taken. Class participation and discussion are important to your work and education.

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

Participation	10%
Production Concepts (4)	20% (extra credit possible)
Show Critique Paper	10%
Midterm Test	10%
Scene Study	10%
Thesis/3 Sources	5%
Outline	5%
Final Paper/Presentation	15%
Final Exam	15%

GRADING SCALE:

100-90 = A 89-80 = B 79-70 = C 69-60 = D 59-0 = F

Recommended Texts:

Matthew Roudane. DRAMA ESSENTIALS

Theater: The Lively Art, 6/e, Edwin Wilson

Experiencing Theatre

PDF on iLearn

UPDATED SCHEDULE

Theatre History

Sept. 3 & 5

Intro/Genre and Criticism...It's All Greek to Me (Greek Theatre)

Greek Plays...Production basics

When in Rome (Roman and Medieval Theatre)

THE BACCHAE / ANTIGONE - PC

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Sep 10 & 12

Shakespeare's works

The Renaissance and Shakespeare...HAMLET - PC Assigned

Sep 17 & 19

More theatre tech/production

HAMLET – PC

MIDTERM EXAM

More History plus Performance

Sept 24 & 26

Restoration to Realism (How did we get here?)

Acting Styles (What is the method?)

Scene Study and Presentation Outline Assigned

THE THREE SISTERS - PC

Oct 1 & 3

American Theatre

Directing and the Production Team

Scene Rehearsal LAB

A DOLL HOUSE – PC

Technical Theatre and Design

Oct 8 & 10

The Rehearsal/Production Process

Design and Technical Theatre

Scene Rehearsal LAB

THE GLASS MENAGERIE—PC

Outline/Thesis Due

Oct 15/17

Design and Technical Theatre

Outline Feedback.

Scene Rehearsal LAB

Oct 22/24

Producing and Business

Professional Organizations and Unions

Scene Rehearsal LAB

Oct 29/31

Musical Theatre (Oklahoma to Hamilton)

Broadway, Off-Bway, West End, Regional theatre

Nov 5/7

Producing and Non-Traditional Casting

Class Viewing...

Nov 12/14

Class Viewing...

Scenes & Presentations

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Nov 19/21

Class Viewing...
Scenes & Presentations

Nov 26 – Last Day of class
Scenes & Presentation Make Ups
Final Review

Nov 28 – Thanksgiving Break (NO CLASS)

Dec 3 FINAL EXAM - The Final Exam (cumulative) will be Wednesday, Dec. 4 from 1-3 PM.
Cumulative Final Exam
Final Paper
Show Critique Due

Production Concept (PC)—You must hand in a total of four production Concepts on their respective due date. If you do more, the four highest grades will count. Briefly answer the following regarding the play that is due. Answer each separately. **One MUST be turned in by Sept. 5.** (Greek play/ANTIGONE).

1. **When/Where** is the play set? Would you change either? Both? Why? (Without significant re-writes to the play.)
2. **Look**—What should the set and costumes look like? Be specific. Consider the economic class Mood. Theme. How will these affect the look?
3. **Sound**—What should the play sound like? Music? Big effects?
4. **Challenges**—Difficult but vital effects, props, etc. needed to produce this play.
5. **Theme**—What do YOU want to say to the audience with this play?

You must see one **live performance** this semester for this class for the critique. You may critique more for extra credit. There will be a hand-out for this assignment at a later date

Scene Study - This assignment will require memorization and presentation of an open scene and a written study. A hand-out will be distributed later in the semester.

Paper/Presentation - This is a research assignment involving either a paper or oral presentation concerning a thesis developed by the student. A hand-out will be distributed later.

*Assignment rubrics and evaluation criteria will be explained as the semester progresses.

Goals and Grades

The purpose of this class is to enhance your appreciation of the theatre and drama in performance. For some, this serves as general enrichment while for others it meets a specific objective. The course is required for Communication majors and helps students meet the University Signature Learning PLOs in the Fine Arts. You are evaluated on the work you present and my observations of your contributions to the class. Your grades come from your work, your improvement, and the generally accepted standards of educational theatre. Showing up or simply completing an assignment does not guarantee you will receive the maximum points. Take pride in your work.

Class Format: Class is a mixture of lecture, performance, and discussion. Ask questions. Raise new ideas. Attendance is expected. You are responsible for notes and materials you may miss.

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Attendance Policy. You have two absences to use any way you like. After that, an absence must be excused. Each non-excused absence will count as ½ of one letter grade. An excused absence involves a school activity with a note from the sponsor, a health emergency with a note of verification (the Campus Health Center usually does not provide such notes), or a family emergency with a note of verification. A note from you does not constitute verification. A phone call or e-mail from you does not excuse an absence. The goal is to be fair to the entire class. If you are late three times, that equals an absence. This follows the posted attendance policy.

Submitting work: All assignments are expected on time. In class, the day it is due. PC's are due at the beginning of class. Other assignments are due by 5 PM. I will accept paper or electronic (email or iLearn submissions) copies of assignments. If an assignment is late, it will be reflected in the grade (5 pts. each calendar day). All written assignments must be typed unless you are instructed otherwise. Good writing is expected and will be a factor in evaluation. Multi-page assignments should be stapled before you hand them in to me. For this class, titles of plays should be in caps and/or underlined and/or in bold-face. In other words, not in quotes.

Electronics: I do not mind the use of laptops for note taking, but please be respectful of my time and do not use this as a chance to check social media or unnecessary messages. You may use phones to audio record lectures if you wish, but otherwise these should be silenced and put away. No food is permitted in class. Beverages are allowed within reason.

University Policy: Be aware of issues of academic integrity (a good thing) and plagiarism (not so good). We will also discuss this in class at a later date. University policies governing drop dates, penalties, plagiarism, incompletes, and academic integrity as detailed in the undergraduate bulletin, student handbook(s), and/or undergraduate time schedule will be observed. Any student requiring accommodations for taking notes or tests should make arrangements as early as possible by discussing their needs with me.

STATEMENT OF INSTITUTIONAL POLICY:

University policies governing drop dates, penalties, plagiarism, and academic integrity, as detailed in the university bulletin, student handbook(s), and/or undergraduate time schedule, will be observed.

CAPITAL UNIVERSITY RESOURCES:

Academic Success: The office of Academic Success (Blackmore Library, 2nd floor) assists all students in becoming more confident, independent lifelong learners. Provided services include the following:

- Content area Peer Tutoring for math, science, and most other subjects.
- A Writing Center that serves as a resource for students engaged in any stage of the writing process for assignments in any course.
- Supplemental Instruction (SI) in support of selected courses.
- Academic Success Coaching to assist students with developing strategies for time management, organization, test preparation and test-taking strategies, goal setting, registration system navigation, reading degree audits, course sequencing, and more.
- Online eTutoring (www.etutoring.org) for accounting, algebra, anatomy & physiology, calculus, chemistry, math, physics, statistics, and writing.
- Testing services to assist the Office of Disability Services in implementing testing accommodations for registered students.

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Students can schedule an appointment ahead of time by calling Academic Success at (614) 236-6327, emailing AcademicSuccess@capital.edu, or stopping by our learning center on the second floor of Blackmore Library. Appointments can also be scheduled by logging into tutortrac.capital.edu. For additional information about Academic Success programs and services, contact Director Bruce Epps at bepps@capital.edu or (614) 236-6461. You can also follow us on Twitter and Instagram @CapitalUSuccess for updates and information.

Disability Services

Capital University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you are seeking academic accommodations you are required to register with the Office of Disability Services (ODS). To receive academic accommodations for this class, please register with ODS and meet with me at the beginning of the semester. Further information may be obtained by contacting Dr. Jennifer Speakman, Assistant Provost and Disability Services Director, by email (jspeakman@capital.edu) or by telephone (614.236.7127). This syllabus is available in alternate format upon request.

Title IX – Sexual Harassment, Discrimination, and Misconduct

Capital University is committed to ensuring a safe environment free of discrimination on the basis of sex, including sexual misconduct and harassment. If you have experienced an incident of sex or gender-based discrimination, harassment, or sexual misconduct, we encourage you to report it. Capital University faculty are committed to supporting students, however, please understand that faculty are “responsible employees” of the University and must report incidents of sex- or gender-based discrimination, harassment, and sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator, Dr. Jennifer Speakman. If you would like to make a confidential report, please refer to Capital University’s Sex- or Gender-Based Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct policy for more information on reporting options: <http://www.capital.edu/Title-IX-and-Sexual-Harassment/>.

CAPITAL UNIVERSITY ABSENCE POLICY:

If a student misses a class due to a scheduled, university-approved event, such an absence is considered approved. Permissible events include musical or theater performances, academic conferences, and athletic competitions, but do not include practices, rehearsals, or attendance a university-approved events in which the student is not a participant. Generally, students should be permitted to make up any scheduled assignments, quizzes, or exams for university-approved absences. However, when students miss unique in-class learning experiences, faculty may require appropriate substitute assignments. If a student fails to provide adequate notice to the instructor in advance of an approved absence, the instructor may consider the absence unexcused. Students bear the ultimate responsibility for all missed class material.^[1]_[SEP]

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Cheating in any form will not be tolerated. See the Student Handbook (section on Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity)

ALL instances of violations of Academic Integrity will be reported to the Dean of Studies, the Director of the Academic Integrity Board, and/or any other appropriate individuals.

CREDIT HOUR: Definition of a Credit Hour: A credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally-established equivalency that reasonably approximates no less than: (1) one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester or trimester hour of credit, or ten to twelve weeks for one quarter hour of credit, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time; or (2) at least an equivalent amount of work as required in paragraph (1) of this definition for other activities as established by an institution, including laboratory work, internships, practica, studio work, and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours.

Department of Communication Learning Goal:

Goal 1: Prepare and deliver an effective public presentation that includes a clear message, coherent pattern, and needed supporting materials. (Scene Study, Research Presentation)
Rubric—at the end of the syllabus

Goal 2: Demonstrate the ability to analyze critically a communication event or artifact from a theoretical perspective. (Critique, Research Paper/Presentation) Rubric at the end of the syllabus

Goal 3: Demonstrate competence in a specific communication context. (Research Paper/Presentation, Scene Study, Exams) Rubric at the end of the syllabus

Signature Learning Outcomes for Fine Arts Classes

Capital University is committed to a liberal education that readies students for every arena of life. Liberal education develops intellectual skills, expands the breadth of learning through exploration of several modes of inquiry, and challenges students to examine foundational ethical and cultural assumptions. It enables students to think critically and to reflect on vocation, citizenship, service, and religious and ethical commitments. The Capital University curriculum is structured around Program Learning Outcomes that are delivered through majors, minors, foundational courses, and co-curricular experiences.

The Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) represent what students are able to do at the conclusion of a program, are broader than course and co-curricular outcomes, and are achieved as the culmination of multiple course and co-curricular activities. This class helps students meet the following Signature Learning PLOs:

- PLO 1: Students apply the skills of a liberally educated person to investigate problems and questions.
- PLO 3: Students interact knowledgeably and ethically with people and ideas from many cultures, religions, and identities.
- PLO 4: Students speak, write, read, and listen effectively.
- PLO 5: Students analyze, contextualize, and engage with human cultures.

Each PLO comprises several smaller Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs). SLOs are attained through course and/or co-curricular assignments and activities and are developed across curricular and co-curricular activities with a progression of introductory, intermediate, and advanced assignments. Thus, as students make progress on SLOs through class and co-curricular

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experiences they are also working to achieve the PLOs. This class helps students meet the following Signature Learning SLOs:

Student Learning Outcome	What Students do in the Class to Achieve the Outcome	How Students are Evaluated on the Outcome
Fine Arts Outcome 3: Students apply strategies to critically evaluate, process, and synthesize information.	Discussions Readings Assignments Viewings	Exams Participation Critique Production Concepts Research Assignment
Fine Arts Outcome 8: Students identify and evaluate physical, cultural, and religious/spiritual dimensions of the contemporary world.	Discussions Readings Assignments Viewings	Exams Participation Critique Production Concepts Research Assignment Scene Study
Fine Arts Outcome 12: Students explore the arts and humanities analytically, theoretically, contextually and/or performatively.	Discussions Readings Assignments Viewings	Exams Participation Critique Production Concept Research Assignment Scene Study

This syllabus is subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.