

Course description

The course will develop critical thinking, observation and communication skills as the students examine and discuss the elements of theatre. Classroom activities are designed to give students a fuller understanding of creative expression and collaboration.

Course outcomes. Through this course each student should be able to...

- ...develop a greater appreciation of the history of the theatre.
- ...recognize major dramatic works by genre and author.
- ...discuss the collaboration between actors, designers and the director in a play.
- ...express his or her critical evaluation of theatre in performance.

Textbook Cohen, Robert, *THEATRE*, (brief edition) McGraw-Hill.

Course requirements. In addition to our regular classroom activities, you are **required** to attend **two ESU theatre productions** and to write a critical response for each. **If you are unable to attend these performances, drop the class.**

Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor® Dreamcoat
Eurydice by Sarah Ruhl

Albert Taylor Hall
Bruder Theatre

Oct 13-16
Nov 30-Dec 3

Assignments

Attendance and participation	50 points
Quizzes and other assignments	50 points
First exam (9/28)	50 points
Play response (10/17)	50 points
Second exam (11/2)	100 points
Reaction paper (12/5)	100 points
Final exam (12/12)	100 points

Grading Scale

A	93-100%	465-500	C	73-77%	365-389
A-	90- 92%	450-464	C-	70-72%	350-364
B+	88- 89%	440-449	D+	68-69%	340-349
B	83- 87%	415-439	D	63-67%	315-339
B-	80- 82%	400-414	D-	60-62%	300-314
C+	78- 79%	390-399	F	0-59%	001-299

Exams and quizzes will be given throughout the semester. Quizzes may be given at any time, but you will be given ample notice before each exam. Unless there are extraordinary circumstances, you will be unable to make up an exam.

Contact information:

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620-341-5704

Throughout the semester, you'll be asked to respond informally and electronically to topics or issues that come up in our class discussions. If you are not in class the day the assignment is made, you will forfeit the points. This assignment cannot be made up.

Attendance statement. Absences affect your progress through the course. You will begin the semester with 50 attendance points. Each absence or tardy will lower your total by 5 pts.

Reaction Papers are 3-4 pages, word processed, and represent your reaction to a particular production. The paper is worth 100 points. If you receive an unsatisfactory mark, you may be asked to rewrite your reaction paper. Here are some guidelines for writing a good reaction paper:

Answer Goethe's three questions:

What is the artist trying to do?

How does the artist do it?

Is it worth the doing?

Write and rewrite. Proof carefully. Spelling, grammar and syntax count.

Be specific. Provide clear examples.

Write in the **active voice**.

Use **past tense** to describe the action of the play.

Provide **a cover page** that includes:

Your name

The name of the play

Where and when you saw the production

Course policies

- All assignments are due on the day they are assigned--at class time.
- Late assignments will not be graded. But you must turn them in to pass.
- All written assignments must be typed. Handwritten work will not be accepted.
- You may e-mail certain assignments.
- If you arrive late to class, you will be considered absent.
- Early departure from any class will also count as an absence.
- Participation in school plays/activities will not excuse you from class work.
- We will follow ESU's Dishonesty Policy [<http://www.emporia.edu/acadaff/dishonesty.htm>]

Disability statement

Emporia State University will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students need to contact the Director of Disability Services and the professor as early in the semester as possible to ensure that classroom and academic accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. All communication between students, the Office of Disability Services, and the professor will be strictly confidential.

Faculty-Initiated Student Withdrawal Procedure

Students should be aware that your instructor follows the university's policy of faculty-initiated student withdrawal. It reads as follows: If a student's absences from class or disruptive behavior become detrimental to the student's progress or that of other students in the class, the faculty member shall attempt to contact the student in writing about withdrawing from the class and shall seek the aid of the office of Vice President of Student Affairs to help insure contacting the Student. The Office of the Vice President of Student Affairs shall provide the student information about the existing appeals procedures. Upon receiving a written report from the faculty member, the Vice President of Student Affairs may initiate a student withdrawal from the class. None of the above implies or states that faculty members are required to initiate the student withdrawals for excessive absence. **[Policy and Procedures Manual 43.11]**

How to succeed in the classroom. The college classroom is an amazing place. But that is only true if you are present and actively engaged. You have made a sizable investment in your education. It is up to you to get your money's worth.

Be prompt.

Be prepared.

Plan ahead.

Consult the syllabus regularly.

Complete your work on time.

Don't let your dog near your homework.

Respect your classmates, your instructor and yourself.

Stay awake in class.

Pay attention.

Don't bring your cell phone to class.

 If you do, turn it off.

 Do not text or check email during class.

Participate in classroom discussions and exercises.

Engage your teacher and your classmates each class period.

Additional info at <http://www.emporia.edu/regist/enroll/syll.htm>

Course Calendar: Theatre Appreciation, Fall 2011

August	17	Course introduction. Review syllabus. Course policies.
	22	Chapter 1. What is the Theatre?
	24	Chapter 1 continued. (Excerpt from Really Useful website)
	29	Chapter 2. What Is a Play?
	31	Chapter 2 continued. (Excerpt from <i>Henry V</i>)
September 05		Labor Day. No class.
	07	Chapter 3. The Playwright. (Excerpt from <i>Shakespeare in Love</i>)
	12	Chapter 4. The Actor. (Excerpt from <i>Inside the Actors Studio</i>)
	14	Chapter 4 continued. (The Closet Scene from <i>Hamlet</i>)
	19	Chapter 5. The Director.
	21	Chapter 5 continued. (Hamlet's advice to the players)
	26	Review Chapters 1- 5.
28	FIRST EXAM.	
October	03	Chapter 9. The Musical Theatre.
	05	Chapter 9 continued. (Excerpt from <i>Broadway: The American Musical</i>)
	10	Chapter 9 continued. (Andrew Lloyd Webber and the megamusical)
	12	TBA
	17	First play response due - Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor® Dreamcoat
	19	Chapter 6. Designers and Technicians. (Scenery)
	24	Chapter 6 (Costumes and Makeup)
	26	Chapter 6 (Lighting, Sound, Special Effects)
31	Review Chapters 6 and 9.	
November	02	SECOND EXAM.
	07	Chapter 7. Theatre traditions: East and West.
	09	Chapter 7 continued. (Kabuki and Noh)
	14	Chapter 8. The Modern Theatre.
	16	Chapter 8 continued. (The not-for-profit theatre)
	21	TBA
	23	NO CLASS. Thanksgiving vacation.
	28	Chapter 10. Theatre Today.
30	Chapter 11. The Critic.	
December	05	Final reaction paper or play response due - Eurydice
	07	Review for final exam.
	12	FINAL EXAM. 10:10 a.m.