



Course Syllabus

DRAM 1310 - Introduction to Theater

Revision Date: 8/22/2016

Catalog Description: Survey of theater including its history, dramatic works, stage techniques, production procedures, and relation to other art forms. Participation in productions may be required.

Lecture hours = 3 Lab hours = 0

Prerequisites: N/A

Semester Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours per Week: 3

Lab Hours per Week: N/A

Contact Hours per Semester: 48

State Approval Code: 50.0501.51 26

Core Components and Related College Student Learning Outcomes

This course counts as part of the academic requirements of the Panola College Core Curriculum and an Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree. Yes No: If no, skip to Instructional Goals.

The items below marked with an X reflect the state-mandated outcomes for this course **IF this is a CORE course:**

- Critical Thinking Skills – to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation and syntheses of information
 - CT1: Generate and communicate ideas by combining, changing, or reapplying existing information
 - CT2: Gather and assess information relevant to a question
 - CT3: Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information
- Communication Skills – to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication
 - CS1: Develop, interpret, and express ideas through written communication
 - CS2: Develop, interpret, and express ideas through oral communication
 - CS3: Develop, interpret, and express ideas through visual communication
- Empirical and Quantitative Skills – to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
 - EQS1: Manipulate and analyze numerical data and arrive at an informed conclusion
 - EQS2: Manipulate and analyze observable facts and arrive at an informed conclusion
- Teamwork – to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal

- TW1: Integrate different viewpoints as a member of a team
- TW2: Work with others to support and accomplish a shared goal
- Personal Responsibility – to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making
 - PR1: Evaluate choices and actions and relate consequences to decision-making
- Social Responsibility – to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities
 - SR1: Demonstrate intercultural competence
 - SR2: Identify civic responsibility
 - SR3: Engage in regional, national, and global communities

Instructional Goals and Purposes:

The purpose of this course is to 1) create an academic atmosphere in which students may develop their intellects and skills and 2) provide courses so students may receive a certificate/an associate degree or transfer to a senior institution that offers Baccalaureate degrees through the study of an introduction to the varied histories of world drama and theater as an art form, as a profession, as a social event, and as an agent of cultural definition through the ages. The purpose of Introduction to Theatre is to increase students' understanding, appreciation, and critical perceptions of the theatrical event. Readings and lectures will focus on the elements of theatrical practice; artists and innovators of theatre throughout history; and on the theatre's development as an art form and a social phenomenon; participation in class forum discussions and sharing of critiques and short reports will offer avenues to explore students' individual theatrical interests; and attendance at theatrical events will offer first hand experience in theatre arts.

Learning Outcomes: [from the ACGM catalog]

After studying all materials and resources presented in the course, the student will be able to:

1. Analyze theater through written responses to play texts and/or live performance.
2. Demonstrate a basic knowledge of theater history and dramatic works.
3. Describe the collaborative nature of theater arts.
4. Demonstrate the relationship of the arts to everyday life as well as broader historical and social contexts.

Course Content:

A general description of lecture/discussion topics included in this course are listed in the Learning Objectives section of this syllabus.

Students in all sections of this course will learn the following content:

1. An appreciation of theatre as a unique art form
2. The process of critical analysis through varied and proven methods
3. An understanding of theatre and its impact on the context of particular historical eras
4. Structure of drama
5. Drama Disciplines and Design principles
6. The art of Collaboration among the many theatre disciplines required for a successful production.
7. Appropriate Audience Behavior

Methods of Instruction/Course Format/Delivery: (text in paragraphs)

This course is offered in the following formats consisting of lecture, research, discussion, projects, and performance elements. Face-to-face contact in class as well as online content delivered through Canvas.

Major Assignments / Assessments:

The following items will be assigned and assessed during the semester and used to calculate the student's final grade.

Assignments

1. Reading assigned chapter materials, provided reading material, website content. and completing assigned quizzes over provided material.
2. Participating in class discussion in face-to-face format and/or Discussion Topics for both online and face-to-face students.
3. Attending Live Theatre Performances – either at Panola College or in the local area.
4. Major Research Paper
5. Major Criticism Paper
6. Various projects over content.

Assessment(s):

1. Exams
2. Tests
3. Quizzes
4. Discussion Assignments
5. Project Assignments
6. Written Assignments
7. Attendance
8. Class Participation
9. Class Preparedness

Course Grade:

The grading scale for this course is as follows:

- Examinations & Quizzes – 40%
- Projects & Papers – 40%
- Final Exam – 15%
- Participation/Attendance – 5%

Texts, Materials, and Supplies:

- Theatre – Brief – by Cohen & Sherman – 11th Edition:
- Norton Anthology of Drama – Gainer/Garner – short Edition
- Access to Canvass

Required Readings:

- Chapters 1 – 11 - Textbook
- Assigned Plays from Norton Anthology
- *What We Talk About When We Talk About Good* – TCG
- *Assigned portions of The Poetics*
- *Shakespeare and the Syrian Refugee Children*
- *Poli's 36 Dramatic Situations*
- *Excerpts from Backstage Handbook*
- *Frytag's Pyramid*

Recommended Readings:

- [Works of William Shakespeare – First Folio](#)
- *Play Directing* – Hodge
- [The Structure of Playwrighting](#) - Smiley

Other:

- For current texts and materials, use the following link to access bookstore listings: <http://www.panolacollegestore.com>
- For testing services, use the following link: <http://www.panola.edu/elearning/testing.html>
- If any student in this class has special classroom or testing needs because of a physical learning or emotional condition, please contact the ADA Student Coordinator in Support Services located in the Administration Building or go to <http://www.panola.edu/student-success/disability-support-services/> for more information.
- Withdrawing from a course is the student's responsibility. Students who do not attend class and who do not withdraw will receive the grade earned for the course.
- Student Handbook, *The Pathfinder*: <http://www.panola.edu/student-success/documents/pathfinder.pdf>