

Course Outline for: THTR 2150 Script Analysis

A. Course Description

- 1. Number of credits: 3
- 2. Lecture hours per week: 3
- 3. Prerequisites: None
- 4. Corequisites: None
- 5. MnTC Goals: Goal #6 Humanities and Fine Arts

Focus on analyzing play scripts with a view to discovering production and performance values and aesthetics. Intensive reading of a variety of plays from different periods and styles. Discussion of options for interpreting a script for performance. Critical analysis of structure, character, theme, dialogue, genre, and style, from the point of view of the actor, director, designer, or critic.

B. Date last reviewed/updated: February 2022

C. Outline of Major Content Areas

- 1. Script reading and analysis
- 2. Production personnel of the theatre
- 3. The Aristotelian elements of drama
- 4. Visual concepts and metaphor for the stage
- 5. Implementation of production choices though analysis and design projects
- 6. Critical analysis of plays in production

D. Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- 1. Describe how theatre conventions and the social and historical context of drama are shaped by the culture and time in which it was written. (Goal 6a)
- 2. Develop an understanding of the principal approaches to dramatic production from the point of view of the actor, designer, or director. (Goal 6b, 6d, 2b, 2d)
- 3. Develop analytical abilities and vocabulary to identify elements such as genre, conflict, plot structure, units/beats, subtext, theme, style, social context, etc. in dramatic works. (Goals 6c, 6e)
- 4. Become familiar with the means by which the elements of production can establish and reinforce the concepts and meaning of a script. (Goals 6d, 6e, 2b, 2d)
- 5. Build skills in character and scene analysis. (Goals 6d)
- Develop a critical ability to analyze production choices related to the interpretation of a script including its classification of dramatic structure, genre, and style as well as the ways in which the performers and designers may have interpreted the playwright's intent. (Goal 6b, 6c, 6e, 2b, 2d)
- 7. Develop an appreciation for the collaborative process necessary in bringing a play script from the page to the stage. (Goals 6d)

E. Methods for Assessing Student Learning

- 1. Written responses to play texts and textbook readings
- 2. Quizzes and Exams
- 3. Written analyses from the point of view of director, actor, or designer
- 4. Design projects

F. Special Information

None