

Course Syllabus - Final

THTR 428: Applied Theatre

Instructor: Deb Currier

This is the final syllabus we created/agreed upon as a class

Applied Theatre: Fall 2016

Instructor: Deb Currier

Required Text: *Applied Theatre: International Case Studies and Challenges for Practice*; Monica Pendergast and Juliana Saxton, eds; Articles and readings as assigned.

Course Goals: Students who have successfully completed this course will be able to...

Course Objectives and Assessment

Objective:	Assessment Method:
• to acquire a working knowledge of the contemporary theories and practices of Applied Theatre; the active skills necessary to participate in an Applied Theatre project.	Q & Q written responses; The Exam
• to develop an understanding, methodology and skill level in the tools and techniques of Applied Theatre.	In-class discussions of readings and activities; in-class creative response activities
• to learn the basic tenets behind the philosophy of Applied Theatre; the basic skills necessary for being an Applied Theatre teaching artist; the	In-class exercises/activities/demonstrations; The Exam; final projects
• to actively and creatively explore Applied Theatre as an art form.	In-class activity days; final creative project

This course meets the following theatre program student learning outcomes and objectives:

Theatre Learning Outcomes:

1. Knowledge of the role of theatre in shaping our past, present and future

Theatre Program Objectives:

2. Analyze and interpret dramatic literature and performance from the standpoint of designer, performer, director, playwright or critic
3. Use the tools and technology basic to theatrical production safely and efficiently

Departmental Assessment and learning objectives can be found at: www.wvu.edu/theatre

Course Requirements and Expectations

Attendance/Participation: You will receive 5 points for each class attended, for a total of 100 points possible (20 class meetings).

Readings and Q&Qs:: You are to post on canvas by NOON the day *prior* to class discussion meeting (so that would be each Tuesday, since we meet Mon/Weds and Weds are reading discussion days) a response to the lecture/readings in the written form of **one quote** and **one question** (Q & Q). This will be used to generate the responses and discussions of the material as needed.

It is important to note the difference between *responding to* and *reacting to* something you have read or heard – especially the theories and concepts you will be learning about in this course.

- Responding = opening up and receiving the impressions and communications of the subject and/or work – an *inquiry* mindset that raises questions

- Reacting = resisting seeing what is there; reactions can interfere with communication because reactions tend to come from our own personal or cultural biases and prejudices (ex: saying a person *should have* acted/thought in a certain way is reacting rather than responding)

The Exam: as discussed in class, The Exam will be a traditional test on the readings, terms and lectures (some stuff will come from me actually lecturing and not from a reading!). It will consist of a mixture of short-answer essay, fill-in-the-blank and multiple choice.

Final Creative Project (check-ins included): Your final project will be approved by the professor, but is open to just about any form of in-depth, cumulative response to what you have learned about applied theatre through this course. You will complete a *draft* IPAD (see attached) for Check In #1 and a *revised draft* for Check-In #2 and the completed version of the IPAD will accompany your final project, whether it be a submission or activity or ... TBD! ***ALL VERSIONS OF THE IPAD WILL BE SUBMITTED VIA CANVAS UPLOAD IN WORD BY 8:30AM ON THE DATE DUE!***

Evaluation

Your final grade will be determined as follows:

Attendance/Participation.....	100 pts
1 st Q & Q	20 pts
Q&Qs on readings.....	60 pts (10 pts per chapter, 6 chapters)
The Exam.....	40
Final creative project, Check In #1.....	20
Final creative project, Check In #2.....	20
<u>Final creative project presentation.....</u>	<u>40</u>
TOTAL: 300 pts	

Letter equivalents are determined by dividing the top half of the total points for any assignment into 4 equal lettered “zones.” The same is true for the final total, which is how I will ultimately arrive at a letter grade to report to the university. So...

- 300-263 = A range: 300-276 = A; 275-263= A-
- 262-225 = B range: 262-250 = B+; 249-237 = B; 236-225 = B-
- 224-186 = C range: 224-212 = C+; 211-199 = C; 198-186= C-
- 185-150 = D range: 185-173 = D+; 172-160 = D; 159-147 = D-
- 146 and below = F

CONTENT POLICY: This course presumes your willingness and commitment to engage responsibly with the ideas raised by reading, writing and addressing challenging topics in a broad range of cultural contexts. Course participants should be alert to the fact that this course examines subject matter that includes content, imagery, language and situations that might be challenging and/or disturbing to some. Course materials will oblige students to engage seriously with subject matter, potentially addressing diverse spiritual traditions, obscenity, censorship, violence, war, race, religious fundamentalism, pornography, nudity, transgender identity, homosexuality, AIDS, sexual labor, feminism, self-harm/suicide, and PTSD, among other potentially controversial topics. *By remaining in this course, you are obligating yourself to reading, viewing, and discussing such works as you complete the requirements of the class. Additionally, by remaining in this course, you are making a commitment to treating these subjects, your classmates and the instructional staff with courtesy, respect and maturity.*

If you feel that some of these subject matters will be too much of a conflict for you to expose yourself to, this might not be a good class fit for you.

Planned Course Schedule

Mon 9/25	Activity day
Weds 9/28	Reading and Q&Q on: Preface, Chapters 1 & 2
Mon 10/3	Activity day

Weds 10/5 Reading and Q&Q on: ONE Chapter of your choice from Part II (chapters 3-5)
 Mon 10/10 Activity day; **final project *ideas* due**
 Weds 10/12 Reading and Q&Q on: ONE Chapter of your choice from Part II (chapters 3-5)
 Mon 10/17 Activity day
 Weds 10/19 Reading and Q&Q on: ONE Chapter of your choice from Part III (chapters 6-11)
 Mon 10/24 Activity day; **Final Project Check In #1**
 Weds 10/26 Reading and Q&Q on: ONE Chapter of your choice from Part III (chapters 6-11)
 Mon 10/31 Activity day
 Weds 11/2 Reading and Q&Q on: ONE Chapter of your choice from Part III (chapters 6-11)
 Mon 11/7 Activity day
 Weds 11/9 Reading and Q&Q on: Chapter 12
 Mon 11/14 Activity day: work in groups on experimental AT projects
 Weds 11/16 Activity day: work in groups on experimental AT projects; **Final Project Check in #2**
 Mon 11/21 Presentation of group experimental projects (40 mins each)
 (Thanksgiving Break)
 11/28 The Exam: on readings/lectures/discussions/definitions, etc
 11/30 ***final presentations round 1***
Final: Monday, Dec 5 10:30-12:30: Final Presentations round 2