



Course Syllabi

Course Title: Theatre Appreciation

Course Number: THTR 20100

Instructor Name:

Instructor Email:

Last Updated: Fall 2026

Course Description:

Theatre Appreciation (THTR 20100) develops understanding and appreciation of the theatre role in the modern world. It includes a seminar approach in discussion of the nature of theatre, critical analysis of drama, the actor, the director, design, and careers in the theatre. It also deals with professional, regional, community, and college theatre. All discussions and work are related to current stage productions which students are required to attend.

Course Prerequisites:

None

Course Access:

Assignments will be posted on Google Classroom and FACTS. If you need to submit an assignment electronically, please submit it on Google Classroom.

Course Goal:

The goal of this course is to help to direct the student to the understanding of how theatre (and all art for that matter) is an inextricable aspect of humanity- to show how and why we, as human beings have maintained our passion for theatre due to the insatiable need to express ourselves.

Student Learning Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course the student should have developed a foundational understanding of play analysis, the various roles of theatre artists and how those artists create theatre, and selected major periods of theatrical history and their respective influences on the art form.

Learning Resources & Texts

- **Required Textbook:** Basic Drama Projects, 9th Edition
- **Additional Readings:** Drama Teacher Academy Curriculum

Assignments

- *Homework:* THREE hours of stage work are required each quarter. This can be set crew work, costume or prop work, actual acting in a play or other time spent in behind-the-scenes work. Some daily work will be assigned. Written work is graded on the clarity of work, as well as expectations of assignment being met.
- *Papers:* TWO play critiques are due per semester. Criteria for critiques will be discussed in class. One is due in the first quarter, one is due in the third quarter.
- *Journals:* Most classes will begin with a journal entry. These will be graded on clarity of thought and thoroughness of your responses.
- *Presentations:* You will prepare monologues and partner scenes that will be performed for the class. Criteria for these will be discussed in class.

Grading Scale:

GRADING SCALE: The following scale will be used to calculate total grades:

94-100 – A	80-82 – B-	67-
90-93 – A-	77-79 – C+	63-
87-89 – B+	73-76 – C	60-
83-86 – B	70-72 – C-	Below
69 – D+		
66 – D		
62 – D-		
60 – F		

Homework – 20%, Papers – 20%, Journals – 20%, Presentations – 40%
Semester grades – First Quarter Grade – 42.5%, Second Quarter Grade – 42.5%, Semester Performance – 15%

Course Evaluation:

Students will be provided with an opportunity to evaluate the course at the end of the semester. This will be presented as a Google Form.

Academic Misconduct / Plagiarism / AI:

Academic Misconduct, including plagiarism (using other people's ideas/words and not giving them credit thus implying the work is your own original work) or using your own work from a previous course without the express permission of the instructor, is taken very seriously at any learning institution. It is taken very seriously in this class. Please be aware of what behaviors constitute academic misconduct ([See Bulletin, Code of Students Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct Part II. A.](#)) If caught cheating or plagiarizing, a student may receive no credit on the assignment and may result in an F for the course. Any instances of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Care and your Department Chair and may result in expulsion from the University. Additional potential consequences can be found under: potential consequences (See Bulletin, [Code of Students Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct, Part III. A.](#): i.e., failure of the assignment, failure of the course and/or dismissal from the university) of such behavior.

Student Support Services

Purdue University Fort Wayne is committed to your academic and personal success. Visit the [Student Support Services](#) page for a list of student support services, including academic services, technology services, health and wellness, and support from administrative offices. For help with technology, including Brightspace, visit the [IT Services Student Technology Support](#) page.

If you observe and/or are made aware of student behavior that leaves you feeling concerned, worried, and/or alarmed, trust your instincts and say something. The CARE Team can assist with the student of concern, whether that's you or someone you are referring. Report the concern through the online CARE referral form. Please note that this form is not for emergencies. If you know of a student who is injured, is injuring themselves or others, or is threatening injuries to themselves or others, please call 911 immediately.

Your emotional wellness and mental health are important. If you have a mental health disorder, are struggling with your mental health, your stress overwhelms your ability to cope with it, or you find yourself needing emotional support, please talk to someone. If you or someone you know is in a mental health crisis situation, call 911 or go to the local emergency room. Otherwise, please reach out to our Center for Student Counseling (CSC). All currently enrolled PFW and IUFW students have access to free counseling at the center. To make an appointment to talk with a counselor call 260-481-6200 or email csc@pfw.edu.

Course Schedule

Week One: INTRODUCTION (Lessons 1-2)

- Ensemble Building Unit/*The Empathetic Classroom* Unit
- Introduction, Activities, Begin Monologue
- *Empathetic Classroom* Unit - Lessons 1 - 2

Week Two: UNIT ONE (Lessons 3-5)

- *What is Theater?* Unit
- *Empathetic Classroom* Unit - Lesson 2
- Monologue Activities

Week Three: UNIT TWO (Lessons 6-8)

- *Stage Movement* Unit
- *Empathetic Classroom* Unit - Lesson 3
- Select show for final performance

Week Four: UNIT THREE (Lessons 9-11)

- *Pantomime* Unit
- *Empathetic Classroom* Unit - Lesson 3-4
- Begin *Tools of Scene Work* Unit to prepare for Two Person Scenes

Week Five: UNIT FOUR (Lessons 12-13)

- *Ancient Greek Theatre* Unit
- Finish *Empathetic Classroom Unit* - Lesson 5
- Begin work on Two Person Scenes

Week Six: UNIT FIVE (Lessons 14-16)

- *Improvisation* Unit, Part One
- Blocking Unit for Two Person Scene and Final Show

Week Seven: UNIT SIX (Lessons 17-18)

- *Improvisation* Unit, Part Two
- *Script Analysis* Unit, Part One

Week Eight: UNIT SEVEN, WEEK ONE (Lessons 19-21)

- Preparations for Two Person Scenes
 - Finalize memorization, blocking, set, costumes, etc.
- *Script Analysis* Unit, Part Two

Week Nine: UNIT SEVEN, WEEK TWO (Lessons 22-24)

- Performance for Two Person Scenes
 - Analysis, Reflection, clean up, etc.

Week Ten: UNIT EIGHT, WEEK ONE (Lessons 25-26)

- *Elizabethan Theatre* Unit, Part One
- Tech prep for Final Show
- Developing a Physical Character

Week Eleven: UNIT EIGHT, WEEK TWO (Lessons 27-28)

- *Elizabethan Theatre* Unit, Part Two
- *Theatre Etiquette* Unit – Lessons 1-2

Week Twelve: UNIT NINE, WEEK ONE (Lessons 29-30)

- *Playwriting* Unit, Part One
- *Theatre Etiquette* Unit – Lesson 3

Week Thirteen: UNIT NINE, WEEK TWO (Lessons 31-33)

- *Playwriting* Unit, Part Two
- *Theatre Etiquette* Unit – Lessons 4-5

Week Fourteen: UNIT NINE, WEEK THREE (Lessons 34-35)

- *Playwriting* Unit, Part Three
- Close Reading – Script Analysis

Week Fifteen: UNIT TEN, WEEK ONE (Lessons 36-38)

- *Scenic Design* Unit , Part One
- Monologue Activities

Week Sixteen: UNIT TEN, WEEK TWO (Lessons 39-40)

- *Scenic Design* Unit , Part Two
- Types of Stages
- Rehearsals for final show

Week Seventeen: UNIT ELEVEN (Lessons 41-43)

- *Front of House* Unit
- Final rehearsals for FINALS project – run whole show – offer final critiques

Week Eighteen

- Review, activities, reflect on FINALS performance, watch [*Noises Off*](#)
 - Analysis, Study, Viewing of Theatrical Performance.
- Improv Games

Additional Information: