Theatre Appreciation

DRAM 1310 .002  Instructor: David Raine
Online / D2L/Livestream  Email: rainedavid@sfasu.edu
Zoom Meeting on Thursdays at 10 a.m.
Virtual Office Hours:  Wed. 10 – 10:50

Required Texts:  A Raisin in the Sun by Lorraine Hansberry
                 Dog Sees God by Bert V. Royal
                 Oedipus Rex by Sophocles (free online)

Course Objective:  The intent of this course is to familiarize the student with one of the oldest and most vital arts forms in our culture. The student should complete the class having achieved a basic understanding of the Where, What, When and How’s of theatre as an art form. Most importantly, the course should help a student develop a critical appreciation of the art form.

Class Format:  I will be providing links to my recorded PowerPoint lectures that will cover all of our required subject matter. You will be responsible for keeping up with viewing these recorded lectures. Once a week (Thursdays at 10 a.m.) I will host a Zoom meeting that you will be required to attend. Any additional Zoom meetings with the class will be scheduled as necessary.  CHECK D2L EVERY DAY, AS THIS WILL BE OUR PRIMARY MEANS OF COMMUNICATION AND IS ALSO WHERE YOU FIND ANY LINKS TO LECTURES, MEETINGS, AND ASSIGNMENTS.

Grading:  Grading will be determined by the following—
            3 exams  50%
            3 play quizzes  20%
            1 play critique  15%
            Lecture assignments  15%
            100%

Exams:  There will be three exams covering the lecture information. These exams will be a combination of question formats (multiple choice, true/false, fill in the blank).

Quizzes:  There will be three short quizzes over the three plays you will be required to read for class. These quizzes will be multiple choice and designed to ascertain whether or not you have read the plays.

Play Critiques:  You will be required to participate in one play critique this session. A handout with critique guidelines will be posted on D2L, and what I expect from a critique will be discussed in class. The production you will write your critique on will be Dog Sees God.
**Play Performances:** You will be required to view assigned stage productions during the semester. One of these performances will be used for your play critique. You will be required to view the productions of *No Exit* and *Dog Sees God*. Both plays will be available as a livestream and *Dog Sees God* MAY become available as an in-person event, as well. Both plays have a $5.00 admission. There will be other productions you will be responsible for viewing, but I will provide you links to those.

**Lecture Assignments:** There will be lecture assignments for which you will receive a pass/fail grade. Earnest completion of these assignments will result in a passing grade. These assignments will be completed and put into a D2L dropbox.

**Attendance Policy:** You will be expected to attend our Thursday Zoom meeting. Failure to attend these meetings will negatively impact on your grade. Missing more than half the Thursday meetings may result in a failing grade for the class.

**ZOOM Meetings:** Regarding any Zoom meetings you are required to attend, please adhere to the following guidelines:

-- Turn on the video and audio settings so that you can participate both visually and aurally.
-- Fully participate in the class and not be preoccupied with other activities such as cooking dinner, taking a walk, hanging out with family, playing computer games, doing other work on the computer, texting and playing on social media, etc.
-- Know that under no circumstances should any student attend class while driving a vehicle or operating machinery.
-- Please attend zoom sessions in proper attire.
-- Be courteous to others, and not share information/pictures that are illegal or offensive.

**EEOs (Exemplary Educational Objectives):**
To demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
To understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social context.
To respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.
To articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.
To develop an appreciation for the aesthetic principles that guide or govern the humanities and arts.
To demonstrate knowledge of the influence of literature, philosophy, and/or the arts on intercultural experiences.

**Academic Integrity:** Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty:** Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use
Unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one’s own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one’s paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp

Any cheating or plagiarizing on any assignment or test will result in a failing grade for the assignment, and may, at the instructor’s discretion, result in failure of the course.

**Withheld Grades:** Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

**Students with Disabilities:** To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

**Schedule**
(subject to change)

Here are the topics that will be covered for each exam:

**EXAM ONE**
Intro, Audience, Stage Spaces, Greek Theatre, Producer, Director

**EXAM TWO**
Acting, Musical Theatre, Set Design, Costume Design, Light Design, Sound/Makeup Design

**EXAM THREE**
Plot and Elements of Plot, Tragedy and Related Forms, Comedy and Related Forms, Medieval Theatre, Elizabethan Theatre