Syllabus: Theatre History II

Instructor: Dr. Inga Meier
Semester: Fall 2020
Email: meieri@sfasu.edu
Course Number: 4361.001
Office Hours: Mondays 11:00 am – 12:30 pm
Wednesday 11:00 am – 12:30 pm
Fridays 10:45 am - 12:45 pm
Office hours are also available by appointment.
Office hours will be over zoom. If somebody arrives before you, you may have to wait in the “waiting room,” just as you would if somebody were already in my physical office prior to your arrival.
Zoom links for each of the three days are listed in the “Office Hours” section of the “Getting Started” module.
Office Location: McKibben 404
Mailbox: McKibben 404 (M-F, 8 am-5 pm)

I will be available to answer emails roughly 12:00 – 5:00 pm daily. However, if I have a meeting, another class, or office hours there will be a delay of a couple of hours. If you email me after 5:00 pm, it is likely that I may not be able to respond until the next day.

Preferably, use the SFA address listed above to send emails related to the course. Please include “Play Analysis” somewhere in the subject line. Because it is difficult to monitor multiple email accounts at once, if you email me through D2L, there is a strong chance that I will not see the email for several days, and I will refer you back to my SFA email.

Please Note: The syllabus may change at the discretion of the instructor. Notification of changes will be made through Brightspace.

Course Description

This course will study the history of theatre from roughly 1800 to the present. This includes a study of the physical theatre, acting styles, costumes, sets, theories of drama, theatrical movements, and representative plays. To some extent, this will require the memorization of significant dates, names, and terminology. More importantly, however, we will explore the complex relationships between the dramatic text, theatrical productions, and audiences.
Course Goals

Program Learning Outcomes: Students who successfully complete this course will have achieved mastery of the following Program Learning Outcomes as identified by the School of Theatre:

- The student will demonstrate an understanding of theatre history and a variety of theatrical styles. (All degree plans.)

Student Learning Outcomes: Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

- Identify the most significant people, plays, and events from the modern theatre.
- Trace themes in dramatic theory and criticism in the modern period.
- Conduct original research in the dramaturgy and/or staging of modern plays.
- Demonstrate mastery of the terminology of the theatres of multiple civilizations.

Course Materials

Required Texts:

- *Woyzeck* by Georg Büchner (PDF)

The books are available at the campus Barnes and Noble in the student center. They have not been ordered through other bookstores. You may procure the book however you choose (campus bookstore, online, textbook rental, locally owned bookstores, sharing with a friend, etc.). However, it is your responsibility to have completed the required reading by the due date.

Required Technology:

This course will be delivered through the university’s Learning Management System (LMS), Brightspace. Each student is required to have access to a computer with internet capabilities in order to access the course. Each student is also required to have a working, university (sfasu.edu) email account.

As a student of Stephen F. Austin State University, you have free access to this course’s Brightspace site. You will need to access the course regularly throughout the semester. Assignments for this course will be submitted electronically through Brightspace, unless otherwise instructed. All other submitted files must be in Word format.
Technical Support

If at any point during the course you experience technical difficulties in Brightspace, please let your instructor know immediately.

You will also need to contact the SFASU Brightspace Support Team by email (d2l@sfasu.edu) or phone (936.468.1919) for technical help.

Class Attendance and Excused Absence: Policy 6.7

Regular, punctual attendance, documented participation, and, if indicated in the syllabus, submission of completed assignments are expected at all classes, laboratories, and other activities for which the student is registered. Based on university policy, failure of students to adhere to these requirements shall influence the course grade, financial assistance, and/or enrollment status. The instructor shall maintain an accurate record of each student's attendance and participation as well as note this information in required reports and in determining final grades. Students may be excused from attendance for reasons such as health, family emergencies, or student participation in approved university-sponsored events. However, students are responsible for notifying their instructors in advance, when possible, for excusable absences. Whether absences are excused or unexcused, a student is still responsible for all course content and assignments. Students with accepted excuses may be permitted to make up work for up to three weeks of absences during a semester or one week of a summer term, depending on the nature of the missed work. Make-up work must be completed as soon as possible after returning from an absence.

Academic Integrity

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/student_academic_dishonesty.pdf.

You are expected to be in full compliance with both the SFA policy and the School of Theatre policy:

SFA policy: 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.
**School of Theatre policy:** The School of Theatre expects students to maintain the highest standards of academic conduct. Misrepresenting someone else's work as your own or knowingly allowing someone else to represent your work as his/hers constitutes academic dishonesty. Such behavior is antithetical to our work as scholars, as artists, and as members of a community founded on trust and mutual respect. It is an insult to faculty and an affront to honest students. Penalties for academic dishonesty may range from failure of a specific project to failure of the course, suspension from the production season for up to one year, and referral to university authorities for further action, which may include suspension or expulsion from the university.

**Please Note:** You are expected to be familiar with and able to demonstrate proper procedures for citations, following either MLA or Chicago Style guidelines, both of which are available online. Failure to cite sources is a form of academic dishonesty and will be treated accordingly. Further, turning in an assignment that you have turned in elsewhere is considered self-plagiarism and will be considered a form of academic dishonesty. I will trust that you are invested in your own education and will not cheat. However, this trust should not be confused for a lack of vigilance on my part. If you are caught, I will consider it a violation of personal trust and will not hesitate to penalize you to the fullest extent possible. I guarantee that the penalty you may incur for a late assignment will be less than the penalty for academic dishonesty.

**Diversity + Inclusion**

This class engages material covering a diverse range of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender, age, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, and disability. Some of these materials may be offensive by contemporary standards. Their inclusion should be not be interpreted as condoning discriminatory behaviors, and is intended to be engaged critically within the political and social contexts of the time in which the material was produced. Further, the expression of discriminatory remarks by students within the classroom or within submitted assignments will not be tolerated and may constitute disruptive behavior under the student code of conduct. Further, the expression of discriminatory views or language by students within the classroom or within submitted assignments can, at the discretion of the instructor, result in punitive measures, ranging from failure of a specific assignment to failure of the class and/or disciplinary action.

**Religious Holidays**

The university calendar observes Christian holidays. However, I know that it is possible that you practice a different faith. Should this be the case, and should the observation of that faith require you to practice holidays other than those accommodated by the university calendar, I ask that you let me know by the end of the second full week of class, so that we can adjust your attendance requirements accordingly.

**Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities: Policy 6.1 and 6.6**

**If you have a disability:** 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/.

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