Syllabus: Theatre History I

Instructor: Dr. Inga Meier
Semester: Fall 2021
Email: meieri@sfasu.edu (Please use only this email! I do not regularly check my D2L email.)
Course Number: 4360.001
Zoom Class Meetings: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:00 – 3:15 pm, as outlined in the “Course Calendar” in the “Getting Started” module
Office Hours: Times:
  - Mondays: 2:00 – 2:45 pm
  - Tuesdays: 12:45 – 1:45 pm, 3:30 – 5:00 pm
  - Wednesdays: 2:00 – 2:45 pm
  - Thursdays: 12:45 – 1:45 pm
Exceptions: Office hours will not be held during the week of the “Getting Started” module, during the University holidays, dead week or finals week. 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: Zoom links for office hours and class sessions are listed in the “Zoom Links: Office Hours and Class Meetings” section of the “Getting Started” module.
Office Location: McKibben 404c
Mailbox: McKibben 404 (M-F, 8 am-5 pm)

I answer emails Monday – Friday. Because I may have a meeting, another class, or office hours, and because I receive a large number of emails on a daily basis, please allow me 48 hours to respond. Your schedule may not be my schedule and vice versa. That being said, I will do my best to respond within 24 hours, and sooner in cases of emergency. If the email is regarding an emergency, please use the word “emergency” in the subject line.

Please use the SFA address listed above to send emails related to the course. Please include “Theatre History I” 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 do NOT use the D2L address.

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 its origins to the early 1800s. 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: Various PDFs, which will be provided through Brightspace

The book is available at the campus Barnes and Noble in the student center. You may procure the book however you choose (campus bookstore, online, textbook rental, locally owned bookstores, sharing with a friend, etc.). Also, please note that the book is NOT required, though I do believe that you will find it useful.

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 (fasu.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. (You also have access to Microsoft Office through the university.)
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. A total of eight excused and/or unexcused absences will automatically result in a failing grade. Unexcused absences above 2 will result in a deduction of 10 points each off the participation grade (1% each off the final grade).

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 (both in-text and in bibliographies), following either MLA or Chicago Style guidelines, both of which are available online through the Purdue OWL website. 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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## Course Calendar

Dates may change at the discretion of the instructor. Should a date change be required, it will be announced in the course news. All times listed are Central Standard Time.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>MODULE</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week of August 23 – August 29</td>
<td>Getting Started</td>
<td>• Read all Getting Started Module Content on Brightspace</td>
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<td>• Respond to “Introduce Yourself” Discussion by August 27, 11:59 PM, and 2 of your classmates’ posts by August 29, 11:59 PM</td>
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<td>• Complete “Getting Started” Quiz by August 29, 11:59 PM</td>
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<td>Week of August 30 – September 5</td>
<td>Module 1: Ancient Greek Theatre Pt. 1</td>
<td>• (Asynchronous Content) Prior to September 2: watch “Welcome Video,” located in “Zoom Recordings”</td>
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<td>• Prior to September 2: Read 33-49 (Textbook optional)</td>
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<td>• September 2, 2:00 – 3:15 PM: Participate in Zoom Session</td>
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<td>Week of September 6 – September 12</td>
<td>Module 2: Ancient Greek Theatre Pt. 2 + Oedipus Rex</td>
<td>• Prior to September 7: Read 49-69 (Textbook optional)</td>
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<td>• September 7, 2:00-3:15 PM: Participate in Zoom Session</td>
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<td>• Prior to September 9, 2:00 pm: Read Oedipus Rex (PDF required) and complete Oedipus Rex quiz</td>
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<td>• September 9, 2:00 – 3:15 PM: Participate in Zoom Session</td>
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<td>Week of September 13 – September 19</td>
<td>Module 3: + Roman Theatre Pt. 1 + Pt. 2</td>
<td>• (Asynchronous Content) Prior to September 13: watch “Writing Your Abstract and Papers Video,” located in “Zoom recordings”</td>
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<td>• Prior to September 14: Read 71-84 (Textbook optional)</td>
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<td>• September 14, 2:00 – 3:15 PM: Participate in Zoom Session</td>
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<td>• Prior to September 16: Read 85-93 (Textbook optional)</td>
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<td>• September 16, 2:00 – 3:15 PM: Participate in Zoom Session</td>
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| Week of September 20 – September 26 | Module 4: Exam #1 + Asian Theatre Pt. 1 | • September 21: EXAM #1 (Brightspace)  
• Prior to September 23: Read 95-107 (Textbook optional)  
• September 23, 2:00 – 3:15 PM: Participate in Zoom Session |
| Week of September 27 – October 3 | Module 5: Asian Theatre Pt. 2 + Medieval Theatre Pt. 1 | • Prior to September 28: Read 107-123 (Textbook optional)  
• September 28, 2:00 – 3:15 PM: Participate in Zoom Session  
• Prior to September 30: Read 125-137 (Textbook optional)  
• September 30, 2:00 – 3:15 PM: Participate in Zoom Session  
• By October 3, 11:59 PM: ABSTRACT DUE (via Dropbox) |
| Week of October 4 – October 10 | Module 6: Medieval Theatre Pt. 2, The Second Shepard’s Play + The Italian Renaissance Pt. 1 | • Prior to October 5, 2:00 pm: Read 138-155 (Textbook optional) + The Second Shepard’s Play (PDF required) and complete The Second Shepard’s Play quiz  
• October 5, 2:00 – 3:15 PM: Participate in Zoom Session  
• Prior to October 7: Read 159-172 (Textbook optional)  
• October 7, 2:00 – 3:15 PM: Participate in Zoom Session |
| Week of October 11 – October 17 | Module 7: The Italian Renaissance Pt. 2 + Exam #2 | • Prior to October 12: Read 173-189 (Textbook optional)  
• October 12, 2:00 – 3:15 PM: Participate in Zoom Session  
• October 14: EXAM #2 (Brightspace)  
• By October 17, 11:59 pm: ABSTRACT FINAL REVISION DUE (via Dropbox) |
| Week of October 18 – October 24 | Module 8: The English Renaissance Pt. 1 + Pt. 2, Hamlet | • Prior to October 19: Read 191-198, 217-229 (Textbook optional)  
• October 19, 2:00 – 3:15 PM: Participate in Zoom Session  
• Prior to October 21, 2:00 pm: Read 198-217 (Textbook optional) + Hamlet (PDF required) and complete Hamlet quiz  
• October 21, 2:00 – 3:15 PM: Participate in Zoom Session |
| Week of October 25 – October 31 | Module 9: The Spanish Golden Age + French Neoclassicism | • Prior to October 26: Read 231-248 (Textbook optional)  
• October 26, 2:00 – 3:15 PM: Participate in Zoom Session  
• Prior to October 28: Read 248-269 (Textbook optional) |
| Week of November 1 – November 7 | Module 10: Exam #3 + The English Restoration Pt. 1 | • October 28, 2:00 – 3:15 PM: Participate in Zoom Session  
• November 2: EXAM #3 (Brightspace)  
• Prior to November 4: Read 273-286 (Textbook optional)  
• November 4, 2:00-3:15 PM: Participate in Zoom Session  
• By November 4, 5:00 PM: COMPLETION OF PAPER MEETING |
| Week of November 8 – November 14 | Module 11: Module 12: The English Restoration Pt. 2 + The 18th Century Pt. 1 | • Prior to November 9: Read 286-301 (Textbook optional)  
• November 9, 2:00 – 3:15 PM: Participate in Zoom Session  
• Prior to November 11, 2:00 pm: Read 302-319 (Textbook optional) + The School for Scandal (PDF required) and complete The School for Scandal quiz  
• November 11, 2:00 – 3:15 PM: Participate in Zoom Session |
| Week of November 14 – November 21 | Module 12: 18th Century Pt. 2 + Exam #4 | • Prior to November 15: Read 319-341 (Textbook optional)  
• November 15, 2:00 – 3:15 PM: Participate in Zoom Session  
• November 17: EXAM #4 (Brightspace) |
| Week of November 22 – November 28 | University Holiday | • Enjoy your break! |
| Week of November 29 – December 5 | Dead Week | • Please use this time to finish your paper! |
| Week of December 6 | FINALS WEEK | • Your FINAL PAPER will be due by noon on December 6 in Dropbox on Brightspace. |

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