

**WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY**  
**Plainview, Texas**

**SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS**

**UNIVERSITY MISSION:** Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused and distinctively Christian environment for professional success and service to God and humankind.

**COURSE NUMBER & NAME:** THEA 1303-Introduction to Theatre

**TERM:** Fall 2 2021

**INSTRUCTOR:** Gene Gray, M.F.A.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

**WBU Faculty Email:** [george.gray@wayland.wbu.edu](mailto:george.gray@wayland.wbu.edu)

**OFFICE HOURS, BUILDING & LOCATION:** Online

**COURSE MEETING TIME & LOCATION:**

Meeting day & time: Online (Seven Days a Week)

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** A survey of the theatre including history, aesthetics, production, literary movements, criticism and theatrical styles and forms. Viewing live productions and/or films via video are required

**PREREQUISITES:** None

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK & RESOURCE MATERIAL:** Downs, William Missouri, Wright, Lou Anne, and Ramsey, Erik. The Art of Theatre 4th Ed. Cengage, 2017. Print.

**OPTIONAL MATERIALS:** None

**COURSE OUTCOME COMPETENCIES:**

The student will be able to:

- A. Describe the theatre process and compose a functional definition for the theatre event.
- B. Name the basic responsibilities and roles of the playwright, director, actor and designer in the theatre production.
- C. Have a basic understanding of the difference between tragedy, comedy, melodrama, farce, epic and absurdist theatre.
- D. Describe the uniqueness of the theatre art.
- E. Describe the elements necessary to bring about a unified production.
- F. List and describe several types of theatre language.
- G. Identify a variety of theatre spaces.
- H. Identify the names and works associated with key figures in the theatre.
- I. Demonstrate their understanding of either acting, directing, playwriting or design in the areas of set, sound, or make-up.

**ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS:**

There is an attendance policy for this course. If you miss four attendance assignments throughout the semester, it will result in the loss of a letter grade (-126pts). If you miss six attendance assignments throughout the semester, it will result in another letter grade being lowered (another -100pts added equals -226pts). Any student who misses nine attendance assignments will receive a grade of 'F' for the entire course. The

assignments that will count for attendance are: Quizzes #1-7, Discussion Board #1-7, Who Am I Paper?, and Final Exam. PLEASE NOTE: THE FINAL EXAM IS MANDATORY. FAILURE TO COMPLETE THE FINAL EXAM WILL RESULT IN AN AUTOMATIC "F" IN THE COURSE.

#### **STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM & ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:**

*Wayland Baptist University observes a zero tolerance policy regarding academic dishonesty. Per university policy as described in the academic catalog, all cases of academic dishonesty will be reported and second offenses will result in suspension from the university.*

#### **DISABILITY STATEMENT:**

*In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university. The Coordinator of Counseling Services serves as the coordinator of students with a disability and should be contacted concerning accommodation requests at (806) 291-3765. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.*

#### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS and GRADING CRITERIA:**

*Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Executive Vice President/Provost to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.*

#### **The expected learning outcomes for the course will be assessed through:**

- **Discussion Board.** Discussions in response to readings and PowerPoint slides we will cover all week long. Students will be graded on their participation to discuss and respond.
- **Quizzes.** Quizzes will test the student over each chapter's: key terms and concepts in theatre practice, history, and analysis covered in readings and Overview PowerPoint Slides. Questions will be multiple choice and true/false.
- **Final Exam Essay.** Essay will test the student over the following: key terms and concepts in theatre practice, history, and analysis covered in readings and PowerPoint slides. Final Exam will be in essay/paragraph form and given instructions at a later date along with a study guide. There will be one exam only worth 200pts.

#### **Grading criteria:**

**Who am I? Post:** 100pts

**Discussion Board:** 280pts

**Chapter Quizzes:** 420pts

**Final Exam:** 200pts

**TOTAL:** 1000pts

**Letter Grades:**

**A:** 875-1000pts

**B:** 775-874pts

**C:** 675-774pts

**D:** 575-674pts

**F:** 574pts and lower

**I:** Incomplete

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (calendar, topics, and/or assignments):**

**10/11-17:** READ SYLLABUS and CHAPTERS 1-2

**10/18-24:** CHAPTERS 3, 5, and 10

**10/25-31:** CHAPTERS 4 and 6

**11/1-7:** CHAPTERS 7-9

**11/8-14:** CHAPTERS 11 and 12

**11/15-21:** CHAPTERS 13-15

**11/22-28: THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY-NO CLASS THIS WEEK**

**11/29-12/5:** CHAPTERS 16 and 17

**12/6-11:** FINAL EXAM