

## DRAMA 111 - THEATRE APPRECIATION SYLLABUS

Department:	Associate of Arts/Sciences
Course:	Drama 111: Theatre Appreciation
Prerequisite:	None
College:	Johnston Community College
Semester:	Spring 2008
Instructor:	Gleason Bauer
E-Mail:	gleaball@gmail.com
Office Hours:	By appointment

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course provides a study of the art, craft, and business of the theatre. Emphasis is placed on the audience's appreciation of the work of the actor, director and playwright. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate a vocabulary of theatre terms, knowledge of theatre architecture and to recognize the contributions of various theatre artists. *This course has been approved to satisfy the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement general education core requirement in humanities/fine arts.*

**CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS:** 3 credit hours

### **REQUIRED TEXT and MATERIALS:**

Text: Wilson, Edwin. The Theater Experience. Ninth Edition. Boston: McGraw Hill, 2004.

### **COURSE COMPETENCIES:**

#### **THINK CRITICALLY**

- Be creative

#### **COMMUNICATE**

- Speak and write clearly and effectively
- Read, comprehend, and follow directions
- Listen effectively
- Organize and deliver an oral presentation
- Identify strengths and weaknesses as a communicator

#### **VALUE**

- Adapt to change

### **COURSE CONTENT:**

Learning will revolve around the following questions:

- What is Theatre?
  - The role of the audience
  - The role of imagination, intention and choice
  - The creative process – page to stage
- Where is Theatre?

- Exploring and identifying theatrical space
- Who is Theatre? A look at the roles and crafts of theatre artists.
  - The actor's craft
  - The director's craft
  - The playwright's craft
  - Designers, producers and technicians

**EVALUATION:**

I will evaluate student learning with the following graded activities:

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Percentage of Grade</u>
Class Participation (50 points per week)	50%
Tests	20%
Performance Projects	20%
Paper	10%

North Johnston and Clayton High School grades will be reported as actual percentage of points earned. Decimals of .5 and above will be rounded up to the next number. For example, a student who earns 85.7% will receive a grade of 86% on the High School report card.

***Grade Expectations***

- A 93 to 100%** Outstanding work, which exceeds the expectations of the instructor, characterized by creativity, extreme thoroughness and attention to detail/
- B 85 to 92%** Excellent work characterized by above average execution, thoroughness and attention to detail.
- C 77 to 84%** Average work, with all assignments fully completed, which meets the minimum requirements.
- D 70 to 76%** Below average work which fails to meet the minimum requirements.
- F 0 to 69%** Fails expectations completely

**ATTENDANCE:**

Regular and punctual attendance is expected of all students in order for them to achieve their potential in class and to develop desirable personal traits necessary to succeed in employment. By departmental policy, if a student misses more than 12.5% in the course, the student will be dropped. The 12.5% includes an absence from class for any reason. If a student is dropped by an instructor due to excessive absences, a grade of “WF” will be issued, calculated in his/her grade point average and could affect his/her financial aid. Class attendance is calculated from the first scheduled class meeting to the last. Late arrivals and/or early departures may count toward total absences. The student must obtain the permission of the instructor to re-enter class. If this request is denied, the student may petition the department chair for reinstatement. If the department chair denies the request, the Dean of Curriculum Programs will make the final ruling on the decision. A student may be dropped by an instructor due to excessive absences at any time during the semester, including that time period before the date designated each semester as the last day a student can drop without grade penalty. **You are responsible for material covered and assignments regardless of whether or not you are present.**

## **LAST DAY TO DROP COURSE WITHOUT PENALTY IS FEBRUARY 22, 2008.**

### **ADDITIONAL NOTES:**

1. Students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with generally accepted standards of scholarship and morality. The following regulation sets forth rules of conduct prohibiting cheating.

**Academic Dishonesty** – taking or acquiring possession of any academic material (test information, research papers, notes, etc.) from a member of the college staff or student body without permission; receiving or giving help during tests; submitting papers or reports (that are supposed to be original work) that are not entirely the student's own; not giving credit for others' work (plagiarism).

Violation of one or more of these rules may result in one of the following sanctions:

- a) Reprimand
  - b) Probation
  - c) Interim Suspension
  - d) Loss of Academic Credit or Grade
  - e) Suspension
  - f) Expulsion
2. College policy does not allow students to bring mobile phones or pagers to class unless they are employed by or serve as a volunteer for an emergency type organization requiring this type equipment. **Under no circumstance should the phones or pagers be turned on in class without prior approval of the instructor.**
  3. College policy does not allow minors to be brought to class(es). Minors are not allowed on campus while parents are attending class(es). Bringing guests to class(es) is a potential disruption for others and places the college in a position of liability.
  4. In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, Johnston Community College does not release student information concerning attendance, grades, GPA, or withdrawals to parents or employers without proper documentation to the Registrar's Office. If documentation is provided, the Registrar will notify faculty if it is ok to release information.
  5. Open computer labs are available in Wilson, Rooms 248 and 249.
  6. For additional academic help, tutoring is available through the Student Support Services Program, and the Academic Skills Center. The Academic Skills Center is located in 187 Wilson. The Academic Skills Center is open Monday – Thursday, 9 am – 9 pm; Friday – 9 am – 2 pm. For makeup tests, the latest check-in time is 7:30 pm. (This schedule is from August 15 – December 14, 2005).
  7. Disability Services – The Disability Services Office helps adapt Johnston Community College's general services to the individual and specialized needs of students who have special health conditions, disabilities, or limitations. Services are provided in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Acts of 1973, as amended in 1998 in Part IV of the Workforce Investment Act, Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act of 1998, and the

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Our goal is to ensure all qualified students with equal opportunity and access to all programs and facilities.

Disability Services Office – 919-209-2120

Student Services Office – 919-209-2128

TTY – 919-209-2154

8. Inclement Weather Policy – The President or designee of Johnston Community College will be responsible for canceling classes in the event of inclement weather or other emergencies. Unless announcements are made to cancel or delay classes, classes will be in session. If classes are canceled or delayed, announcements will be made on the local television and radio stations, the JCC website ([www.johnstoncc.edu](http://www.johnstoncc.edu)), or by phoning 919-934-0112.

**COURSE SCHEDULE: JANUARY 24-MARCH 4**  
**ASSIGNMENTS IN BOLD**

**\*\*\*SYLLABUS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.**

Week 1: Jan 24- Feb 1

Course Introduction: What is Theatre?

Exploring presence and the mind/body/voice through release, awareness, attention and imagination

Improvisation and Theatre games

**Read pp. 2-10 and Chapter 1: *The Audience: Its Role and Imagination***

**Quiz #1 – Intro & Chapter 1**

Week 2: Feb 4-8

Where is Theatre?

Exploring and identifying theatrical space

Viewpoints

**Read Chapter 4: *Stage Spaces***

**Test #1 - Chapters 1 & 4**

Week 3: Feb 11-15

The Actor's Craft

Approaches to performance

Acting exercises

**Read Chapter 6: *Stage Acting Today***

**Quiz #2 – Chapter 6**

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Week 4: Feb 19-22

**Acting Performance Project Due – Feb. 19**

The Director's Craft

Designers, producers and technicians

Approaches to production

Video screening

**Read Chapters 7: *The Director and the Producer* & 13: *Dramatic Characters***

Week 5: Feb 25-29

The Playwright's Craft

Approaches to script writing

**Read Chapters 14: *Conventions of Dramatic Structure* & 15: *Dramatic Structure: Climactic, Episodic, and Other Forms***

**Paper Due – February 29**

Week 6: Mar 3

**Extended Class on March 3**

**Final Exam – March 3**

**Extra Credit Options:**

The following may be completed during C/E or on your own time. All extra credit must be turned in no later than the end of class on Friday February 29, 2008.

1. You may read a play and write a 2-3-page analysis on an aspect of the play. The play and topic must be approved in advance.
2. If you see a theatrical production, you may bring me the ticket stub and/or a program along with a 1-2 page review/critique.
3. You may read a theorist and write a 2-3-page analysis on his/her theories. The theorist and topic must be approved in advance.

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### STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I attest that I have read and I understand the instructor's syllabus. Therefore, I assume **FULL RESPONSIBILITY** for my attendance and the consequences for my absences. I understand the instructor's evaluation policy. Furthermore, I understand the "minor children, telephone, and pager" policies and assume responsibility for following the policy.

\_\_\_\_\_ (Printed Name)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Signed Name)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Parent/ Guardian Name)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Date)