

# THEA 1313

## Syllabus

# Introduction To Theatre

## Spring 2017 Hybrid

**Instructor:** Carolyn Cubit-Tsutsui  
**Office Phone:** 747-8026  
**Hours:** MWF 9:30-10:20 or **BY APPOINTMENT**

**Email:** Via Blackboard Shell Only – see instructions  
**Office:** Fox Fine Arts D179  
**Class:** 10:30-11:50am MWF

### Communication:

**EMAIL/PHONE:** Feel free to email me at anytime using the Blackboard Messaging System. You must open the class shell and select the link to the class email system on the left hand side or you can call the office number and leave a message. I will respond to all messages and emails between the hours of 9am-2pm MWF only.

**OFFICE:** I always prefer to have face-to-face meetings when possible. If you want to discuss your work, assignments, or anything for that matter, try to make an appointment to see me in the office. If my hours do not work for you, I have additional time available on Fridays from 12-2pm by appointment only.

### Required Text/Materials:

1. *Introduction to Theatre* by Carolyn Cubit-Tsutsui – available at the bookstore in hardcopy. Links for online purchase of the e-copy through publisher available on Blackboard. Also on Blackboard is information on the original text you may be able to find used at amazon.
2. Theatre Tickets to selected plays at UTEP
3. Active UTEP Blackboard Shell for this class
4. Access to UTEP Library Database from home
5. Adobe Reader - <http://get.adobe.com/reader/>
6. Optional –Facebook Group **UTEP: THEA 1313: Cubit-Tsutsui**

### Course Objectives:

- Students will learn and understand the basic knowledge of theatre.
- Students will develop the understanding of the aesthetic of performing arts and theatre as an art form and its role in society.
- Students will learn about theatre etiquette and appreciation of performing arts.
- Students will learn to communicate a critical view of social and cultural influences of productions that they will see.

### Teaching Philosophy

My teaching philosophy is to allow students to experience personal responsibility in the university setting. It will be the student's responsibility to actively participate in their job as a college student by attending class everyday, coming prepared, actively participating in the both the classroom and online, and completing all assignments. My job is to provide a positive environment that encourages the desire to learn, guide the students through the course and make sure that the students feel comfortable coming to me in person and asking any questions or to talk about the class.

### Show attendance:

It is mandatory for you to attend three (3) out of the five (5) Department Productions. Please purchase your tickets early, some shows will sell out fast and or specific performances will sell out. If you wait to buy tickets until the last minute, it is possible that tickets will be sold out and then you will get a zero for the assignment. **Remember to save your tickets and programs. You will need to turn them into me to get credit for attending the production.** You will be writing a review on one (1) of these. More information included on handout and on Blackboard. See handout for productions, location, date, time, and ticket prices. All productions must be seen by Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup> because the last day to submit work is Monday, May 8<sup>th</sup> at noon.

### Assignments – You are responsible for turning all work in on time, even if you are absent.

See handouts provided for more detailed information and instructions. You can also find the information on blackboard. Refer to end of syllabus for due dates.

- Three (3) online multiple choice exams = totaling 300 points.
- One (1) review of any of the above UTEP Productions = totaling 125 points.

- Two (2) additional play viewings from list provided = totaling 50 points
- Two (2) online plays and mini review = totaling 100 points.
- Three (3) Discussion Boards (Video and or Article Reading Required) = totaling 150 points.
- Three (3) quizzes on articles and or videos = totaling 75 points

### **Grading:**

I grade using a point system. Assignments will range in value. There is no weight to work. It is a simple point received/potential points earned system. You must make at least a C to receive credit for the class.

**Grading Scale: 720-800 =A; 640-719= B, 560-639 = C, 480-559 = D, 0-479 = F.**

*Please Note: Be sure to save ALL graded work that is returned to you and verify your grade periodically throughout the semester. Errors in your grade can be corrected if you can provide your graded work.*

### **Late Work**

**I do not accept late work!** No Excuses Allowed! I teach 120 Intro to Theatre students and do not have time to catch up on assignments turned in late.

### **Get out of Jail Free Card**

I allow every student one (1) "Get out of Jail Free Card" – This is your opportunity to save yourself in the event you forget, have a computer crash or any crazy problem. You can use it on any assignment but Discussion Boards and the reason is because the discussion boards are a group assignment and therefore can only be in done in real time, not late. I will give you each a "card". You must submit it to me within 24 hours of missed assignment, once submitted and request processed you cannot use it again. More instructions will be on the "card". Use wisely.

### **Extra Credit**

The only extra credit I will allow is you viewing other theatre productions on campus, around El Paso and Las Cruces. See handout for more information. I give you up to 8 additional plays at up to 10 points, this is an entire letter grade for improvement. Take advantage of this and start seeing shows early in semester.

### **Attendance**

I take attendance for the sole purpose of keeping track of your commitment to the class. Make sure you sign in.

### **Late**

I start class on time with announcements and questions. Once lecture starts I will close and lock door – you will not be allowed in class at this point. Do not knock, do not sneak in, if you try, I will stop lecture and tell you to leave.

**Technical Support:** If you do not know how to use Blackboard – go to Tech Support Room 300 at Library immediately. Do not wait until you do not understand how to do assignments. If you are having technical problems with Digital Theatre Plus, do not email me asking me about it – contact the Library.

### **Copyright Statement**

Some of the materials in this course are copyrighted. Copying of textbooks is not "fair use" under the Copyright Act. Do not bring a copied textbook to this class. Your cooperation is expected.

### **Student Conduct/Scholastic Dishonesty/Final Exams and Plagiarism**

Refer to the Handbook of Operating Procedures: Student Affairs

### **Students with Disabilities Policy:**

If you have or suspect a disability and need an accommodation, you should contact The Cass Office at 747-5148 or at [cass@utp.edu](mailto:cass@utp.edu) or go to Room 106 Union East Building.

**Syllabus Change Policy:**

Except for changes that substantially affect the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice.

**MONDAY HYBRID**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Due</b>
Week 1 1/23	Class Introduction	<b>Buy your tickets for the Productions!!!</b>
Week 2 1/30	What is Art?	Watch video play <i>A Doll's House</i> Mini Review <i>A Doll's House</i> – Due by Sunday 2/5
Week 3 2/6	Theatre Past and Present	Read Theatre & Society Articles – Begin Discussion Board (DB) Theatre & Society DB Initial Post due by Sunday 2/12
Week 4 2/13	The Role of the Audience	Watch video play <i>All My Sons</i> Theatre & Society DB response post completed by Wed 2/15 Mini Review <i>All My Sons</i> – Due by Sunday 2/19
Week 5 2/20	<b>NO CLASS</b>	
Week 6 2/27	Background and Expectations The Critic	<i>Cabaret</i> and <i>Carnaval de Danza</i> Program and Tickets/Review due in class on 2/27 Read Playwright & Director Articles – Begin DB Playwright & Director DB Initial post due by Sunday 3/6
Week 7 3/6	The Playwright	Watch <i>The Container</i> on Digital Theatre Plus Playwright & Director DB responses due by Wed 3/8 <b>Exam 1 – Due by Sunday 3/12</b> <i>The Container</i> Quiz is Due Sunday 3/12
Week 8 3/13	<b>NO CLASS</b>	
Week 9 3/20	The Director	Read Articles on Casting & Ethics – Begin DB Casting & Ethics DB Initial post due by Sunday 3/26
Week 10 3/27	The Actor	Watch videos “On Acting” Casting & Ethics DB response post completed by Wed 3/29 “On Acting” Quiz due Sunday 4/2
Week 11 4/3	The Scene Designer *Study Stage Spaces on Own	<b>Exam 2 – Due by Sunday 4/9</b>
Week 12 4/10	The Costume Designer *Study Stage Spaces on Own	<i>Lydia</i> Program and Tickets/Review due in class on 4/10 Watch Video on Designers Video Quiz on Designers Due by Sunday 4/16
Week 13 4/17	The Lighting Designer *Study Stage Spaces on Own	
Week 14 4/24	<i>Road to Broadway</i>	<b>Exam 3 – Due by Sunday 4/30</b>
Week 15 5/1	<i>Road to Broadway</i>	
Finals Week	<i>Electra</i> and <i>Anything Goes</i> Program and Ticket/Review and all <b>Extra Credit</b> due in my office by 12noon on Monday May 8 <sup>th</sup> .	