

Instructor: Carolyn Cubit-Tsutsui
Hours: MW 9-10:15am or **Friday by appointment**

Office Location: Fox Fine Arts D179
Office Phone: 747-8026

Communication:

- Phone: **915-747-8026**. You can call me M-F between 9am and 2pm and I will return calls during these hours only, or
- Office Hours: See above – I am around M-F 10am-2:30pm. Above are my set office hours, but you can always email me to make an appointment. I am always happy to meet and talk in person, I find this the most effective communication when dealing with problems. Emails are always the worse.
- Email through Blackboard - I respond to all emails M-F between 9am and 2pm. Do not email at utep.edu because it will get lost in the shuffle and if I do see it, I will not respond. So please log into our blackboard shell and use the “email professor” link on the left.

Required Text/Materials:

1. *Introduction to Theatre* by Carolyn Cubit-Tsutsui – available at the bookstore in hardcopy or E-copy. Links for online purchase of the e-copy through publisher available on Blackboard and alternative options for book purchases.
2. Active UTEP Blackboard Shell for this class
3. Access to UTEP Library Database from home to view the database Digital Theatre Plus (DTP)
4. Movie making software like iMovie or MovieMaker
5. Microsoft Word
6. Microsoft Power Point
7. Adobe Reader - <http://get.adobe.com/reader/>
8. YouTube or Vimeo account to share links of videos

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 view online.

Teaching Philosophy

My teaching philosophy is to allow students to experience personal responsibility in the online university setting. It will be the student's responsibility to actively participate in their job as a college student by actively participating in the online class several times over the course of the week, checking blackboard daily, being prepared for and completing all assignments and test. 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 via online tools or in person and asking any questions or to talk about the class.

Class Attendance

We will be having 11 classes, attendance is required. Only excused absences are: hospital admittance (proof required), a highly contagious virus (Dr. note in English required with a date range of absence), University sanctioned events with a note from appropriate authority 1 week prior to missed class, Military commitments with a note from your CO or VA office. Your work will still be due because everything is online and can be done early.

Grading:

All work is broken into 4 categories: **Mini Reviews, Projects, Exams and play viewing**. These categories will be individually averaged, then weighted. *Mini Reviews are 30%, Projects are 30% Exams are 30% and Play viewing is 10%*. The mini reviews are graded on a 1-5 point scale, the projects and exams are percent scale. Do not assume the 5 point doesn't carry weight, they do convert to a percentage at the end, a 4/5 is an 80% and these can quickly bring down your final grade if you miss assignments.

Late Work

I do not accept late work! No Excuses Allowed! I teach several sections of Intro to Theatre and do not have time to catch up on assignments turned in late. However, you are more than welcome to do work early and get ahead on assignments.

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 have a computer crash. You can only use it on **exams one and two, acting project or design project assignments**. You simply email me the instant it happens explaining the situation, your email should be written in proper format, proper subject and be written in a nice and polite tone because you are asking a favor from me. Once submitted and I process the request you cannot use it again, even if you miss the window I have opened for you (usually 24 hours-36 hours from processing). If your computer crashes at 11:55pm on due date, I expect to see email by 8am the next day. You cannot request after that time has passed. This is not for those who just forget to do the assignment.

Assignments

You are responsible for turning all work in on time. Instructions/Rubrics are available on Blackboard with the actual assignment. If you have any questions before you begin please contact me. You can turn work early and get ahead on assignments, they may not be graded until the after the due dates. **Due Dates for assignments/exams are Tuesday at 11:59pm**

Show Attendance

You must see a minimum of two Theatrical Productions produced by the Department of Theatre and Dance and the UTEP Dinner Theatre. A handout will be provided in class and will be available on Blackboard. You will be required to turn in your ticket stubs, programs on a set due date – see schedule on last page.

You are also **required** to sign an attendance sheet at the **end of the performance** you attend. If you do not sign this sheet at the end of the performance you will not get credit for attendance and receive a zero. The house manager will have the sign in sheet available at the end of each performance.

If the affordability of the tickets is an issue there are opportunities for you to usher and see a performance for free. Please come see me if you are interested in this, but this must be done early in the semester as these positions fill up quickly.

Extra Credit

There are two extra credit opportunities – there are 4 productions from you to choose from, you are required to see 2. The other 2 can be seen as extra credit. For it to be considered you must sign in, turn in BOTH ticket stub and program. I will then add 5% to grading category to boost your grade.

Subject Matter

The performing arts have a power to stir strong emotions, or possibly touch on subjects you might not feel comfortable seeing on stage. If you have concerns about viewing or discussing specific subjects, please see me as soon as possible to discuss possible accommodations. As I will respect your individual's rights to choose what shows you want to see, I expect all our discussions—including any that may occur outside of class—to be conducted in a respectful and professional matter.

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 until you are having problems. You can contact Help Desk via email, helpdesk@utep.edu, by phone 747-5257. Hours are M-F 7a-8p, Sat 9a-10p and Sun 12-4p.

Copyright Statement

Some of the materials in this course are copyrighted. Copying of textbooks is not “fair use” under the Copyright Act. Your cooperation is expected.

Student Conduct/Scholastic Dishonesty/Final Exams and Plagiarism

Refer to the [Handbook of Operating Procedures: Student Affairs](#).

Due to the nature of an online class, proper online etiquette is critical.

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 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 at the discretion of the professor.

Schedule

(See Learning Module for additional information)

Week	Learning Module/Textbook Title	Readings/Viewings and Activities	Assignments
#1 8/29-9/4	Introductions	Read Syllabus Review Introduction Module	Syllabus Quiz
#2 9/5-9/11	The Role of Theatre and Theatregoing	Read Chapter on Theatregoing in Text Read Articles on Theatre's Social Impact	Nothing Due
#3 9/12-9/18	Experiencing Theatre: Past and Present The Audience: Its Role and Imagination	Read Chapters in Text Watch <i>Doll's House</i> on Digital Theatre Plus	<i>Dolls House</i> Review Journal
#4 9/19-9/25	Background and Expectations of the Audience	Read Chapters in Text Learn about Blogging Theatre Reviews Watch Private Lives on DTP	<i>Private Lives</i> Blog
#5 9/26-10/2	Exam Week – No class on 9/26	Exam Week	Exam #1 Due on 10/2 at 11:59pm
#6 10/3-10/9	The Director and Producer	Read Chapter in Text Watch Videos on Directing Read Articles on Casting Responsibility Watch <i>Much Ado about Nothing</i> or <i>Hamlet</i> on DTP	Shakespeare Play Directing Analysis
#7 10/10-10/16	Acting	Read Chapter in Text Watch Videos on Acting Read Articles on Diversity in Casting in Theatre Begin Project #1	Nothing Due
#7 10/17-10/23	Creating the World of the Play	Read Chapter in Text Read Articles provided on Creative License Watch Videos on the Playwright	Acting Project #1 Due 10/23 @ 11:59pm <i>Ultima</i> Tickets and Program due in class
#9 10/24-10/30	The Audience Views the Stage: Theatre Spaces	Read Chapter in Text and PowerPoint Review Vocab Lists Tour Spaces	Exam #2 Due at 11:59pm on 10/30
#10 10/31-11/6	Scenic Design	Read Chapter in Text and PowerPoint Review Vocab Lists and Watch Videos Watch The Container on DTP	<i>The Container</i> Theatrical Space and Design Analysis <i>Frankenstein</i> Ticket and Program due in class
#11 11/7-11/13	Stage Costumes	Read Chapter in Text and PowerPoint Watch Costume Design Video Watch Into the Woods on DTP	Costume Analysis Journal - <i>Into the Woods</i> Dance Tickets and Program due in class
#12 11/14-11/20	Lighting and Sound (last class meeting)	Read Chapter in Text and PowerPoint Watch Lighting and Sound Design Videos	Nothing Due
#13 11/21-27	Project Week – No class Meeting	Project #2 Week	Directing/Design Concept Project #2 Due 11/25 @ 11:59pm
#14 11/28-12/4	Project Week – No Class Meeting	Project #3 Week – <i>The Crucible</i> or <i>All My Sons</i> on DTP	Review Project #3 Due 12/2 at 11:59pm
#15 12/5-11	Completion Week – Runs into Finals – No Class Meeting		Exam #3 Due on 12/11 at 11:59pm. <i>Christmas Carol</i> Programs and Tickets Due 12/10 by 12pm (office)