

## Master Syllabus

### 1. Course Information

**College:** College of Liberal Arts  
**Department:** Theatre Arts  
**Course Title:** Script Analysis  
**Course Designation and Number:** TH 250

**GE Area:** VI. College Component

**Writing Intensive:**  Yes  No

**For WI Courses:**  For all sections  Selected Sections are WI

**Methods of Instruction:**  Lecture  
 Discussion  
 Web-enhanced  
 Web-only  
 Other

**Includes Lab:**  Yes  No

**Prerequisites:** None

### 2. Objectives

#### **GE Program Objectives:**

- Learn about the aesthetic, moral, social, and cultural dimensions of human experience needed for participation in the human community

#### **GE Area Objectives:**

- Area VI. College Component
- a. communicate with individuals who are in the student's major, in allied fields, and non-specialists
  - b. understand important relationships and interdependencies between the students' major and other academic disciplines, world events or life endeavors
  - c. bridge General Education and the major

#### **Course Objectives and GE Learning Outcomes:**

Course Objectives - TH 250: Script Analysis is designed to offer those students who are interested in the serious investigation of dramatic texts an opportunity to develop analytical skills and research methods to do so.

#### **GE Learning Outcomes –**

Area VI: a. Communicate with individuals who are in the student's major, in allied fields, and non-specialists

b. Understand important relationships and interdependencies between the student's major and other academic disciplines, world events or life endeavors.

#### **General Program Outcomes --**

Helps students learn about the aesthetic, ethical, moral, social and cultural dimensions of human experience needed for participation in the human community.

Increases knowledge and understanding of the past, of the world in which we live, and of how both past and present have an impact on the future.

### **For WI Courses: WAC Objectives**

Objective: "To encourage students to use writing as a learning tool to explore and structure ideas, to articulate thoughts and questions, and to discover what they know and do not know, thereby empowering students to use writing as a tool of discovery, self-discipline, and thought."

Integration Method: Students will apply the analytical methods explored in lectures and discussions to selected theatrical texts through two essay exams and a term paper.

### **3. Suggested Course Materials**

The Poetics by Aristotle, translated by Preston Epps

Backwards and Forwards by David Ball

From Page To Stage by Rosemary Ingham

The Empty Space by Peter Brook

Medea by Euripides

Hamlet by William Shakespeare

Into The Woods by Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine

Buried Child by Sam Shepard

Supplementary coursepack materials from:

Script Analysis for the Musical Theatre by Joe Deer

Actors on Acting by Cole and Chinoy

Directors on Directing by Cole and Chinoy

Dramatic Theory and Criticism by Bernard F. Dukore

### **4. Suggested Methods of Evaluation**

1) TERM PAPER: Students will write a 2500 word term paper applying one or several of the methods discussed in class to a play or musical chosen from an approved list. Students will provide an initial draft of the paper for evaluation and response by the instructor. Upon its return, students will revise the paper for final grading.

2) EXAMS: Students will also take two essay exams (approximately 1000 words each) discussing various topics related to the course material, applying the methods under discussion

or ALTERNATE WRITING ASSIGNMENTS: Instructors may choose to have students write several short papers (approximately 500 words each) on topics being covered in class, discussing some of the supplementary materials, or discussing departmental productions from the perspective of one of the analytical methods covered in class.

### **5. Grading Policy**

All GE courses are graded A-F.

WI component is graded Pass/Unsatisfactory

### **6. Suggested Weekly Course Outline Including Typical Assignments**

#### ***Week One***

*Tuesday* - Introduction To Course, Aristotle and the world of Ancient Greece, Drama as a tool for social discourse, Introduction to Aristotle's Poetics

*Thursday* - Aristotle's Poetics

#### ***Week Two***

*Tuesday* - Aristotle's Poetics, begin discussion of Euripides' Medea

*Thursday* - Conclude discussion of Euripides' Medea using Aristotle's Poetics

#### ***Week Three***

*Tuesday* - Backwards and Forwards by David Ball

*Thursday* - Conclude discussion of Backwards and Forwards by David Ball, begin discussion of Shakespeare's Hamlet

#### ***Week Four***

*Tuesday* - Conclude discussion of Hamlet,  
*Thursday* - Other interpretations of Hamlet, Exam review

**Week Five**

*Tuesday* - Exam One, 1000 word essay exam  
*Thursday* - Theatre as a visual medium: Design as an expression of the themes of the play,  
From Page To Stage by Rosemary Ingham

**Week Six**

*Tuesday* - Continue discussion of design and From Page To Stage, begin discussion of  
Buried Child by Sam Shepard  
*Thursday* - Continue discussion of Buried Child

**Term Paper - Draft One Due**

**Week Seven**

*Tuesday* - Script Analysis for the Musical Theatre, A brief history of Musical Theatre  
*Thursday* - Continue discussion of Script Analysis for the Musical Theatre, Introduction to  
Stephen Sondheim

**Week Eight**

*Tuesday* - Begin viewing Into The Woods  
*Thursday* - Complete viewing Into The Woods, Discuss Into The Woods by Sondheim and  
Lapine

**Term Paper Returned to Students**

**Week Nine**

*Tuesday* - Conclude discussion of Into The Woods, Begin discussion of The Empty Space by  
Peter Brooks  
*Thursday* - Conclude discussion of The Empty Space by Peter Brooks

**Week Ten**

*Tuesday* - Discuss selected articles  
*Thursday* - Catch up, Final Exam review

**Final Draft of Term Paper Due**

**Final Exam Week**

Final Exam - 1000 word essay exam

**7. Other**

Syllabus distributed to students should employ the format approved by UCAP and must include:

- Instructor name, office hours, and contact information
- Office of Disability Services information
- Information on how grades will be determined
- Attendance policy