

SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS AND COMMUNICATION
Spring 2015
Introduction to Theatre
1310.002
MW 12:30-1:45, FAB 204

Instructor: Juliette F. Schwab
Office: As a part-time instructor, I have no office. We will arrange a place to meet as needed.
Office Hours: I will be available 15 minutes before and after class at FAB 204, or by appointment.
Phone: 432-386-3300 Please speak slowly, and include your full name and phone number.
E-mail: jschwab@sulross.edu
juliette_schwab@sbcglobal.net (Underscore after Juliette)
Final Exam: Week of May 11-14. Exact date to be announced.

Program Learning Outcomes:

The graduating student will demonstrate:

1. Knowledge of eras and contributions made throughout Theatre History and Musical Theatre History.

Additionally the graduating student with a concentration in Acting/Directing will demonstrate:

2. the ability to express themselves creatively through appropriate theatrical performance
- the ability to analyze script
3. the ability to work creatively with actors and technicians in mounting a laboratory theatrical production.
4. the ability to apply standard requirements to all aspects of technical production.

Additionally the graduating student with a concentration in technical/design will demonstrate:

5. the ability to apply all approaches to theatrical design and rendering of the design
6. the ability to address all technical aspects of a theatrical production

Additionally the student will be able to:

7. describe the theatre process and compose a functional definition for the theatre event.
8. describe the close link between theatre and religion.
9. name the basic responsibilities and roles of the playwright, director, actor and designer in the theatre production.
10. Have a basic understanding of the difference between tragedy, comedy, melodrama, farce, epic and absurdist theatre.
11. Describe the uniqueness of the theatre art.
12. Understand and describe the elements necessary to bring about a unified production.
13. Identify a variety of theatre spaces.
14. Know the names and works associated with key figures in the theatre.
15. Demonstrate their understanding of acting, directing, playwriting or design in the areas of set, sound, or make-up.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR THIS CLASS

What materials are REQUIRED for this class?

1. A pocket folder for handouts, assignments, and notes. Please use this folder for this class only.
2. A working e-mail account
3. A working BlackBoard account

What will I be doing in this class?

You will discover and discuss aspects of reading a play.

You will discover and discuss aspects of seeing a play.

You will identify and define the practitioners in a theatrical production.

You will identify and define the various genres of plays.

You will identify and discuss career opportunities in theatre.

You will define theatre terms and apply them in discussions.

You will read and view a variety of plays, and discuss and critique them applying concepts presented in class.

You will attend productions of the Sul Ross Theatre Department.

What happens if I am absent or late?

This is a participation class, so it is very important to show up and be on time.

You begin this class with a participation grade of 100%. Each **absence is minus 5 points**. Each **tardy is minus 3 points**.

You will not be penalized points if:

Your name appears on the school-related absence list.

You bring a verifiable doctor's note.

If you are late, please notify me at the end of class, so that you are not marked tardy.

Please notify me if you are going to be absent so that you can prepare your assignment before you leave.

Please notify me via e-mail or phone when you are absent. I do not need TMI, just that you will be absent

How will my grade be calculated?

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| "Show- up- and- be -on- time grade | = 25% |
| Presentations and Participation | = 25% |
| Tests | = 25% |
| Special projects | = 25% |

A=100-90; B=89-80; C=79-70;D=69=60; F=below 60

If you are absent, it is your responsibility to get the assignment, and have it prepared for the next class period. Late work is penalized 15 points.

I post class activities and homework on BlackBoard. It is your responsibility to get your Assignment. "But I wasn't here," is not an excuse.

What are the class behavior expectations?

You know! Cooperate, show respect, and support learning. Otherwise, you will be removed from the class with an "F."

Turn cell phones, ipads, laptops completely off, and put them where neither you nor I can see them. **One person ignoring this rule will cause all students to turn in electronic equipment every class for the rest of the semester.**

Don't even think about sleeping in class. If you do, you will incur a 5-point absence penalty and will receive an "F" for the day.

What is my Class Account?

Deposits:

- Come to class and be on time.
- Participate fully in discussions and activities.
- Prepare your assignments.
- Communicate with me especially regarding absences.
- Demonstrate proper behavior.

Withdrawals:

- Not showing "deposit" behaviors.
- Asking, "What homework?"
- Saying, "But I wasn't here."
- Asking, "Are we doing anything important today?"

If you earn a lot of deposits and very few withdrawals, you earn negotiating power if you hit a "rough patch" and need help making up assignments.

Special needs: If you would like to request accommodations because of a physical, mental or learning disability, please contact the ADA Coordinator for Program Accessibility, FH112, 432-837-8203. Please bring written notification to instructor by the 3rd day of class.

Introduction to Theatre
Spring 2015
Tentative Schedule

January 21

Discuss syllabus; Introduction Activity

Jan. 26, 28; Feb. 2, 4

Location of Theatres

Types of Stages

Stage Areas

Compass Directions

Body Positions

Blocking

*Test

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| <u>Sul Ross Theatre Production, Micro-Cinema: Our Native American Experience</u> |
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| Thursday, Feb. 5 , La Donna Harris, Indian 101, 7:00p.m. Studio Theatre |
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| Friday, Feb. 6 , Trail of Tears: Cherokee Legacy, 7:00 p.m. Studio Theatre |
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| Friday, Feb. 6 , Don't Get Sick After June, 8:15 p.m. Studio Theatre |
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| Saturday, Feb. 7 , The Cherokee Word for Water 7:00 p.m. Studio Theatre |
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Feb. 9, Feb. 11, 16, 18, 23, 25

Genres of Plays

Types of Characters

Styles of Plays

Parts of a Play

Clips of Plays

*Test

March 2, 4, 9,

How to Write a Critique

Read *You Can't Take it With You*

March 16-20 Spring Break Have fun, please be careful, and wear sunscreen

Sul Ross Theatre Production: *Sweeny Todd*

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| Friday, March 27, and Saturday, March 28 |
| 8:15 p.m., Marshall Auditorium |
| Sunday, March 29 |
| Matinee, 2:00, Marshall Theatre |
| Monday, March 30; Thurs. April 2; Friday, April 3; Sat., April 4 |
| 8:15 p.m., Marshall Auditorium |
| Sunday, April 5 |
| Matinee, 2:00 p.m., Marshall Auditorium |

March 23, 25, 30, April 1

Continue reading *You Can't Take it with You*

*Test on *You Can't Take it with You*

Production Staff

*Test on Production Staff

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| Sul Ross Theatre Production Auditions for Night of One Acts |
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| Sunday, March 29, 6:30 p.m., Studio Theatre |
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April 6, 8, 13, 15

Improvisation

Characterization

*Critique on *Sweeny Todd* due April 15

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| Sul Ross Theatre Production Night of One Acts |
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| Friday, April 24; Saturday, April 25; Sunday, April 26 |
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| 7:00 P.M. Studio Theatre |
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April 20, 22, 27, 29, 30, May 4, May 6

Scene Work

Special Projects (To be discussed throughout semester)

EXAMS: WEEK OF MAY 11-14, exact date to be announced.

