

THEATRE 4304: Directing II Syllabus (2015)
T & R 11 a.m. -12:15 p.m. FAB 105

Mr. Gregory M. Schwab, Chair of Fine Arts & Communication/Professor of Theatre
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Office Hours M-F 2-3:30 p.m. or by arrangement

I. Instructional Materials:

- A. Textbook: *The Director's Vision: Play Direction from Analysis to Production*, Louis E. Catron, c1989
- B. Outside information and research
- C. Various scripts

II. Course Overview:

This course is designed to aid the student in the understanding of the various directing styles and techniques.

The student will have the opportunity to critically analyze the impact of directors and their visions upon selected productions.

Utilizing assigned research and analytical rubrics, students will work individually and cooperatively in small groups to understand and analyze various directing concepts and components.

The student will use acquired knowledge and skills to mount small scenes and a portion of a one act play.

Additionally, the student will utilize acquired knowledge to analyze and critically assess directing styles used in two Sul Ross theatrical productions.

The course assignments, discussions, and other instructional materials/modules will be supplemented through materials in Blackboard.

III. Course Objectives:

By the end of this course the student should be able to

- Critically understand the major directing techniques and styles used in contemporary theatre;
- Using both cognitive and intuitive research methods, demonstrate the appropriate techniques of directing;
- Critically analyze the directorial works and visions of other directors.
- Communicate successfully written critical assessments of theatrical performances and printed works.

IV. 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;
3. the ability to analyze scripts;

4. the ability work creatively with actors and technicians in mounting a laboratory theatrical production; and
 5. the ability to apply standard requirements to all aspects of technical production.
- Additionally the graduating student with a concentration in technical/design will demonstrate:
6. the ability to apply all approaches to theatrical design and rendering of the design; and
 7. the ability to address all technical aspects of a theatrical production

Additionally the student will be able to:

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

V. Course Requirements:

- A. The students will be required to present a one-act play during The Night of One Acts (either April 24, 25, or 26, 2015).
- B. The student will have to submit a completed Director's Promptbook, chronicling the entire directing process from initial reading, research and analysis through post-production critiques. **The promptbook is due no later than classtime on Tuesday, April 28.**
- C. Additionally, the student will be required to submit their promptbook and/or other written assignments for regular review.
- D. Written critical assessments on the directing style and vision of all Spring 2015 SRSU theatrical productions will be required.
- E. A written, thorough self-assessment of student's directing style and experience is required.
- F. The student will participate in all critiques of peers' works.
- G. Participation in all class activities is mandatory.

VI. Criteria for Grade Evaluation:

- A. Each student will be graded on the basis of the assignment's guidelines and the complete-
- B. Breakdown of grading percentages:

1. Directing Final Scene	25%
2. Directing Prompt Book	25%
3. Written Self-Assessment	10%
4. Written Peer Assessments (8 @ 2%)	16%
5. Class Assignments/ Prompt book reviews	14%
6. Participation	10%
- C. Grading will be on the following 100 point system:
 90-100+ = A 80-89 = B 70-79 = C 60-69 = D Below 60 = F
- D. **All work and assignments must be turned in/presented on the designated day**, or taken or presented prior to the scheduled date if the student is absent for a legitimate SRSU activity, or the first class day that the student is back from a doctor verified illness (doctor's note must be submitted).
- E. Assignments that are late will be **penalized 25 points** per class period.
- F. Since the final grade is dependent upon the total number of accumulated points, it is important that all

work be completed and turned in.

G. Extra credit: (0-100 points) Extra credit may be given for participation/involvement in any of this semester's SRSU theatrical productions. Points will be awarded on the basis of the quality and the level of participation. Extra credit will not be given if the student is enrolled in Theatre Production Workshop or any of the Theatre Workshop courses, unless the requirements for that class have already been fulfilled.

VII. Special Needs:

It is Sul Ross State University policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities. If you would like to request such accommodation because of a physical, mental, or learning disability, please contact the ADA Coordinator for Program Accessibility, who is located in FH 112 or call 432-837-8203. All requests for special accommodations must be related in writing to the professor prior to the third class day.

VIII. Final Review: Tuesday, May 12, 10:15 a.m.

IX. Class Courtesy: For the courtesy of all students, **all cell phones and pagers must be turned off** prior to the beginning of the class. Emergency personnel may seek a special dispensation from the professor.

X. Syllabus: A copy of this syllabus will appear on the Department of Fine Arts and Communication's web page

XI. Tentative Semester Class Schedule:

Week of January 19	Introduction to Course and Semester Goals; Chapters 4 & 5 review
Week of January 26	Chapters 6 & 7 review; 4 & 5 promptbook check scene
Week of February 2	Chapters 8 & 9 review; 6 & 7 promptbook check
Week of February 9	Chapter 11 review; 8 & 9 promptbook check
Week of February 16	Chapter 12 review; 11 promptbook check
Week of February 23	Chapter 13 review; 12 promptbook check
Week of March 2	Chapters 14 & 15 review
Week of March 9	Chapters 17-20 review
March 14-22	Spring Break (no classes)
Week of March 23	Preparation for auditions
Week of March 30	Casting & First Rehearsals
Week of April 6	Rehearsals
Tuesday, April 13	Rehearsals
Week of April 20	Technical Rehearsals and shows
Week of April 27	Assessments; Prompt book due
Week of May 4	Class recap
<u>Tuesday, May 12,</u>	<u>10:15 a.m.</u> Final Review

SRSU Theatrical Production & Special Events Schedule:

Thur & Sat, March 5 & 7	7 pm	Studio Theatre	MicroCinema Festival
Fri – Fri, March 28, 30-31, April 1-4	8:15 pm	Marshall Auditorium	Performances of <i>Sweeney Todd</i>
Sunday, March 29	2 pm	Marshall Auditorium	Matinee of <i>Sweeney Todd</i>
Sunday, March 29	6:30 pm	Studio Theatre	Auditions for Night of One Acts
Fri – Sun, April 24-26	7 pm	Studio Theatre	A Night of One Acts performances