

Directing I: THEA 3318:001

Fall, 2016

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Office Hours: MW 11:00-12:00
TR 3:30-5:00 or by appointment
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Theatre Student Learning Outcomes: This course is designed to meet one or more of the program learning outcomes applied to all Theatre majors. The graduating theatre student will demonstrate:

1. A knowledge of the 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 script.
4. The ability to work creatively with actors and technicians in mounting a laboratory theatrical production.
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.
7. The ability to address all technical aspects of a theatrical production.

I. Course Description:

Application of directing and staging techniques upon selected scenes and short plays for laboratory purposes. Included are the fundamentals of blocking, script analysis, achievement of emphasis, and the development of aesthetic values.

II. Goals for the course: Desired Student Outcomes

The goal of this class is to gain a basic understanding of the principles of directing.

- To achieve knowledge of staging, analysis, director/actor communication, the balance between truth and technique, and the performance process itself.
- To improve student's organizational and communication abilities.
- Understanding and developing strategies for solving problems and making decisions, considering alternative courses of action, developing criteria for evaluating outcomes, and analyzing results.

III. Text:

Play Directing: Analysis, Communication, and Style,

By Francis Hodge and Michael McLain. Allyn & Bacon

IV. Techniques of Instruction:

1. Reading and discussion of reading material.
2. In-class projects.
3. Constructive criticism of in-class projects.
4. Active peer, instructor, and self-evaluation.
5. Outside projects: directed scene from one-act play.

VI. Methods of Evaluation:

1. Mastery of directing techniques and skills = 20%
2. Midterm project (scene) = 10%
3. Completion of in-class projects = 20%
4. Instructor, peer, and self evaluation = 20%
5. Final class project (one-act play) = 30%

V. Organization of Course Content:

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| Week 1 | Course Introduction and Assignment Review |
| week 2 | Chapters 3 & 4
The Foundation and Facade of the Play Script
The Hard Core of the Play Script |
| Week 3 | Chapters 5 & 6
Idea and Rhythmic Beats
The Director's Preparation |
| Week 4 | Chapters 7 & 8
Directing is Working with Actors
Leaning to See |
| Week 5 | Chapters 9 & 10
The Ground Plan
Composition |
| Week 6 | Chapters 11
Helping Each Actor Intensify |
| Week 7 | Chapters 13 & 14
The Dynamic Tool of Movement
Coordinating Visual Tools |
| Week 8 | Chapters 15, 16, & 17
The Director's Job is Finding Oral and Visual Balance
Directing is Designing |

The Director and the Stage Machine

- Week 9 Chapters 18, 19, & 20
Director's Option 1: Choice of stage
Director's Option 2: Scenery
Director's Option 3: Costume, Makeup, and Sound Effects
- Week 10 Chapter 21
Responsibility to the Audience
- Weeks 11-14 Major Project: Rehearsals and Performance

Final: Performance of Scene: TBA

One-Act Play promptbook is due on exam day: Monday, December 5

VI. Grading Scale:

100-90%	= A
89-80%	= B
79-70%	= C
69-60%	= D
59% or below	= F