

Playwriting

Theatre 4305 Independent Study in Playwriting
By Arrangement

Liz Castillo

Office: Ferguson Hall 107 Telephone: 837-8843
Office Hours by arrangement; e-mail: ecastillo@sulross.edu

Course Description: This course will focus on the theory and practice of playwriting.

Course Requirements: Student will be expected to meet with the professor on a regular basis. The student will discuss assigned readings with the professor on a biweekly basis. Student will complete a rough draft, final draft, and submission packet for a full length play.

Program Learning Outcomes

The graduating student will demonstrate:

1. Knowledge of eras and contributions made throughout Theatre History.
2. Describe the theatre process and compose a functional definition for the event.
3. Name the basic roles and responsibilities of the playwright, director, actor, and designers in the theatre production.
4. Have a basic understanding of the difference between tragedy, comedy, melodrama, farce, epic, and absurdist theatre.
5. Identify a variety of theatre spaces
6. Know the names and works associated with key figures in the theatre.

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

7. The ability to express themselves creatively with actors and technicians in mounting a laboratory theatrical production.
8. The ability to work creatively with actors and technicians in mounting a laboratory theatrical production.
9. The ability to apply standard requirements to all aspects of technician production.

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

10. The ability to apply all approaches to theatrical design and rendering of the design.
11. The ability to address all technical aspects of a theatrical production.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon the completion of this course the student will be able to:

- Identify and analyze the major dramatic elements of a play.

- Have experience in working with the elements of plot, character, idea, language, music, and spectacle in writing exercises.
- Have the ability to respond sensitively and critically to original works in progress
- Distinguish the difference between story and plot.
- Apply all learned elements to create an original work.

Grading Breakdown: 700

Reading Discussions – 4 @ 50 200 _____

First Draft – 200 (Due at Mid-term) _____

Final Draft –200 (Due at Final) _____

Submission Packet – 100 (Due at Final) _____

Discussions: Student is required to discuss each assigned play and be able to identify all the major structural components as well as themes.

Midterm: Student will submit a rough draft of a full length play.

Final: Student will submit a final version of a full length play as well as a submission packet.

Participation: Effective participation consists of completing the reading for the day and being prepared to engage with it during the duration of the class meeting.

Availability of Instructor: I enjoy speaking with students and am available most of the day. You may drop by my office or make an appointment to go over any ideas or ask any questions.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is the act of claiming another’s words or ideas as your own. Any instance of plagiarism will be dealt with according to the policies outlined in the SRSU Student Handbook.

Special Needs: *Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-171, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8203.*

This course will observe the university’s guidelines for avoiding sexual harassment. However, because theatre imitates life and because sexuality is a part of life, some materials in this course may deal with sexual behaviors, situations, or language.

Late work will NOT be accepted.