

## **Directing II: THEA 4304:001**

Spring, 2017

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Office Hours: M-TH 4:00-5:00  
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 student learning outcomes (SLO) 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 of short plays for production purposes. Included are a review of the fundamentals of blocking, script analysis, achievement of emphasis, and the development of aesthetic values. Student will produce a One-Act Play for public production.

### **II. Goals for the course: Desired Student Outcomes**

The goal of this class is to gain a stronger understanding of the principles of directing and basic production elements required in mounting a one-act play for the public to view.

- Achieve knowledge of staging, analysis, director/actor communication, production and the performance process itself.
- To improve student's organizational and communication abilities.
- Understand and develop strategies for solving problems and making decisions.
- Develop strong small group communication skills and team skills in working with designers and production shop personnel.

**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 one-act play.

**VI. Methods of Evaluation:**

1. Completion of assignments and projects = 20%
2. Midterm project (scene) = 20%
4. Instructor, peer, and self evaluation = 10%
5. Final project (one-act play) prompt book = 50%

**V. Organization of Course Content:**

- Week 1 Course Introduction and One-Act Play Review  
Directing I Review: Read Chapters 3 & 4 (SLO #3)  
The Foundation and Facade of the Play Script  
The Hard Core of the Play Script
- Week 2 Directing I Review: Read Chapters 5 & 6 (SLO #3)  
Idea and Rhythmic Beats  
The Director's Preparation
- Week 3 Directing I Review: Read Chapters 7 & 8 (SLO #3 & 4)  
Directing is Working with Actors  
Leaning to See
- Week 4 Directing I Review: Read Chapters 9 & 10 (SLO #3 & 5)  
The Ground Plan  
Composition
- Week 5 Directing I Review: Chapters 11 (SLO #4)  
Helping Each Actor Intensify
- Week 6 Chapters 13 & 14 (SLO #4, 5 & 7)  
The Dynamic Tool of Movement  
Coordinating Visual Tools
- Week 7 Mid-Term Scene Due

Week 8 Chapters 15, 16, & 17 (SLO #5, 6 & 7)  
The Director's Job is Finding Oral and Visual Balance  
Directing is Designing  
The Director and the Stage Machine

SPRING BREAK

Week 9 Chapters 18, 19, & 20 (SLO #5, 6 & 7)  
Director's Option 1: Choice of stage  
Director's Option 2: Scenery  
Director's Option 3: Costume, Makeup, and Sound Effects

Week 10 AUDITIONS: March 29  
Chapter 21  
Responsibility to the Audience

Weeks 11-14 Major Project: Rehearsals

Week 15 Major Project: Tech. Rehearsals and Performances  
Performances: April 28 and 29, 2017

Week 16 Peer-review and discussion

**Final: One-Act Play promptbook is due on exam day: Monday, December 8**

**VI. Grading Scale:**

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