

# EASTERN ARIZONA COLLEGE

## Introduction to Theatre

Course Design

2018-2019

### Course Information

**Division** Fine Arts  
**Course Number** THC 105  
**Title** Introduction to Theatre  
**Credits** 3  
**Developed by** Steven Higginbotham  
**Lecture/Lab Ratio** 3 Lecture/0 Lab

### Transfer Status

ASU	NAU	UA
THE 100, Humanities, Arts & Design (HU)	TH 101; Aesthetic & Humanistic Inquiry [AHI]	TAR 103; Tier 2 Arts (ARTS)

**Activity Course** No  
**CIP Code** 50.0500  
**Assessment Mode** Final Exam (50 Questions/100 Points)  
**Semester Taught** Fall and Spring  
**GE Category** Humanities  
**Separate Lab** No  
**Awareness Course** Yes (GIH)  
**Intensive Writing Course** No  
**Diversity and Inclusion Course** Yes

### Prerequisites

ENG 091 with a grade of "C" or higher or reading placement test score as established by District policy

### Educational Value

#### A. To General Education

Introduction to Theatre is a general education course in the Humanities which is designed to help students improve levels of personal development, self-appraisal, and social adjustment through dedicated academic study. Students will integrate knowledge which will deepen their understanding of and inform their own choices about issues of personal and public importance and construct relationships between theatre and other subjects of interest (such as the humanities, fine arts, literature, composition, oral communication, history, and social and behavioral sciences).

#### B. To Major/Program

For a student majoring in the Theatre Arts, this course serves as an introduction to a body of information which is prerequisite to further study in the field of drama. Students will learn basic theatre terminology, investigate different eras of theatre history, examine the unique qualities of varied performance spaces, discuss the contributions of the different stage artists who collaborate to create the art form of live theatre, and analyze dramatic texts and literature.

C. Other

Theatre asks audiences to observe stories in action and evaluate them in connection with the human condition and their own personal experiences. Studying this art form should encourage students to create, collaborate, and communicate with increased personal sensitivity and awareness, especially as a member of a theatrical audience. In addition, this course should serve to build students' appreciation for the performing arts and their recognition that theatre can be a vehicle for expressing culture, beliefs, entertainment interests, and even sociopolitical ideologies. This course fulfills the Global/International/Historical Awareness (GIH) requirement.

D. Meets Diversity and Inclusion requirement.

**Description**

This course seeks to provide students with a broad base of knowledge about the theatre and foster an appreciation of this dynamic art form through the study of dramatic plays, varied theatrical practices, the roles of different stage artists, and the historical and cultural significances of diverse dramatic forms and genres.

**Supplies**

None

**Competencies and Performance Standards**

**1. Identify key aspects of basic theatre history: Greek, Medieval, Renaissance, Modern Europe, Modern U.S.A, and one Non-Western Theatre Tradition (Asia or Africa).**

**Learning objectives**

*What you will learn as you master the competency:*

- a. Identify social, political, and cultural events that have had effects on the various stages of theatre's development.
- b. Describe how theatre reflects the cultural values of society and how drama played a part in each age's enhancement of its culture's growth.
- c. Identify key characteristics of Realism, Naturalism, Expressionism, Poetic Realism, Epic Theatre, and Symbolism.

**Performance Standards**

*Competence will be demonstrated:*

- o in written quizzes and exams

*Criteria - Performance will be satisfactory when learner:*

- o describes social, political, and cultural events that have had effects on the various stages of theatre's development
- o describes how theatre reflects the cultural values of society and how drama played a part in each age's enhancement of its culture's growth
- o identifies key characteristics of Realism, Naturalism, Expressionism, Poetic Realism, Epic Theatre, and Symbolism

**2. Describe and discuss theatre spaces and the contribution of specific theatre artists - playwright, director, designer (set, costume, sound, and lighting), actors, and theatre audience.**

**Learning objectives**

*What you will learn as you master the competency:*

- a. Identify the different parts of the theatre and stage.
- b. Describe the various roles people play in the production of a play: director, playwright, actor, designer, producer, etc.
- c. Identify the organizational needs of a production.

**Performance Standards**

*Competence will be demonstrated:*

- o in written quizzes and exams

*Criteria - Performance will be satisfactory when learner:*

- o identifies the different parts of the theatre and stage
- o describes the various roles people play in the production of a play: director, playwright, actor, designer, producer, etc.
- o identifies the organizational needs of a production

**3. Observe and review a live production.**

**Learning objectives**

*What you will learn as you master the competency:*

- a. Observe and comment on the quality of the production
- b. Identify the play by title, name the author and director
- c. Identify the major actors by name and the name of the characters they portray
- d. Provide criticism on the acting, directing, set design, and special effects
- e. Express what elements in the play moved you and why

**Performance Standards**

*Competence will be demonstrated:*

- o attendance and written assignments of two Theatre Arts productions

*Criteria - Performance will be satisfactory when learner:*

- o writes a critical report

**4. Read and analyze a scripted play.**

**Learning objectives**

*What you will learn as you master the competency:*

- a. Summarize the plot of the play and identify the components of its dramatic structure.
- b. Investigate the characters of the play and their inherent motivations and objectives.
- c. Creatively forecast how this play might come to life in a live, staged production.

**Performance Standards**

*Competence will be demonstrated:*

- o in quizzes or exams
- o in the learner's contribution to group discussions
- o in associated theatrical design projects, if assigned by the instructor

*Performance will be satisfactory when learner:*

- o receives at least 70% on all quizzes or exams related to the plot and structure of the assigned play
- o successfully completes at least a 1-page character analysis or biography

- o completes all design projects, as assigned

***Types of Instruction***

Classroom Lecture and Presentation

Active/Discovery Learning

Group Discussion

Creative Project Development and Presentation

Critical Evaluation of Readings and Observed Performances

***Grading Information***

***Grading Rationale***

15% Quizzes

40% Projects and Assignments

15% Show Attendance and Required Written Responses

5% Midterm Exam

10% Final Exam (Post Test)

15% Attendance and Participation

***Grading Scale***

A 100-90%

B 89-80%

C 79-70%

D 69-60%

F 59% and below