INTRODUCTION TO THEATRE

Instructor: Prof. Claire McDonald
E-Mail: mcdonald@stthom.edu

Class Times: MW 12:10-1:25 in Jones Theatre (201)
Office Hours: MW 9:00-12:00, TTH 8:30-9:30 and by appointment
713-525-3522; Jones 200

Required Text: Theatre (brief version), 11th ed. by Robert Cohen

Course Objectives

To provide the student with:
1. an understanding of the parts of the theatre, their unique relationships to one another,
   and how each makes a unique contribution.
2. a foundation in theatre history that enhances the student's awareness of the role of theatre in civilization, and aids the student in understanding how theater has evolved to where and what it is today.

And to develop in the student:
1. a critical eye, or, to exercise the student's perceptive faculties by exposing him to productions and evaluating them.
2. an awareness of (and hopefully a fondness for) theatre in our own community.

Summary of Course Requirements

The student will:
1. complete four examinations (100 pts. each; 400 pts.)
2. write two critiques of UST drama productions (100 pts. each; 200 pts.)
3. complete 10 hours of R&P (10 pts. an hour; 100 pts.)
4. attend class. Each absence in excess of three will result in a loss of 10 pts.
   (3 tardies = 1 absence) Late work will lose points!
5. participate in one creative project OR write a term paper (100 pts.)
6. complete the final exam (200 pts.)

Grading Scale

900-1000 pts. = A range
800-899 pts. = B range
700-799 pts. = C range
500-699 pts. = D range
below 500 pts. = F

Any student with a disability requiring accommodations in this course is encouraged to contact me after class or during office hours. Additionally, students will need to contact Counseling Services in Crooker Center for any disability services.
Class Calendar – Spring 2017 MW

Jan. 23 – Introduction  
25 - What is the Theatre? (chap. 1); What is a Play? (chap. 2)  
30 - The Ancients (chap. 7)

Feb. 1 - The Greeks and Romans  
6 – Exam #1  
8 - The Middle Ages  
11 – Saturday Workday 9-4  
13 – Shakespeare and Friends  
15 - The Royal Theatre; The Romantic Theatre  
18 – Saturday Workday 9-4  
20 – Realism (chap. 8); auditions for AMPERSAND 2.0 are this week  
22 – Anti-realism  
25 – Saturday Workday 9-4 (may not be available)  
27 – The Theatre of Asia (end of chap. 7)  
1 - Exam #2  
2 – The Complete Works of Shakespeare (abridged) plays Mar. 2, 3, 4 at 8pm  
6 - Musical Theatre (chap. 9)

Mar. 8 - Theatre Today (chap. 10)  
8 - The Complete Works of Shakespeare (abridged) plays Mar. 8, 9,10 at 8pm  
13/15– Spring Break - NO CLASS  
20 - Acting (chap. 3); 1st Play Critique due  
22 – Acting  
27 – Exam #3  
29 - Playwriting (chap. 4)

Apr. 1 - Saturday Workday 9-4  
3 – Scene Design (chap. 5)  
5 - Light Design  
10 - Costume Design  
12 – Makeup Design  
17 – Sound Design & Special Effects  
19 – Directing (chap. 6)  
22 – Saturday Work Day 9-4  
24 – Critics (chap. 11)  
26 - Exam #4; AMPERSAND 2.0 plays Apr. 26, 27, 28, 29 at 8pm

May 1 - Final Project Presentations; 2nd Play Critique due  
3 - Final Project Presentations

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10th - FINAL EXAM 12:00-2:30