DIRECTING
T-TH 11:00 - 12:15

Instructor: Claire McDonald; mcdonald@stthom.edu; 713-525-3522

Office Hours: MW 9:00-12:00; TTH 8:30-9:30 and by appointment

Recommended Text: Play Directing, Francis Hodge & Michael McLain, Allyn & Bacon, 7th ed.

Course Objectives:

1. To provide the student with hands-on training in:
   a. auditioning and casting
   b. blocking and rehearsing
   c. production coordination
   d. directing a ten-minute play
2. To provide the student with an overview of the theoretical and practical aspects of:
   a. script analysis
   b. director’s choices
   c. working with designers
   d. director’s responsibilities

Summary of Course Requirements:

1. Homework Assignments (100 pts.)
   a. script analysis/concept development
   b. groundplan
   c. auditions & casting
   d. designs
   e. rehearsal schedules
2. Scene to Music (100 pts.)
3. Midterm Scene (100 pts.)
3. Midterm Assessment (100 pts.)
4. One directing report on a UST Drama production (100 pts.)
5. Final Production with promptbook and critique (500 pts.)

LATE PROJECTS AND ABSENCES IN EXCESS OF THREE WILL LOSE TEN POINTS EACH CLASS DAY!
THREE TARDIES WILL BE COUNTED AS AN ABSENCE.

Grading Scale:
900-1000 pts. - A range
800-899 pts. - B range
700-799 pts. - C range
600-699 pts. - D range
below 600 pts. – F
COURSE CALENDAR FOR DIRECTING - SPRING 2017

Jan.  19 - Introduction; chap. 1 & 2
      24 - Given Circumstances; chap. 3
      26 - Dramatic Action; chap. 4; Beats; chap. 5
      31 - Director Preparation; chap. 6

Feb.  02 - Scene choreographed to music due
       07 - Working with actors; chap. 7
       09 - Visual Perception; chap. 8
       14 - Groundplans; chap. 9
       16 - Composition; chap. 10
       21 - Hold Auditions and finalize cast this week
       23 - Hold Auditions and finalize cast this week
       28 - Improvisation with props; chap. 11

Mar.  02 - Picturization; chap. 12;
       07 - Movement; chap. 13
       09 - Midterm
       14 - NO CLASS - MIDTERM BREAK
       16 - NO CLASS - MIDTERM BREAK
       21 - Scenes Due; One–Act rehearsals begin; #1 Directing Report due
       23 - Scenes Due
       28 - Coordinating Blocking; chap. 14
       30 - Finding Oral and Visual Balance; chap. 15

Apr.  01 - SATURDAY WORKDAY
       04 - Directing is Designing; chap. 16/17
       06 - Symbolization; chap. 18
       11 - Choosing a stage; chap. 19
       13 - NO CLASS - EASTER BREAK
       18 - Choosing sets, props and lights; chap. 20
       20 - Choosing costumes, make up and sound effects; chap. 21
       22 - SATURDAY WORKDAY
       24 - TECH REHEARSAL
       25 - TECH REHEARSAL; Responsibility to the Audience; chap. 22
       26 - One-Act Play Performance
       27 - One-Act Play Performance
       28 - One-Act Play Performance
       29 - One-Act Play Performance

May  02 - Style: Individual, Playwright’s and Director’s; chaps. 23-25
      04 - Style in Production; chaps. 26-29; Promptbook due

     09 - FINAL EXAM 12:00 – 2:30 (Tues.)