

### Basic Course Information

Semester:	<b>Summer 2023</b>	Instructor Name:	<b>Dr. J D Patterson</b>
Course Title & #:	<b>THEA 100</b> Introduction to Theatre	Email:	jenn.patterson@imperial.edu
CRN #:	<b>CRNs 30156 &amp; 30231</b>	Office #:	2795
Classroom:	Fully Online	Office Hours:	By appointment only
Class Dates:	June 20 – July 29, 2023	Office Phone #:	760-355-6846 (message only)
Class Days:	Asynchronous		
Class Times:	Asynchronous		
Units:	3 units		

### Course Description

The class focuses on the relationship of theatre to various cultures throughout history and on the contributions of significant individual artists. This course introduces students to elements of the production process including playwrighting, acting, directing, design, and criticism. Students will also survey different periods, styles, and genres of theatre through play reading, discussion, films, and viewing and critiquing live theatre.

### Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Analyze and evaluate the nature of theatre and its role in society.
2. Assess the historical, artistic, social, and philosophical contexts in which theatre exists.
3. Critically analyze dramatic literature and performances.
4. Identify and examine theatrical components in production.
5. Propose alternative solutions to theatrical production situations.
6. Appreciate viewing theatre as an art form.

### Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Patterson, James David. *The Seeing Place: an Introduction to Theatre*. Glenn Paul Press, 2009.

ISBN: 978-0-692-97340-0. [www.glennpaulpress.com/projects](http://www.glennpaulpress.com/projects)

This is an Open Educational Resource (OER) available through Canvas.

## Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

**Periodic Examinations** [100 pts possible]: The student will complete short, objective quizzes over assigned readings from the required textbook and classroom lecture material.

Missed examinations cannot be made up. Students who anticipate an absence should arrange to take the exam(s) early, before the date of the examination.

**Dramatic Literature** [50 pts possible]:

- The student will begin by selecting a historical theatrical period or 20<sup>th</sup> century movement. [5 points]
- The student will conduct general research to identify a playwright or other theatre technician and write a 2-page general biography. [15 points]
- The student will identify one play written by the selected playwright, locate and read the play, and write a 2-page analysis of the play. This analysis needs to demonstrate how the selected play is representative of the historical theatrical period or 20<sup>th</sup> century movement. [30 points]

Both essays must be two pages in length, double-spaced throughout. The paper must include a clear introduction and a complete concluding paragraph. The paper must have clear external transitions between points/sections. Every paragraph should have at least three sentences.

The paper must include research materials – quote directly from the source – provided with appropriate reference citations in the text of the paper keyed to the appropriately documented source materials on the Works Cited page.

Quoted material must be enclosed in quotation marks. The citations and documentation must follow correct MLA rules.

**Do not assume you know correct MLA citation and documentation rules.** Information and guidelines for MLA formatting can be found at the Online Writing Lab (OWL) at Purdue University:

[http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/research/r\\_mla.html](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/research/r_mla.html)

### **Extra Points**

Additional points can be earned by submitted an early draft of the research paper to NetTutor. The student can follow the link in Canvas to submit/upload a copy of the paper. NetTutor typically will respond within 48 hours. The student should turn in a copy of the NetTutor report with the Final Draft.

**Theatre Project – Playwriting** [50 pts possible]: The student will develop and write a three-character, single location scene which runs approximately ten (10) minutes in performance.

- The scene must have a beginning, middle, and end.
- The scene must be typed according to the appropriate script format (available from the instructor).
- The play must use correct grammar and spelling (dialogue may be developed appropriate to Character/ Diction).

Points	Criteria
50	Student submission meets all requirements and is interesting/entertaining to read.
45	Three (3) actors required, single location, approximately ten-minutes to perform. Appropriate script format with five or fewer errors in grammar, spelling, and/or punctuation.  [NOTE: Characters in a play can sometimes speak in sentence fragments, but they never speak in comma splices. All stage directions must be identified in italics.]
40	Three (3) actors required, single location, approximately ten-minutes to perform. Appropriate script format with no more than ten errors in grammar, spelling, and/or punctuation.
30	Three (3) actors required, single location, approximately ten-minutes to perform. Appropriated script format with more than ten errors in grammar, spelling, and/or punctuation.
25	Appropriate script format has been used, but the play requires more than three (3) actors and/or multiple locations.
20	The script is considerably shorter or considerably longer than 10 minutes.

**Theatre Project – Acting** [50 pts possible]: The student will prepare and perform an assigned monologue before the class. The monologue must be delivered verbatim and make a clear attempt at characterization. Two monologues (male and female) are provided later in this syllabus. The student may present a different monologue only with prior instructor approval. A copy of the monologue must be provided to the instructor at least 48 hours in advance.

Monologues must be presented in the class period designated. Students who anticipate an absence should arrange to perform their monologues early.

Points	Criteria
50	The student delivers the monologue without obvious error.
47	The student completes the monologue but with minor problems.
40	The student completes the monologue, but there are several obvious difficulties, errors, or false starts.
35	The student is able to complete at least half of the monologue but cannot finish without prompting.

**Theatre Project – Design** [50 pts possible]: The student will develop a floorplan for a scene from a selected script and design one costume for the same scene. The script must be selected from those scripts viewed in class:

- Oedipus Rex* by Sophocles
- Everyman* (anonymous)
- The Merchant of Venice* by William Shakespeare
- A Doll’s House* by Henrik Ibsen
- The Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller

Points	Criteria
50	The student completes an interesting floorplan and submits an appropriate costume for a character in the scene selected.
45	The student completes a basic floorplan and basic costume design.
40	The student submits a floorplan and costume design which evidence a rushed product.
30	The student submits a floorplan or a costume design, but not both.

**Out of Class Assignments:** The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class time and two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. WASC has adopted a similar requirement.

Late or Make-up work will not be accepted after 5:00 p.m. on 25 June 2023.

## Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Periodic Examinations .....	100
Playwright Paper .....	15
Literary Analysis Paper .....	30
Theatre Project: Playwrighting .....	50
Theatre Project: Acting .....	50
Theatre Project: Design .....	50

Minimum Point Total for a Passing Grade of C: 225 points

**Warning:** The grades (points) in Canvas are not a true account of the student's status in the course. Dr. Patterson maintains some points separate from the Canvas grades.

## Co-Curricular Theatrical Opportunities

The student must score at least 60% on the in-class examinations to be eligible for these extra credit opportunities.

### Option A: [20 pts possible]

Should the student have an opportunity to attend a theatrical production during the semester, the student may earn extra credit by preparing a two-page, typed critique of the production. The student should include the playbill/program or ticket stub with the critique. The critique must follow MLA formatting guidelines and demonstrate correct grammar and punctuation.

### Option B: [possible points will vary]

Should the student have an opportunity to participate significantly in a local theatrical production (during the semester), extra credit can be awarded toward the final grade in this course. The student should complete a log of dates, times, and work completed in the production

## Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students will evidence a satisfactory level of knowledge of theatre history (Greek, Roman, Medieval, Elizabethan, 17th Century France, Melodrama, Realism, and Non-realism) through objective examination.
2. Students will evidence a satisfactory level of awareness of theatre production processes through specific projects in Playwrighting, Acting, and Design.
3. Students will demonstrate a familiarity with performance theory related to Acting and Directing.

## Course Policies

### Academic Honesty

Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the important of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property.

There are many different forms of academic dishonesty. The following kinds of honesty violations and their definitions are not meant to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended to serve as examples of unacceptable academic conduct.

- Plagiarism is taking and presenting as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source.
  - Quoting from a source without identifying the quoted words with quotation marks is plagiarism.
  - Failing to provide accurate and complete bibliographic information for research materials is plagiarism.
- You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to correctly cite a source, you must ask for help. There is no difference between accidental and intentional plagiarism.
- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the General Catalog for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (a) plagiarism;
- (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment;
- (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination;
- (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; and/or
- (e) using a commercial term paper service.

## Attendance

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class will be dropped from the Opening Day Roster by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. A student who fails to attend the second meeting of the class will be dropped on the Census Roster. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class.
- It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See General Catalog for details. The deadline to drop with "W" is **19 July 2023**.
- Dr. Patterson only drops students on the Opening Day Roster and the Census Roster.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

## Student Rights and Responsibility

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and to due process of law. For more information regarding student rights and responsibilities, please refer to the IVC [General Catalog](#).

Students have a responsibility to behave in a civil and respectful manner in all class communications. Student privacy and personal space must be respected at all times.

## IVC Student Resources

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.

## Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

A traditional Introduction to Theatre class and/or textbook is divided into two parts. One half of the class will cover History of Theatre and the second half will cover Theatrical Production.

This class will converge the two sections so we look at Theatrical Production elements along with the History of Theatre. The required, online textbook is set up in this format.

**\*\*\*Subject to change without prior notice\*\*\***