IMPERIAL VALLEY COLLEGE

Basic Course Information

Semester:	**Fall 2024**	Instructor Name:	**Dr. Jennifer Patterson**
Course Title & #:	**THEA 100** Introduction to Theatre	Email:	jdpatterson@sdsu.edu jenn.patterson@imperial.edu
CRN #:	**CRN 10725**	Office #:	2795
Classroom:	Room 2725	Office Hours:	Mon. 11:00-noon (Zoom) Tues. 11:00-noon (2795) Wed. 2:00-3:00 (2795 Fri. 2:00-3:00 (Zoom)
Class Dates:	Aug 13 – Dec 4		
Class Days:	Tuesdays		
Class Times:	1:00 – 4:10 p.m.	Office Phone #:	760-355-6846 (message only)
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

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.

Research Paper [100 pts possible]: The student will be assigned one of the historical periods covered in a chapter of the textbook to develop a 3-page research paper.

Course Learning Objectives:

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.

The general understanding of theatre history and production will be covered in other assignments in this course. This Research Paper assignment requires students to conduct in-depth research and write an in-depth research paper demonstrating effective research into a specific element of the historical period or movement selected.

The research paper assignment will be graded in three phases: (1) Research, (2) First Draft, and (3) Final Draft.

Research: The research paper must include a minimum of three credible sources, one of which must be the required textbook. The student will provide the research sources in correct MLA textual citations and bibliographic documentation. [5 pts possible]

Reading/Note-taking: For each of the three sources identified and approved, the student will submit a one-page set of notes and quotes from the source document. Do Not Paraphrase! Quote directly from the source! [5 pts possible for each]

Outline: From the research notes taken, the student will develop a comprehensive outline per professor's instructions. [20 pts]

First Draft: During a designated class period, the student will write a first draft of his/her research paper without quotes or citations. The first draft must include Introduction, Body (at least two main points), and Conclusion. The first draft will be graded on content and correct spelling, grammar, and development. [35 pts possible]

35 points for well-developed papers in MLA format with minor errors.
30 points for papers with redundancy (fluff and nonsense).
25 points for papers that lack of focus or depth.
20 points for papers with significant errors in grammar or documentation.

<u>Final Draft</u>: The research paper must follow appropriate MLA format and documentation guidelines and must contain correct spelling, grammar, and development. [50 pts possible]

The text of the Final Draft must be three (3) pages in length, double-spaced throughout. The Works Cited bibliography will be on the fourth page. The paper must include a clear introduction and a complete concluding paragraph. Every paragraph should have at least three sentences.

The paper must include research materials – quote directly from your sources – 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 appropriate MLA format guidelines. The paper must have a minimum of three sources, one of which must be the required textbook for the course.

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

Unacceptable Papers
Student writing that does not follow MLA formatting, which lacks clear organization/development or wanders outside the parameters of the assignment, and/or which contains numerous errors in grammar, punctuation, and/or spelling is considered unacceptable. The Final Draft will be returned to the student with a zero grade.

Also **unacceptable** are papers that provide a generic overview of the historical period or movement selected by the student.

Late Submissions
Late submissions will not be accepted.

Extra Points
Additional points can be earned by submitted an early draft of the research paper to online or in-person tutoring assistance. Evidence of the tutor's feedback must be presented to the professor at the time of submission of the final draft.

Theatre Project – Playwrighting [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. Appropriate 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. • The script does not follow a standard play format.

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. The monologue must require 60-90 seconds to perform correctly. Two monologues 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. ace-your-audition.com

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 completes at least half of the monologue but cannot finish without prompting.
20	The student is unable to complete the monologue without significant 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

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 which ignores audience sightlines.
35	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 Friday, 22 November 2024.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Periodic Examinations 100
Research Paper 100
Critical Analysis: *Oedipus Rex* 10
Critical Analysis: *Everyman* 10
Critical Analysis: *Merchant of Venice* 10
Critical Analysis: *A Doll's House* 20
Theatre Project: Playwrighting 50
Theatre Project: Acting 50
Theatre Project: Design 50

Minimum Point Total for a Passing Grade of C: 300 points

Warning: The grades (points) in Canvas <u>are not a true account</u> 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

Decorum

In a normal class session, students are encouraged to participate and ask questions freely. However, in those class meetings wherein a stage production is being shown, students are expected to follow theatre attendance decorum. Students should remain seated, quiet, and attentive as a sign of respect for the actors performing. During a live stage production, conversation or entering and leaving is considered rude and can easily break the concentration of the performers. Students need to comport themselves accordingly.

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 (in-text citations and bibliographic documentation) is plagiarism.
    - The use of any AI-generation software is plagiarism.

- The student 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. <u>There is no difference between accidental and intentional plagiarism</u>.

- 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 **2 November 2024**.

- 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