

Fall 2015

FTA 1000

Beau Bratcher
University of New Orleans

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THEATRE APPRECIATION – FTA 1000

Fall 2015

MW 6:00pm – 7:30pm

PAC 313

Instructor: Beau Bratcher

TA: Nathan Anderson

Office Hours: Before Class/ After Class or by appointment

E-mail: bbratche@uno.edu

FTCA Main Office Phone: (504) 280-6317 – leave a message

Mailbox: located in FTA Main Office PAC 307

REQUIRED TEXT:

Theatre, The Lively Art

Edwin Wilson and Alvin Goldfarb

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

FTCA 1000 is an introductory course for students interested in understanding and appreciating the art of theatre. Our work will focus on the artists and technicians who create theatre, the history of theatre, and an examination of the process involved in producing contemporary theatre. No prior knowledge of theatre is required. Class structure is based on class lectures and discussions from readings in the required text, viewing of video material, and required attendance at **two (2)** UNO theatre performances. This class does not involve the actual production of a play or performance training. No laboratory hours are required for this course.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

After successfully completing this course, students should be able to:

- identify and explain selected major events and movements in theatre history;
- analyze the artistic quality of acting, playwriting, directing, and design;
- recognize the basic components of live performance.

The student should also gain an enhanced appreciation of the Theatre Arts.

REQUIRED PLAY ATTENDANCE:

Attendance at **two (2)** UNO theatre productions is required. UNO is producing three plays this semester. *The Misanthrope* in October, *Agnes of God* and *Two Rooms* in November. Extra credit is available for seeing additional shows beyond the two required. Opportunities for this extra credit will be announced throughout the semester.

- You will be required to bring in a ticket stub and a MINIMUM two-page paper describing what you saw using the terms we discuss in class. You can talk about any aspect of the production and discuss why you liked or disliked it. I will provide you with a set of guidelines for writing your critiques. **A summary of the play is not acceptable.**
- Your paper should be a MINIMUM of two pages and a MAXIMUM of four pages. It should have no greater than 12 point font. Margins should all be one inch. Follow current MLA guidelines.
- Your paper is due NO LATER than two weeks after you watched the production. **I do not accept ANY work submitted via email.**
- DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE END OF THE SEMESTER. *Agnes of God* and *Two Rooms* are both in the Lab Theatre which is VERY small and often sells out. Don't procrastinate!
- Tickets (\$8 for UNO students) can be reserved and purchased at the box office, #280-SHOW (7469), beginning one week prior to opening night.

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ATTENDANCE:

Attendance is required at all sessions and at the productions. If you miss the class three times, you can not earn an A. If you miss the class four times, you cannot earn a B. If you miss the class six or more times, you cannot pass the class.

GRADING:

Final grades will be determined by an average of your scores for major exams, papers and quizzes. Exam questions will be derived from weekly lectures and videos. Participation will measure your attendance as well as how actively you participate in class discussions.

20% - Exam #1

20% - Exam #2

20% - Exam #3

20% - Papers

20% - Participation, Attitude & Quizzes

I reserve the right to conduct “pop” quizzes throughout the semester. These will be based on information in the required text as well as any material covered in class.

Exam questions will be taken from the required text, class lectures and videos. Each exam totals 100 points. All tests will require a GREEN computer sheet and a #2 pencil. (I will not supply these for you.) **A makeup exam will only be given under the most extreme circumstances, with proper documentation, and at the discretion of the instructor.**

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO FULFILL THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS CLASS PLEASE DROP IT!!!!

Refer to class bulletin regarding University drop/withdrawal deadlines

****Viewing of videos and play attendance CANNOT be made up or rescheduled.****

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Academic integrity is fundamental to the process of learning and evaluating Academic performance. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following: cheating, plagiarism, tampering with academic records and examinations, falsifying identity, and being an accessory to acts of academic dishonesty. Refer to the UNO Judicial Code for further information.

FINAL GRADE REPORTING:

Under no circumstance will final grades be posted in any manner or given out over the phone by the Department or your instructor. You can learn of your final grade by calling the day after final grades have been posted.

ACCOMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students who qualify for services will receive the academic modifications for which they are legally entitled. It is the responsibility of the student to register with the Office of Disability Services each semester and follow their procedures for obtaining assistance.

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CLASSROOM CONDUCT:

- Be in class on time. Tardiness is disrespectful to your instructor as well as your classmates.
- **Turn off** all cell phones before you walk through the door. **TEXTING WILL NOT BE PERMITTED DURING LECTURES. IF I SEE YOU DOING IT, YOU WILL BE ASKED TO LEAVE.**
- Go to the bathroom before class begins.
- Please raise your hand to comment or question.
- Respect our classroom. Do not leave your trash behind.
- You are expected to prepare for each class and be ready for active engagement and discussion.
- Civility in the classroom and respect for the opinions of others is very important in an academic environment. It is likely you may not agree with everything that is said or discussed in class. Courteous behavior and responses are expected. Exercise caution and tact when discussing issues of gender, sexuality, religion, or political viewpoints that differ from your own. Disagreement is an opportunity to learn and to expand your world view.

CONDUCT WHILE ATTENDING A PERFORMANCE:

Arrive early (no later than 15 minutes before curtain.) If you arrive at performance time, you are late and may not be seated. **Turn OFF your cell phone!** Never talk or text while a play is in progress. This is disrespectful to the performers as well as those around you. Comments of any kind are disrespectful to the performers and other audience members. Inappropriate responses of any kind during the performance could result in your ejection from the theatre and prompt failure of the course, without exception.

EXTRA CREDIT:

There will be opportunities to receive extra credit. You are encouraged to see shows outside of our department. You will earn 5 points toward your next exam grade for an acceptable paper on any additional shows. For this extra credit, you need only to submit the program of the production and a 1 page response indicating what you liked and did not like about what you saw. You may turn up to **four** additional play critiques for extra credit. You may earn up to 20 points of extra credit. Announcements will regularly be made about possible shows that you can see. **THE FINAL DAY TO SUBMIT EXTRA CREDIT PAPERS IS AT THE FINAL.**