

**Theatre Appreciation  
THEA 1100  
Fall 2007**

**T TH 12:30-1:45**

Bonner Lecture Hall

[pgagnon@westga.edu](mailto:pgagnon@westga.edu)

Humanities 139

678-839-4934

Dr. Pauline Gagnon

Martha Munro Bldg 207B

678-839-4706

Office Hours

T and TH 8-9

M-W 1-5

T and TH 2-5

**Course description**

Introductory analysis of script and actual performance and examination of current trends in theatre. The course satisfies 3.0 credit hours of Core Area III.

**Texts**

Felner, Mira and Claudia Orenstein. *The World of Theatre: Tradition and Innovation*. 2006.

Sophocles. *Oedipus Rex*. Online at <http://classics.mit.edu/Sophocles/oedipus.html>

**Online MyUWG**

Each of you have quick and easy access to resources which can help you do well in the course. Link to this class through your UWG account and you can find class announcements, power points of lectures and other course materials. MyUWG is the main communication center. All materials and announcements are posted to this web site.

**Play Attendance**

You are required to attend BOTH of the two productions performed at the TCPA this semester. You must make certain you have turned in a ticket stub from each production with your signature on the back. Failure to attend one of the productions will result in 5 points off your total grade.

**Quizzes (75%)**

There are three quizzes in the course, each worth 25 points maximum. Tests cover reading assignments, lectures, productions attended and multimedia presentations.

**Creative Final Project (25%) Review the attached detailed guidelines.**

The final project is your formal response to the play *Oedipus Rex*. Many options exist including but not limited to:

- 1) Create detailed sketches or drawings demonstrating how you might design scenery, costumes or lighting.
- 2) Perform a monologue or scene from the play.
- 3) Design a soundtrack burning 5-8 songs on a CD for selected scenes.
- 4) Other project idea per approval of your instructor.

**Hard copies of your final project must be turned in when due. Emailed projects are not accepted. Project is due TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4TH. No exceptions.**

### **Attendance/Tardiness/Responsibilities**

You are responsible for your own attendance. Keep in mind, much of the material comes from lectures and class exercises. **You do need to attend class to do well on quizzes. Participating in *Oedipus Rex* workshops will help you do well on the final project.** Please avoid entering the classroom once the door has been closed since latecomers are disruptive to student concentration. Be civil at all times and focus on understanding the material when you are in attendance. No food or drinks are allowed in the classroom at any time. Sleeping, inattentive or disorderly students will be asked to leave. Please respect the rights of others. **Turn off cell phones before class begins!**

**I will conduct workshops on *Oedipus Rex* during certain class periods throughout the semester. These sessions are a great opportunity for you to plan and develop your final project!**

### **Scale**

**Total points available=100**

100-90	A
89-80	B
79-70	C
69-60	D
59-0	F

### **Degree Program Learning Outcomes**

- Students will demonstrate that they are familiar with a representative selection of plays, indicated by a demonstrable knowledge of selected plays, theatrical conventions, and theatrical movements important in the formation of modern theatre.
- Students will be able to critically understand basic knowledge of theatre history theory, and criticism, as well as research sources and methodology
- Students will have the ability to apply the skills they learned in courses to a variety of work and social environments.

### **Course Learning Outcomes**

Students will be exposed to live theatre productions.

Students will apply elements of live theatre productions to their own production concept.

Students will analyze *Oedipus Rex*.

Students will transfer *Oedipus Rex* to a contemporary production on paper.

Students will apply elements of theatrical theories and techniques to their own production concept.

## Course Outline

	Topic	Read
<b>AUG</b>		
Th 16	Syllabus Review Introduction to the Course	
T 21	A Global Experience	Chapter 1
Th 23	The Audience	Chapter 2
T 28	Understanding Plays	Chapter 3
Th 30	<i>Suzan-Lori Parks</i> Video	
<b>SEPT</b>		
T 4	Western Theatre	Chapter 4
TH 6	“ “	
T 11	Sophocles and <i>Oedipus Rex</i>	<i>Oedipus Rex</i>
TH 13	Quiz Review	
<b>T 18</b>	<b>Quiz #1 (Chapters 1-4 and <i>Oedipus Rex</i>)</b>	
TH 20	The Actor	Chapter 7
T 25	The Director	Chapter 8
TH 27	<i>Interviews with Actors</i> Video	
<b>OCT</b>		
T 2	Theatre Spaces	Chapter 9

### **ATTEND THEATRE COMPANY PRODUCTION OF *The Taming of the Shrew*, October 3-7**

Last day to withdraw with a W is October 8<sup>th</sup>.

TH 4 Discuss production of *The Taming of the Shrew*

T 9 Approaches to Design Chapter 10

Fall Break October 11th and 12th

T 16 *Julie Taymor* Video

TH 18 Quiz Review

**T 23 Quiz #2 (Chapters 7-10)**

TH 25 Setting the Stage Chapter 11

T 30 “ “

**NOV**

TH 1 Dressing the Character Chapter 12

T 6 “ “

TH 8 Lighting and Sound Design Chapter 13

T 13 “ “

**ATTEND THEATRE COMPANY PRODUCTION OF  
The Shape of Things NOVEMBER, 14-18**

TH 15 Technology and Theatrical Innovation Chapter 14

T 20 Discuss *The Shape of Things* and Final Projects

**Thanksgiving Break 21-24**

T 27 The Critical Response Chapter 15

TH 29 Making Theatre Happen Chapter 16

**DEC**

T 4 Quiz #3 Review

**PROJECT DUE ON THIS DAY!!!**

**Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup>—11-1  
Quiz #3 (Chapters 11-16)**

## **CREATIVE FINAL PROJECT GUIDELINES**

- 1) *Designing of costumes, scenery or lighting.* There should be 4-5 drawn sketches OR 3D model of the stage. Scenery sketches should be drawn from the audience viewpoint. Color and details should be clear. Costumes should have swatches of fabric to show color and texture and all characters must be shown. All designs should include a paragraph on overall concept and brief summary of each individual costume.
- 2) *Performing a monologue or scene from the play.* Find a one-minute monologue from the play to perform by yourself. This must be memorized and rehearsed. Submit a one-page analysis of the character you are performing. OR, find a 2-3 minute scene from the play and present it with a partner. Submit a one-page analysis of the scene. You must set up a presentation date with your professor prior to selecting this option.
- 3) *Designing a soundtrack.* Select 8-10 songs and burn them on a clearly labeled CD. The CD should be accompanied by a brief paper detailing why you chose each song and how each song relates to the characters or themes of the play. Be specific on how you would use the song either as a pre-show, intermission, post-show or at the beginning of particular scenes. (Obviously, you would not play a song with lyrics while a scene is going on.)
- 4) *Other ideas.* You may propose a project which utilizes any special skills, talents or interest you have. Examples include but are not limited to, sewing a costume, building a mask, writing an original score, or designing a poster promoting the play. ***Remember that this option must get pre-approved by the professor!***