Instructor: Jenni McCarthy, M.F.A.
Office: Old Auditorium, Rm. 201
Office Hours: M/W 3:30-5:00pm, T/TH 12:00-3:30pm
Email: jmccarth@westga.edu (Put “THEA 1100-01” as subject line)

Course Description (3 Credits):
An introduction for the student of the theatre experience, this course delves into analysis of both the script and the actual performance. Students will also examine current trends in theatre on broadway, off-broadway, and in regional companies. The student will be expected to attend and write about one theatre production.

Core Area C Learning Outcomes:
• Students will demonstrate knowledge of the foundational concepts of artistic, intellectual, or literary achievement, adapting written communication to specific purposes and audiences.
• Students will recognize and make informed judgements about the fine, literary, or performing arts from various cultures.

Class Learning Outcomes:
• Students will gain an appreciation for and an enhanced enjoyment of live performance.
• Students will be able to effectively evaluate and communicate about drama and the theatre.
• Students will gain and understanding of the artistic and technical process of play production.
• Students will gain a basic understanding of past theatrical traditions.
• Students will develop the critical and analytical skills needed to understand the components of a play.
• Students will understand how theatre simultaneously reflects and shapes the society.

Required Reading:
Theatre Arts: An Interdisciplinary Approach by Amy Cuomo & Pauline Gagnon.
ISBN: 978-1-4652-0747-0
*Plays read in class can either be found in the textbook or will be provided via CourseDen.
Performances:
Students must attend two UWG Theatre Company productions this semester. Performances are held at the Townsend Center for the Performing Arts on UWG Campus and the Carrollton Cultural Arts Center in Downtown Carrollton. Reserve tickets at the TCPA and CCAC Box Office with your Student I.D.

Speech and Debate (Required)
TCPA Richard L. Dangle Theatre
Feb. 21-25

Episodes in Sexuality
TCPA Richard L. Dangle Theatre
Mar. 7-10

Mother Hicks (Required)
Carrollton Cultural Arts Center
Apr. 11-15

Student Responsibilities:
• Attendance is essential in order to do well in this class. In order to make up material missed in class, students will need to have an excused absence.
  o For a medical absence, you must bring a signed note from the doctor.
• All assigned work must be turned in at the beginning of the class the day it is due or in the designated Dropbox on CourseDen. No late work or email submissions will be accepted.
• You are responsible for all work that you may have missed. Check the syllabus regularly to make sure you are up-to-date on all assignments.
• Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, aid of academic dishonesty, lying, bribery or threats, and stealing. If a student is caught being academically dishonest, they will fail the assignment. If the student repeats the behavior, they are subject to immediate failure of the course. Please see the Honor Code at the end of this syllabus for more information.
• Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. If, in the opinion of the responsible faculty member, a student becomes disruptive in class, faculty may exercise their judgment on how best to address the situation, be it by requiring the student to leave, calling Campus Police, or taking other steps deemed necessary for the safety and well-being of the class. Such action may affect the student’s final grade and standing in the University.
• If you are struggling with the course material, utilize my office hours early and often. They are there to help you succeed.
Course Itinerary:
*Syllabus is subject to revision by the instructor at any point during the semester.*

**Written Reflections:**
Throughout the semester, writing prompts based on material covered in class will be posted on our CourseDen page. The assignments will be announced in class on Wednesday, and will be active for submissions until 2:00pm the following Monday.

**In-Class Quizzes:**
Quizzes will be given at random throughout the semester. Quizzes will be given at the beginning of class and will be timed. Each quiz will be worth 10 points, with up to 5 bonus points available. Arrangements to make up missed quizzes from an excused absence must be made with the instructor within the week that the quiz was given.

**Playwriting Project:**
Each student will write their own original play following the guidelines on pg. 200 of your textbook. Rubric will be posted to CourseDen.

**Mid-Term Exam:**
The mid-term exam will include all material covered in class to that date. All readings, class presentations, discussions, and performances viewed will be covered on the exam.

**Production Review:**
Students will write a review of either *Speech and Debate, Episodes in Sexuality* or *Mother Hicks* produced by West Georgia Theatre Company this semester. Use the guidelines outlined on pg. 177 of your textbook. We will discuss the criteria before *Speech and Debate* performances. This review will be used as students’ QEP assessment for this course.

**Collaborative Project:**
In order to fully understand the theatrical process, students will participate in producing their own original work. Students will be assigned to a collaborative group. Your group will write, direct, act, design, market and produce a short play which will be presented at the end of the semester. Students will vote on categories such as best actor, best scenic design, etc. after the performances. Students and groups winning these awards will receive *extra credit* on the final exam. (There is no minimum out-of-class rehearsals required, but the groups that rehearse the most usually win the most extra credit...)

**Final Exam:**
The Final Exam will be a cumulative exam on all aspects covered throughout the semester. Emphasis will be placed on topics covered after the midterm. This includes all readings, class presentations, discussions and performances viewed.

**Extra Credit:**
There will be five extra credit points available on every quiz. Randomly throughout the semester, extra credit will be given for participation in in-class activities (reading a scene,
working in small groups, etc). You are not eligible for the extra credit if you are not in class that day.

**NO OTHER EXTRA CREDIT WILL BE OFFERED THROUGHOUT THE SEMESTER. THESE ARE YOUR ONLY OPPORTUNITIES, SO TAKE ADVANTAGE!**

**Basis for Evaluation:**

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<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tr>
<td>Written Reflections</td>
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<td>Pop Quizzes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Playwriting Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Production Review</td>
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<td>Collaborative Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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**Grading Scale:**

100-90, A; 89-80, B; 79-70, C; 69-60, D; 60 and below, F

**“A” Work- Outstanding**
Continuously goes above and beyond written requirements of the assignment in order to improve and grow as a young professional. Creativity, willingness in classwork, and an excellent attitude toward the work are visible in every class. True mastery of the material.

**“B” Work- Above Average**
Achieves all aspects of the assignment and demonstrates some extra effort in terms of growth. Some creativity, willingness in classwork, and an admirable attitude toward the work are visible in most classes. Still has room for improvement or growth.

**“C” Work- Average**
Assignments are completed exactly as assigned. Little evidence of growth or creativity in the work.

**“D” Work- Below Average**
Below average completion of aspects of the assignment. Failure to follow instructions, inability to incorporate adjustments and constructive criticism, and little to no evidence of growth or creativity.

**“F” Work- Unacceptable**
Unacceptable work; does not follow the direction of the assignment. Resistance to adjustments and constructive criticism and a hostile attitude toward the work are deemed unacceptable by the instructor.
Weekly Schedule
Syllabus is subject to revision by the instructor at any point in the semester.

Week One
Mon. Jan. 8th - CLASS CANCELLED DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER

Wed. Jan. 10th- Introduction, Syllabus For next class: Read pgs 1-23, Syllabus Quiz on BB
*Open Drop ends at 11:59pm Jan. 10th

Week Two
Mon. Jan. 15th - NO CLASS; MLK Day Holiday

Week Three
Mon. Jan. 22nd- Discussion: Ideas; Creativity, Imagination, Inspiration, Aesthetic Distance, Conventions, Play and Improvisation, Role-playing, For next class: Read pgs. 23-37
Wed. Jan. 24th- Discussion: Ideas; Psychology and Neurology Self-Consciousness, Lying, Humor, Tempo and Rhythm, Surprise and Suspense, Boredom For next class: Read pgs. 37-49, Written Reflection #1

Week Four
Mon. Jan. 29th - Discussion: Ideas; Fashion, Space, Collaboration, Value, Censorship and The Theatre Process and Other Disciplines For next class: Read Twelfth Night Act I and Act II (Pgs. 215-252 in your textbook). *If this is your first time reading Shakespeare, I would highly recommend using helpful notes.
Wed. Jan. 31st-Discussion: Acts I and II of Twelfth Night For next class: Finish Twelfth Night Written Reflection #2

Week Five
Mon. Feb. 5th- Discussion: Acts III-V of Twelfth Night For next class: Read pgs.49-61
Wed. Feb. 7th- Discussion: Stories; Structure, Legends and Myths, Ritual and Religion, Family For next class: Read pgs. 61-68, Written Reflection #3

Week Six
Mon. Feb. 12th- Discussion: Stories; Style and Genre For next class: Read pgs. 68-82
Wed. Feb. 14th- Discussion: Stories; Games and Gaming, Adaptation and Interpretation, Film, Television, Song For next class: Read pgs. 85-87, Pg. 200, Steps 1-5 of Playwriting Template

Week Seven
Mon. Feb. 19th- Discussion: Playwright, and Playwriting Template (Playwriting Project Due Feb. 26th) For next class: Read pgs. 134-136

Wed. Feb. 21st-Discussion: Guidelines for Attending the Theatre, Introduction to Speech and Debate For next class: Written Reflection #4, Review for Midterm Exam, Speech and Debate this weekend!
**Week Eight**

Mon. Feb. 26th - Discussion: *Speech and Debate* Production, Review for Midterm Exam, Playwriting Assignment DUE

For next class: Midterm Exam

Wed. Feb. 28th - Midterm Exam

For next class: Read pgs. 87-95

*Last day to withdraw with a grade of W from Full-Session courses.

**Week Nine**

Mon. Mar. 5th - Discussion: *Enactment: Theatre Management, and Theatre Companies* For next class: Read pgs. 95-105, 131-134

Wed. Mar. 7th - Discussion: *Enactment: Director, Front of House, Stage Manager, Music Director and Choreographer* For next class: Written Reflection #5, Read pgs. 105-114, *Episodes in Sexuality* this weekend!

**Week Ten**

Mon. Mar. 12th - Discussion: *Enactment: Actors and Playing Space* For next class: Read pgs. 114-120

Wed. Mar. 14th - Discussion: *Enactment: Designers* For next class: Read pgs. 120-130

**Week Eleven**

Mon. Mar. 19th - NO CLASS; SPRING BREAK

Wed. Mar. 21st - NO CLASS; SPRING BREAK

**Week Twelve**

Mon. Mar. 26th - Discussion: *Enactment: Designers, Technical Director and Costume Shop Manager* For next class: Bring a copy of your script to work on in-class

Wed. Mar. 28th - In-Class Rehearsal with Production Groups For next class: Written Reflection #6, Read Act One *Mother Hicks*

**Week Thirteen**

Mon. Apr. 2nd - Discussion: *Mother Hicks* Act One For next class: Read Act Two *Mother Hicks*

Wed. Apr. 4th - Discussion: *Mother Hicks* Act Two For next class: Read pgs. 137-152, Written Reflection #7

**Week Fourteen**

Mon. Apr. 9th - Discussion: *Realization; Seasons and Budgets, Audition/Casting, Script Development, Advertising and Marketing* For next class: Read pgs. 152-169

Wed. Apr. 11th - Discussion: *Realization; Rehearsal, Prompt Book, Production Meetings, Building Technical/Dress Rehearsals* For next class: Marketing Presentations, *Mother Hicks* this weekend!, Read pgs. 169-173

**Week Fifteen**

Mon. Apr. 16th - Marketing Presentations, Discussion: *Mother Hicks, Realization; Critics and Criticism, Strike, Postmortem* For next class: In-Class Technical Rehearsal

Wed. Apr. 18th - In-Class Technical Rehearsal For next class: Read *Happy*, Written Reflection #8
Week Sixteen
Mon. Apr. 23rd- Critical Analysis of *Happy* (In-Class Activity) For next class: Study for Final Exam

Wed. Apr. 25th- Review for Final Exam For next class: Collaborative Project Presentations, Production Review DUE

Week Seventeen
Mon. Apr. 30th- Collaborative Project Presentations, Production Review DUE

Final Exam
Monday May 7th 2:00-4:00pm
University Policies:
QEP
This is a QEP Course.
Clear written communication is important in all disciplines, and increasingly employers are expecting college graduates to be good writers. That's one reason why UWG is focusing on improving undergraduate student writing across the core. When you hear about the QEP—UWG's Quality Enhancement Plan—know that what your peers and professors are talking about is WRITING, because we are committed to giving you opportunities across your core curriculum to improve the quality of your writing. Want to know more? Visit the QEP website at http://www.westga.edu/qep/

ACADEMIC SUPPORT
Accessibility Services: Students with a documented disability may work with UWG Accessibility Services to receive essential services specific to their disability. All entitlements to accommodations are based on documentation and USG Board of Regents standards. If a student needs course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability or chronic illness, or if he/she needs to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, the student should notify his/her instructor in writing and provide a copy of his/her Student Accommodations Report (SAR), which is available only from Accessibility Services. Faculty cannot offer accommodations without timely receipt of the SAR; further, no retroactive accommodations will be given. For more information, please contact Accessibility Services.

Center for Academic Success: The Center for Academic Success provides services, programs, and opportunities to help all undergraduate students succeed academically. For more information, contact them: 678-839-6280 or cas@westga.edu

University Writing Center: The University Writing Center assists students with all areas of the writing process. For more information, contact them: 678-839-6513 or writing@westga.edu

HONOR CODE
At the University of West Georgia, we believe that academic and personal integrity are based upon honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Students at West Georgia assume responsibility for upholding the honor code. West Georgia students pledge to refrain from engaging in acts that do not maintain academic and personal integrity. These include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, aid of academic dishonesty, lying, bribery or threats, and stealing.

The University of West Georgia maintains and monitors a confidential Academic Dishonesty Tracking System. This database collects and reports patterns of repeated student violations across all the Colleges, the Ingram Library, and the School of Nursing. Each incidence of academic dishonesty is subject to review and consideration by the instructor, and is subject to a range of academic penalties including, but not limited to, failing the assignment and/or failing the course. Student conduct sanctions range from verbal warning to suspension or expulsion.
depending on the magnitude of the offense and/or number of offenses. The incident becomes part of the student’s conduct record at UWG.

Additionally, the student is responsible for safeguarding his/her computer account. The student’s account and network connection are for his/her individual use. A computer account is to be used only by the person to whom it has been issued. The student is responsible for all actions originating through his/her account or network connection. Students must not impersonate others or misrepresent or conceal their identities in electronic messages and actions. For more information on the University of West Georgia Honor Code, please see the Student Handbook.

**UWG EMAIL POLICY**

University of West Georgia students are provided a MyUWG e-mail account. The University considers this account to be an official means of communication between the University and the student. The purpose of the official use of the student e-mail account is to provide an effective means of communicating important university related information to UWG students in a timely manner. It is the student’s responsibility to check his or her email.

**CREDIT HOUR POLICY**

The University of West Georgia grants one semester hour of credit for work equivalent to a minimum of one hour (50 minutes) of in-class or other direct faculty instruction AND two hours of student work outside of class per week for approximately fifteen weeks. For each course, the course syllabus will document the amount of in-class (or other direct faculty instruction) and out-of-class work required to earn the credit hour(s) assigned to the course. Out-of-class work will include all forms of credit-bearing activity, including but not limited to assignments, readings, observations, and musical practice. Where available, the university grants academic credit for students who verify via competency-based testing, that they have accomplished the learning outcomes associated with a course that would normally meet the requirements outlined above (e.g. AP credit, CLEP, and departmental exams).