

THEATRE SEMINAR II
THA 3220-001
T 12:30 p.m. -1:45 p.m.
2040 Doudna Fine Arts Center
Spring 2014

Jenni Passig
Office: 2421 Doudna Fine Arts Center
Telephone: 581-5924
E-mail: jrpasig@eiu.edu
Office Hours: 1:00-2:30 M, , 10-12 T, 9:00-10:30 W
Or by arrangement

Please note: Occasionally, I will have committee meetings that necessitate my being out of the office. On these occasions, I will post a notice and reschedule my office hours. If the rescheduled times are not convenient for you, please don't hesitate to contact me so that we can set up a meeting at another time.

Purpose of the Course:

This course serves as an advanced seminar that focuses on final evaluation of the Theatre Arts major with Junior or Senior standing or permission of the Department Chair. Sem II takes the upper level major and prepares them for transition into the job market either for grad school or entry-level positions in the field. This is a final opportunity to evaluate the major and assess potential.

Conduct of the Course:

- 1) Class meets for 1/75-minute lecture/discussion per week for a total of 15 sessions
- 2) Students are expected to participate in discussions by being prepared for class
- 3) The Exit Exam will be administered; though graded, the score is NOT part of the grade for this course
- 4) Students are expected to volunteer for 2 Show Assignments for the 3 Departmental productions. You may be cast in a production, choose to work backstage on a crew, or work in one of the shops (Costume, Scene, Lighting, Sound or Props). Each assignment is equal to 30 hours. In completing these assignments, you may "double dip". That is, you may earn Practicum credit, complete hours for another class (i.e. Stagecraft) or even get paid for these hours.
- 5) Students are expected to prepare at least 3 questions for use in discussion for all guest speakers. These should be typed.(or lose 5 points) Questions will not be graded per se; you do not receive points for having them - but you lose 10 points for not having them. These are due in class for the guest speakers; NO LATE QUESTIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.
- 6) Quizzes - there will be 2 over material covered in the discussions/lectures/guest speakers. Exams - There are no exams for this course.
- 7) Short write - 1 will be administered over the course of the term

8) Resume - your resume will be turned in twice; first, as a rough draft and then the final resume. Each student will prepare 2 or 3 types of resumes: one for technical production work, a second for performance, and a third for general employment/grad school.

9) Audition pieces - acting students will prepare 2 audition monologues. These will be performed twice. The first time is as a general audition. The second time will be on the day of the Final Exam and is treated as a formal audition. Tech students will prepare a concept presentation for their first "audition". For their Final they will present their portfolios. Dramaturges, directors, historians, and generalists may choose from these options or may prepare a presentation specific to their discipline.

10) Response Papers - 2 (2-4 page) responses are due the Tuesday following the close of a production. Responses are to be typed (or lose 10 points). Papers will ONLY be accepted on the DUE DATE! NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED!

11) The "Grown Up" Question - Write a response to the following: When I graduate I want to be...(what, actor, designer, director)? What are the skills and talents that you have that will make you successful? What are the things that will keep you from reaching those goals? What do you need to do during the next year if you are a junior/senior to achieve your goals?

12) Academic Accommodation - If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodation, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

Attendance:

Regular class attendance is expected. An important component of this class is discussion/ participation. This makes the class more interesting and enjoyable. ONE unexcused absences will be permitted. Quizzes, performances, questions and/or short write, however, missed on those days cannot be made up (unless the instructor has prior notification). Absences for approved University events and serious illness are excused. In addition, the student will lose 10 POINTS PER ABSENCE over the allowed number (1). Students more than 10 minutes late for class will be considered absent. (You should treat the class as you would a job. If you are ill or unable to attend class you should contact the instructor as to the reason and when you plan to return. The student must attend to any work missed. It is **YOUR** responsibility to arrange to turn in work and to complete it in a timely manner.)

Evaluation:

The student will be evaluated on the success and effectiveness in meeting the requirements listed.

Grading Scale:

- 1) 2 Quizzes (@ 20 points each).....40 pts.
- 2) 1 Short Write.....10 pts.

- 3) 2 Show Assignments (@ 30 points each)..... 60 pts.
- 4) Resume Draft.....20 pts.
- 5) Cover Letter/Final Resume.....50 pts.
- 6) 2 Responses (@ 30 points each).....60 pts.
- 7) First Audition.....30 pts.
- 8) The "Grown Up" Response.....30 pts.
- 9) Final Audition.....50 pts.

TOTAL POINTS-----350 pts.

*** YOUR FINAL GRADE IS DETERMINED BY YOUR TOTAL POINTS ***

- A = 90-100% of total points.....315-350
- B = 80-89% of total points.....280-314
- C = 70-79% of total points.....245-279
- D = 60-69% of total points.....210-244
- F = 59% and less of total points.....under 209

Extra Credit:

There are a number of ways to earn extra credit points.

- 1) Work an additional crew assignment - 15 points
- 2) Write an additional response paper for a Departmental production – 15 points
- 3) Write a short research paper (5-7 pages) on an aspect of theatre that interests you and relates to this course.
(Example: your favorite actor, playwright, etc.) - 15 points

YOU MAY ONLY ATTEMPT TO EARN 15 POINTS OF EXTRA CREDIT

YOU MAY TURN IN EXTRA CREDIT WORK AT ANY TIME, BUT...

ALL EXTRA CREDIT IS DUE BY APRIL 29!

COURSE SCHEDULE
(Tentative-Subject to Change)

- 1/14 Syllabus, Auditions, etc.
 Majors/Minors Meeting @ 5:30 p.m. – Movement Studio
- 1/21 Introduction/Jobs in the Theatre
 Spring Semester Auditions-6 p.m. sign up Movement Studio
- 1/28 Dr. Jean Wolski - Grad School **???'s due**
- 2/04 Jobs in the Theatre
- 2/11 Exit Exam/General Theatre Info

- 2/18 Jenni Passig-Auditioning *???'s due*
- 2/25 Play Analysis/Resumes/Auditions **QUIZ #1**
- 3/04 *MACBETH* Discussion/**Response Due**
- 3/11 SPRING BREAK-NO CLASS
- 3/18 David Wolski - Design/Portfolio *???'s due*
Resumes Presented **Resume draft due**
- 3/25 Audition Material/Cover Letters/Resumes & Portfolios
- 4/01 **"GROWN UP" RESPONSE DUE**/Class Discussion Included
- 4/08 *'NIGHT MOTHER* Discussion/TBA
Response Due
- 4/15 Audition Questions/Prep **Cover Letter Due**
- 4/22 First Auditions **Quiz #2**
- 4/29 *BEANIE* Discussion / General Questions
Response due/Final Resume/Extra Credit due
- 5/07 Final Exam 8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.

Department of Theatre Arts Production Schedule & Important Dates

Macbeth

The Theatre

Feb. 26, 27, 28, March 1-7:30 p.m.

March 2-2 p.m.

'Night Mother

The Black Box

April 2, 3, 4, 5 — 7:30 p.m.

April 6 — 2 p.m.

Beanie and the Bamboozling Book Machine

The Theatre

April 25, 26 — 7 p.m.

April 26, 27— 2 p.m.