Banner/Catalog Information (Coversheet)

1. ____New Course or x Revision of Existing Course

2. Course prefix and number: THA 3755G


5. Hours per week: 3 Class 0 Lab 3 Credit

6. Terms: __ Fall  ___ Spring  ____ Summer  x On demand

7. Initial term: ____ Fall  x Spring  ____ Summer  Year: 2016

8. Catalog course description: This course will trace the development of African-American theatre from African ritual and slavery to its emergence as a dynamic and influential movement in the 20th century and beyond. Special attention will be given to artists who have had a lasting impact on U.S. and world theatre. No background in or knowledge of theatre is required. WI

9. Course attributes:
   
   General education component: Fine Arts
   
   x Cultural diversity ___ Honors ___ Writing centered  x Writing intensive ___Writing active

10. Instructional delivery
    Type of Course:
    
    x Lecture  ____ Lab  ____ Lecture/lab combined  ____ Independent study/research
    
    ____ Internship  ____ Performance  ____ Practicum/clinical
    
    x Other, specify: Asynchronous/synchronous interaction via online course delivery system

    Mode(s) of Delivery:
    
    x Face to Face  x Online  ____ Study Abroad
    
    ____ Hybrid, specify approximate amount of on-line and face-to-face instruction____________________

11. Course(s) to be deleted from the catalog once this course is approved. None.

12. Equivalent course(s): None.

   a. Are students allowed to take equivalent course(s) for credit? ___ Yes  ___ No

13. Prerequisite(s): ENG 1001G and 1002G.

   a. Can prerequisite be taken concurrently? ___ Yes  x No

   b. Minimum grade required for the prerequisite course(s)? “C” or better.
c. Use Banner coding to enforce prerequisite course(s)?  x Yes  ___ No

d. Who may waive prerequisite(s)?
   ___ No one  x Chair  x Instructor  ___ Advisor  ___ Other (specify)

14. Co-requisite(s): None.

15. Enrollment restrictions
   a. Degrees, colleges, majors, levels, classes which may take the course: All students eligible to take 3000-level classes.
   b. Degrees, colleges, majors, levels, classes which may not take the course: None.

16. Repeat status: x May not be repeated  ___ May be repeated once with credit

17. Enter the limit, if any, on hours which may be applied to a major or minor: ___

18. Grading methods:  x Standard  ___ CR/NC  ___ Audit  ___ ABC/NC

19. Special grading provisions:
   ___ Grade for course will not count in a student’s grade point average.
   ___ Grade for course will count in hours toward graduation.
   ___ Grade for course will be removed from GPA if student already has credit for or is registered in: __________________________

   ___ Credit hours for course will be removed from student’s hours toward graduation if student already has credit for or is registered in: __________________________

20. Additional costs to students:
   Supplemental Materials or Software  None.
   Course Fee  x No  ___ Yes, Explain if yes __________________________

21. Community college transfer:
   ___ A community college course may be judged equivalent.
   x A community college may not be judged equivalent.

   Note: Upper division credit (3000+) will not be granted for a community college course, even if the content is judged to be equivalent.
Rationale, Justifications, and Assurances (Part I)

1. ___Course is required for the major(s) of ____________________  
   ___Course is required for the minor(s) of ____________________  
   ___Course is required for the certificate program(s) of ______________  
   x  Course is used as an elective (for Theatre Arts Major & Minor, AFR, and other programs)

2. **Rationale for proposal:** This is an elective course in both the Theatre Arts and the Africana Studies curricula, and serves the general education population as well. It considers in an accessible survey a mode of theatre that has a profoundly reciprocal relationship with the breadth of United States theatre practice (past and present). Given this influence, the study of African-American theatre as a unique sub-discipline has a long-standing and honored place in theatre curricula throughout the United States. As theatre is by nature interdisciplinary and deeply rooted in the societies from which it emerges, the manifestations of theatre considered by the course will be situated within an examination of the social, political, religious, and artistic phenomena that surround it, inform it, and are informed by it.

3. **Justifications for (answer N/A if not applicable)**
   **Similarity to other courses:** N/A
   **Prerequisites:** The course requires an advanced level of critical analysis and engagement, and the ability to express this engagement through effective writing. The 3000-level and the prerequisites of ENG 1001G and 1002G will help ensure that students are prepared for this course.
   **Co-requisites:** N/A
   **Enrollment restrictions:** The restrictions are based in accordance with the University guidelines.
   **Writing active, intensive, centered:** The advanced level of inquiry as well as the research component of the course demands frequent and substantial written expression. Therefore, at least 35% of the assignments will be written, and at least one of the assignments will require revision and resubmittal following professorial feedback.

4. **General education assurances (answer N/A if not applicable)**
   **General education component:** In the General Education curriculum, this course fits the “Humanities and Fine Arts Component; Fine Arts Designation.” In keeping with the goals of Fine Arts Gen-Ed courses, it “provide[s] students with a basis for understanding… theatrical…works in terms of their production and aesthetic reception.” In the course, students “learn to apply historical, philosophical, and critical concepts” to the periods and
genres of theatre history covered. The course will also “provide students with the foundations and methods necessary for a critical appreciation” of these periods and genres. 

**Curriculum:** All of class time and all activities “relate to the skills in the learning goals or sub-goals” cited in the model syllabus below.

**Instruction:** All of class time and all activities “directly deliver instruction to help students learn the skills of the goals or sub-goals” cited in the model syllabus below.

**Assessment:** All modes of evaluation “directly assess if students can do the skills” cited, and this assessment wholly factors into a student’s grade for the course in the model syllabus below.

5. **Online/Hybrid delivery justification & assurances (answer N/A if not applicable)**

**Online or hybrid delivery justification:** The electronic version of THA 3755G is designed to utilize EIU’s online course delivery system. The Department of Theatre Arts is committed to making our courses as accessible as possible to students for whom online delivery is most appropriate. Recruitment and retention of students can be enhanced by judicious use of this mode of delivery. However, online delivery is not intended to replace on-campus delivery for resident or commuter students.

**Instruction:** Each week’s goals will align with the student learning objectives for the course. Methods include brief lectures augmented with presentation software, reading assignments, relevant video material through Kaltura, and discussion prompts to facilitate synchronous and/or asynchronous class engagement and response. As required, all instructors of online sections will have passed EIU’s Online Course Development Institute (or other documented and equivalent training method) by time of course offering.

**Integrity:** There are several ways to assure integrity in the online sections of the course. Since the research is guided, and the writing involves drafts, the writing process will be under the professor’s scrutiny. Online examinations will require critical analysis and synthesis of the materials encountered in the course. Furthermore, the professor will have developed a solid feel for the analytic style of the students via the synchronous and asynchronous discussions preceding the exams. Thus, it would be considerably difficult for students to use unethical means to take the exams.

**Interaction:** Professor-student and student-student interaction will notably include web-based discussions via the online course delivery system. Discussion prompts will encourage students to read and respond. These responses, with input from the professor, will also help the students comprehend the material and create an effective learning community.
Synchronous (live) sessions will be offered at multiple points to ensure student access and will allow students to discuss readings with professorial input.

**Model Syllabus (Part II)**

Please include the following information:

1. **Course number and title:** THA 3755G: African-American Theatre: Historical and Contemporary

2. **Catalog description:** This course will trace the development of African-American theatre from African ritual and slavery to its emergence as a dynamic and influential movement in the 20th century and beyond. Special attention will be given to artists who have had a lasting impact on U.S. and world theatre. No background in or knowledge of theatre is required. WI

3. **Learning objectives.**

The course and its objectives address all five of the EIU Learning Goals: Critical Thinking, Writing and Critical Reading, Speaking and Listening, Quantitative Reasoning, and Responsible Citizenship. The following outlines how the course learning objectives align with the University Learning Goals.

Students will—

(a) Analyze and evaluate primary and secondary source evidence of African-American theatre (play texts, theoretical tracts, extant and extinct theatre spaces, renderings of sets and costumes, diaries of theatre artists, etc.) from its roots in African ritual and slavery to the present day.

*(Goals CT-1 through 5; WR-5 and 6; QR-1 through 3; RC-1 and 2)*

(b) Analyze and evaluate the relevant social, political, religious, and artistic trends in United States history that inform and are impacted by African-American theatre.

*(Goals CT-1 through 5; WR-5 and 6; QR-1 through 3; RC-1 and 2)*
(c) Critically and reflectively compare the major trends in historical African-American theatre and evaluate their impact on succeeding generations of world theatre.

*(Goals CT-1 through 5; WR-5 and 6; QR-1 through 3; RC-1 and 2)*

(d) Conduct guided research on relevant topics within the historical periods covered; synthesize and present such research in scholarly-quality written formats.

*(Goals CT-1 through 6; WR-1 through 7; QR-1 through 5; RC-1 and 2)*

(e) Formulate, present, and orally defend cogent scholarly arguments regarding (a), (b), and (c); orally defend the research synthesized in (d) in a conference-style setting.

*(Goals CT-6; SL-1 through 7; RC-1, 2, and 4)*


   Contemporary African-American plays as selected by professor

   Attendance at University Theatre Productions as relevant to course

5. Weekly outline of content.


WEEK 16: FINAL EXAM.

6. Assignments and evaluation, including weights for final course grade.
   Breakout group discussion participation 20%
   Midterm (Essay-based) Exam 20%
   Final (Essay-based) Exam 20%
   Shorter research paper or wiki 15%
   Conference-quality research paper* 25%

   * This assignment will require revision, as per WI guidelines.

7. Grading scale.
   A = 90-100%
   B = 80-89%
   C = 70-79%
   D = 60-69%
   F = below 60%

8. Correlation of learning objectives to assignments and evaluation.

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<th>Breakout group discussion 20%</th>
<th>Midterm (Essay-based) Exam 20%</th>
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<th>Conference-quality research paper 25%</th>
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<td>(a) Analyze and evaluate primary and secondary source evidence of African-American theatre (play texts, theoretical tracts, extant and extinct theatre spaces, renderings of sets and costumes, diaries of theatre artists, etc.) from its roots in African ritual and slavery to the present day.</td>
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(b) Analyze and evaluate the relevant social, political, religious, and artistic trends in United States history that inform and are impacted by African-American theatre.  

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(c) Critically and reflectively compare the major periods in historical African-American theatre and evaluate their impact on succeeding generations of world theatre.  

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(d) Conduct guided research on a relevant topic within the historical periods covered; synthesize and present such research in scholarly-quality written formats.  

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
|   |   | X | X |

(e) Formulate, present, and orally defend cogent scholarly arguments regarding (a), (b), and (c); orally defend the research synthesized in (d) in a conference-style setting.  

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Date approved by the department or school: Jan. 28, 2015  
Date approved by the college curriculum committee: Feb. 18, 2015  
Date approved by the Honors Council (if this is an honors course):  
Date approved by CAA: March 12, 2015  
CGS: Not Applicable.