<u>**SYLLABUS**</u>
TH 122-01/02: Theatre Appreciation
Spring 2023
Online Only Class. Asynchronous (no class meetings.)

<u>**Course Description and Prerequisites**</u>
Theatre Appreciation provides students with an overview of the artistic process of theatre including such elements as: the play, the stage, the actor, history, and modern practices. Students will gain a deeper understanding of the different disciplines within theatre as well as theatre's social impact.

This class is online only. All classwork will be completed/submitted online.

Prerequisites: None

<u>**Learning Outcomes**</u>
1. Provide students with an overview of theatre in order to discover what makes theatre a unique art form and how this communication media makes an impact on society.
2. Analyze differences in the various theatrical genres.
3. Observe and critique theatrical productions in terms of production elements and performance standards.
4. Analyze the process of oral communication through improvisation, storytelling, and acting.
5. Understand the contributions of playwrights, directors, actors, designers, and technicians to the theatrical production and creative drama.
6. Provide an overview of theatre history and understand its legacy.

<u>**Instructor Information**</u>
Name: Amy Guerin
Telephone number: 256-824-2360 (office phone number can't send or receive texts)
Email address: amy.guerin@uah.edu (the best way to get a hold of me)
Office hours: T/R 2:30-3:30pm
Office location: Morton Hall Rm 224

<u>**Textbook and/or Resource Material: All Available at the UAH Bookstore**</u>
Hurricane Diane by Madeleine George
A Raisin In The Sun by Lorraine Hansberry
The Mountaintop by Katori Hall
Vietgone by Qui Nguyen
The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity by Kristoffer Diaz

<u>**Class Policies:**</u>

Online Class Interactions: This class is entirely online. All of our interactions as a class will take place online where tone can sometimes be misunderstood. Be polite and respectful with all your classmates when communicating with them on class discussion boards--even when you disagree. Keep curse words to a minimum and don't call your classmates names, not even "as a joke." Abuse of this policy will result in you being dropped from the class. Ain't nobody got time for jerks.

Gamification: This class is structured like a video game with levels (class topics), quests (assignments/tests/projects), optional side quests (extra credit), and XPs (grades). Alliances are possible, but not required, since we may not all be in the same geographic area; but, all work must be your own. You must complete each level before you can level up. Each level has a deadline by which it must be completed in order to progress in the class; but, as long as you meet each deadline, how fast you move through the course material is up to you.

Attendance: With an online class, if you don't do the work, you won't succeed. Set a time each day, or every other day, to do your classwork that is non-negotiable--nothing else happens during that time except classwork, and classwork always happens at that day/time.

Work is considered late if not turned in at the time it is due. If turned in late, it is 10 points off for the same day, and then 20 points off every day after that--regardless of what day of the week it is. If technical issues keep you from missing a deadline, I need notification via email that an issue has occurred, and documentation via email in the form of screenshots, within one hour of the deadline for the late penalty to be waived.

Tech Requirements: You need to have a basic knowledge of Canvas, the Internet, and YouTube for this class. If you don't, I'm not sure why you're taking an online class, but you maybe need to reconsider.

Academic Integrity: Your written assignments, examinations, and other assignments must be your own work. Academic Misconduct will not be tolerated. To ensure that you are aware of what is considered academic misconduct, you should review carefully the definition and examples provided in Article III. Code of Student Conduct, Student Handbook, p. 93.

Quests (Assignments and Assessments):
Discussions (5 total, 80 XPs each, 400 XPs total) Discussion posts will cover the class content--usually in the form of YouTube videos or short articles. I will post a question, and you must respond with your own post to my question. Discussion responses are graded based on the quality of your post--aim for thoughtfulness and specificity, the use of correct spelling and grammar, and your respectful tone with your classmates. Remember, an overuse of curse words and calling your classmates names will lower your grade and could lead to you being dropped from the class. More details about each discussion can be found in each level.

Performance Responses (1 response, 100 XPs total) There will be one individually-written performance response based on UAH Theatre's fall production, or a theatre production within your community. The essay response will be 500-750 words and turned in via the class Canvas page. Focus on your experience and response to the play in performance, focusing on theme, acting, directing, and design elements (lighting, costume, sound, projections.) Be as specific and as clear as possible.

Quizzes (5 total, 40 XPs each, 200 XPs total) -- Quizzes will cover the five plays read. The quizzes will check for basic story and character facts and also ask about thematic and/or symbolic motifs present in each. Quizzes are short answer.

Hands On Quests (6 total, 50 XPs each, 300 XPs total) -- Hands On Quests will cover the class content from an experiential viewpoint. Hands On Quests could be submitting pictures of theatre spaces out in your community, or recording yourself telling a story, or putting together a collage of costume design ideas. Hands On Quests are graded based on the quality of your submission--aim for thoughtfulness, specificity, and creativity. More details about each Hands On Quest can be found in each level.

Side Quests! Each Side Quest you complete adds additional extra credit XPs to your final XP count. Side Quests must be completed by April 21, 2023 at 11:59pm.

1. Follow at least 10 theatre companies on Twitter or Instagram. If you opt for this Side Quest, you will submit a screenshot of your Twitter/IG "following" page showing the 10 companies. **Worth 15 XPs. This Side Quest must be completed by April 21, 2023 at 11:59pm.**
2. Volunteer 10 hours of work with UAH Theatre, or a local theatre company within your community. A timesheet to log your hours is provided. If you opt for this Side Quest, you will submit your

completed timesheet. **Worth 50 XPs. This Side Quest must be completed no later than April 5, 2023 at 11:59pm.**

3. Produce a 2-minute vlog on your favorite play or musical and why. If you opt for this Side Quest, you will submit your vlog. **Worth 15 XPs. This Side Quest must be completed by April 21, 2023 at 11:59pm. Any performance by you of songs from a musical nets you an extra 5 XPs.**

4. Produce a 2-minute vlog on what worked and didn't work for you in the course. **Worth 15 XPs. This Side Quest must be completed by April 21, 2023 at 11:59pm.**

Grading Policies
XPs
A: 1000-900 XPs, B: 899-800 XPs, C: 799-700 XPs, D: 699-600 XPs, F: 599-0 XPs

Course Calendar

Week	Level	Quests	Deadline
1 January 9	1: Introduction	Post to the "If I Was" Discussion Board and reply to one other classmate's post	January 13 by 11:59pm
2 January 16	2: The Roots of Theatre	Post to the Level 2 Discussion Board and Complete the Level 2 Quest	January 20 by 11:59pm
3 January 23	3: Foundation Terms	Post to the Level 3 Discussion Board and Complete the Level 3 Quest	January 27 by 11:59pm
4 January 30	4: Structure & Genre	Post to the Level 4 Discussion Board and Complete the Level 4 Quest	February 3 by 11:59pm
5 February 6	5: Theatre as Mirror	Post to the Level 5 Discussion Board and Complete the Level 5 Quest	February 10 by 11:59pm
6 February 13	6: Greek Theatre and *Hurricane Diane*	Read *Hurricane Diane*, and take the quiz	February 17 by 11:59pm
7 February 20	7: Theatre Design	Post to the Level 7 Discussion Board and Complete the Level 7 Quest	February 24 by 11:59pm
8 February 27	8: Acting and Directing	Complete the Level 9	March 3 by 11:59pm

		Quest	
9 March 6	10: Realism and *A Raisin in the Sun*	Read *A Raisin in the Sun*, and take the quiz	March 10 by 11:59pm
10 March 13	SPRING BREAK	NO CLASS	ENJOY!
11 March 20	11: Non-Realism and *The Mountaintop*	Read *The Mountaintop*, and take the quiz	March 24 by 11:59pm
12 March 27	12: Post-Modernism and *Vietgone*	Read *Vietgone*, and take the quiz	March 31 by 11:59pm
13 April 3	13: Post-Colonialism and *The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity*	Read *Chad Deity*, and take the quiz	April by 7 11:59pm
14 April 10	14: Performance Response Due	Performance Response Due	April 14 by 11:59pm
15 April 17	Last Week of Class!	Most Side Quests Due	April 21 by 11:59pm

THIS SYLLABUS MAY CHANGE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE INSTRUCTOR IF UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES ARISE. YOU WILL BE INFORMED IN ADVANCE OF ANY CHANGES IN CLASS AND ONLINE.