

THTR 110: Origins & Theories of Theater

Fall 2008

Instructor: **D. Ohlandt**

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TR 9:30pm - 10:50pm

Buchanan 200

office hours: Tuesdays 1-2pm

Wednesdays 10:30-11:30am

and by appointment

Schedule of Events & Assignments

this schedule is subject to change

- 8/28 Th SYLLABUS AND OVERVIEW
Creative Spirit Ch. #1 pp. 10-19 "Professional Performance: Four Stories"
Creative Spirit Ch. #2 pp. 24-27 "The Power of the Theatre"

UNIT: Theater as Religion / Religion As Theater

- 9/2 T CLASSICAL GREEK THEATER
Creative Spirit Ch. #2 pp. 27-34 "The Greek Theatre: Athens, 5th Century B.C.E."
Creative Spirit Ch.#13 pp. 427-434 "Tragedy and Comedy"
- 9/4 Th ** short paper #1 due
EURIPIDES' MEDEA
Medea by Euripides (linked on Moodle)
Creative Spirit Ch. #13 pp. 443-449 "The Critic" and "Two Reviews of *Medea*"
- 9/9 T HOPI PERFORMANCE, MEDIEVAL MYSTERY PLAYS
Creative Spirit Ch. #1 pp. 2-10 "Personal Performance" and "Community Performance"
Creative Spirit Ch. #2 pp. 35-38 "The Medieval Mystery Cycle"
** glossary check
- 9/11 Th PERFORMANCE STUDIES
readings TBA
Jonestown articles and overview
- Fri 9/12 FIELD TRIP *The People's Temple @ American Theater Company*
- 9/16 T ** short paper #2 due
RELIGION AS DRAMATIC MATERIAL
The People's Temple performance discussion
Creative Spirit Ch. #14 pp. 453-461 "Exploring the Text of *Dog Lady*"
- 9/18 Th SANCHEZ-SCOTT'S DOG LADY
Dog Lady by Milcha Sanchez-Scott (*Creative Spirit* Ch. #14 pp. 461-473)
Creative Spirit Ch. #14 pp. 473-478 "Producing *Dog Lady*"

9/23 T RELIGIOUS CEREMONIES & RITUALS
readings TBA
** glossary check

UNIT: Theater As Education / Education As Theater

9/25 Th TEACHING THROUGH THEATER
Creative Spirit Ch. #3 pp. 63-75 "Exploring the Text of *Joe Turner's Come and Gone*"
Creative Spirit Ch. #9 pp. 263-270 "Exploring the Text of *And the Soul Shall Dance*"

9/30 T ** short paper #3 due
USING REALISTIC STYLE TO EDUCATE: WILSON'S JOE TURNER'S COME AND GONE
Creative Spirit Ch. #8 pp. 246-248 "Realistic Elements in *Joe Turner's Come and Gone*" and
"Realism in Film"
Act I of *Joe Turner's Come and Gone* by August Wilson (*Creative Spirit* Ch. #3 pp. 76-99)

10/2 Th WILSON'S JOE TURNER'S COME AND GONE
Act II of *Joe Turner's Come and Gone* by August Wilson (*Creative Spirit* Ch. #3 pp. 99-115)
Creative Spirit Ch. #3 pp. 115-128 "Producing *Joe Turner's Come and Gone*"

10/7 T TEACHING ABOUT CULTURE: YAMAUCHI'S AND THE SOUL SHALL DANCE
Creative Spirit Ch. #9 pp. 270-271 "Evoking a World Through Detail"
Act I - *And the Soul Shall Dance* by Wakako Yamauchi (*Creative Spirit* Ch. #9 pp. 272-286)
** glossary check

10/9 Th YAMAUCHI'S AND THE SOUL SHALL DANCE
Act II - *And the Soul Shall Dance* by Wakako Yamauchi (*Creative Spirit* Ch. #9 pp. 286-302)
Creative Spirit Ch. #9 pp. 303-315 "Producing *And the Soul Shall Dance*"

Fri 10/10 FIELD TRIP *Amadeus* @ Chicago Shakespeare Theatre

10/14 T ** short paper #4 due
BEING EDUCATED BY THEATER
Creative Spirit Ch. #12 pp. 409-422 "The Elements of Drama and Dramatic Structure"
Amadeus performance discussion

10/16 Th CLASSROOM PERFORMANCES
Goffman "Performances: Belief in the Part One is Playing" (posted on Moodle)
Mossman "Visible Disability in the College Classroom" (posted on Moodle)

10/21 T **FALL BREAK - no class**

10/23 Th student presentations on the "drama of education"

UNIT: Theater As Politics / Politics As Theater

Monday 10/27 @ 5:00pm in Mohr Student Center (required)

performance of monologues about immigration, created by the Theater Department and OIR

- 10/28 T ** research paper topic due
KEY MOVEMENTS & FIGURES OF POLITICAL THEATER
Creative Spirit Ch. #8 pp. 248-253 "Social Background of Realism" and "European Realism"
Creative Spirit Ch. #10 pp. 325-328 "Bertolt Brecht"
Creative Spirit Ch. #10 pp. 328-329 "Theatre of the Absurd"
Creative Spirit Ch. #2 pp. 51-56 "Theatre As A Mirror of Society"
- 10/30 Th NON-REALISM TO MAKE A POINT: KUSHNER'S ANGELS IN AMERICA
Creative Spirit Ch. #11 pp. 339-348 "Exploring the Text of *Angels in America*"
Act I of *Angels in America: Millenium Approaches* by Tony Kushner (*Creative Spirit* Ch. #11 pp. 350-367)
- 11/4 T KUSHNER'S ANGELS IN AMERICA
Act II of *Angels in America: Millenium Approaches* by Tony Kushner (*Creative Spirit* Ch. #11 pp. 367-398)
Creative Spirit Ch. #11 pp. 398-405 "Producing *Angels in America*"
** glossary check
- 11/6 Th Professor Ohlandt away at a conference– NO CLASS MEETING
– arrange to watch the film *The Cradle Will Rock* as a class by next Tuesday (a responsible student may borrow the DVD from Professor Ohlandt)
– arrange to rehearse your scene(s) from Angels in America
- 11/11 T ** research paper outline DUE
scenes from Angels in America DUE
discussion on the FEDERAL THEATER PROJECT
- 11/13 Th THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION
readings TBA

UNIT: Theater As Entertainment / Entertainment as Theater

- 11/18 T SHAKESPEARE'S WORLD: A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM
Creative Spirit Ch. #2 pp. 39-45 "The Elizabethan Theatre"
A Midsummer Night's Dream Acts I-III (linked on Moodle)
** glossary check
- 11/20 Th A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM
A Midsummer Night's Dream Acts IV-V (linked on Moodle)
Creative Spirit Ch. #13 pp. 434-440 "Melodrama" "Tragicomedy" "Farce"
Creative Spirit Ch. #13 pp. 440-441 "Writing About the Theatre: The Dramaturg"

SEE THIS WEEKEND *A Midsummer Night's Dream* - Allan Carr Theater, Hixon Hall
call 847-735-6169 to make your reservation
free for LFC students, Thursday-Saturday, 8pm nightly with a 2pm Saturday matinee

11/25 T ** research paper due
A Midsummer Night's Dream performance discussion

11/27 Th **THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY - no class**

12/2 T OTHER FORMS OF PROFESSIONAL THEATER
Creative Spirit Ch. #2 pp. 45-51 "The Beijing Opera of China"
Creative Spirit Ch. #8 pp. 254-256 "Poetic Realism" and "Realistic Acting"
Creative Spirit Ch. #10 pp. 321- 324 "Exposing the Mechanics of the Theatre" and
"Expressionism"
Creative Spirit Ch. #10 pp. 329-331 "Martha Graham"
Creative Spirit Ch. #10 pp. 331-333 "Robert Wilson"
Creative Spirit Ch. #10 pp. 333-335 "Shen Wei"

12/4 Th RITUALS AND PERFORMANCES AT SPORTING EVENTS
readings TBA

12/9 T RITUAL, EDUCATION, POLITICS, AND ENTERTAINMENT
how to look at everything as theater and see everything in theater!
** glossaries due

FINAL EXAM details TBA
Friday, December 12 8:30 - 11:30am