

Theatre Appreciation - Levelland (update 8/30/2025)

DRAM-1310-001

Fall 16 Week 2025 Section -001 3.00 Credits 08/25/2025 to 12/11/2025



Director & Instructor of Theatre: April Langehennig M.F.A, M.A.

Email: alangehennig@southplainscollege.edu

Office: Fine Arts #143

Phone: 806.716.2266

Website: <https://www.aprilylangehennig.com/> (<https://www.aprilylangehennig.com/>)

Office Hours

- M/W 1:00pm-2:30pm
- T/TR 11:00am-12:00pm
- F 9:00am-12:00pm
- Virtual Office Hours
 - My student virtual drop-in hours are by appointment in our classroom zoom room.
 - Send me a Course Message and we will set up a time that works for us both.

Class Meeting Dates/Days/Times

Building/Room: Fine Arts - 103

Days/Time: T/TR - 1:00pm-2:15pm

Course Description

Survey of theater including its history, dramatic works, stage techniques, production procedures and relation to other art forms. Participation in productions may be required.

Instructional Materials

- On-Campus/School Computer or Personal Computer
 - Even though the Blackboard Mobile app and website work decently well:
 - Some assignments work better with a desktop or laptop computer.
- Composition Notebook/Spiral Notebook or similar for note taking

Program Learning Outcomes

- Critical Thinking: To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- Communication Skills: To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.
- Teamwork: To include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.
- Social Responsibility: To include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Analyze theater through written responses to play texts and/or live performance.
- Demonstrate a basic knowledge of theater history and dramatic works.
- Describe the collaborative nature of theater arts.
- Demonstrate the relationship of the arts to everyday life as well as broader historical and social contexts.

Course Requirements

Methods for Assessing the Expected Course-Level Student Learning Outcomes

1. Attendance is required and will be taken.
2. Absences will affect final grade substantially.
3. Please be on time to class. Classes will start promptly.
4. Active and curious participation in all class activities: creative studies, physical exercises, lectures, discussions, and written assignments.
5. Fulfillment of all tests, written papers, and digital assignments.

Participation/Discussion:

- Students are expected to participate in class through activities and discussion with their classmates about the application of things gleaned from plays watched/read and assigned readings.
- The instructor will lead the discussions and ensure that they remain pertinent to the topics of this class.
- Participating includes:
 - asking questions, answering questions, and initiating class discussions.
- If your final point count is on the border of two grades, I will take participation into account in either raising or lowering the border grade.

Course Policies

Successful Attendance

- Attendance is Mandatory.
- Attendance counts for 15% of your grade.
- After 2 absences your advisor will be contacted and steps will be taken for your success.
- All school related absences are excused with proper documentation.

Tardiness

- Being late is disruptive to the class and disrespectful to your classmates and your instructor.
 - 10 min after start time = Late
 - 3 tardies = 1 Absence

Makeup Work

- A PLAN FOR SUCCESS must be made before makeup work will be accepted.
- Viewing Quizzes CANNOT be made up.

EXTENSION:

- Any extension must be requested and responded to by me IN WRITING 24 HRS BEFORE the due time.
 - If not requested, a late penalty will be assessed.

Late Work

- **There is a 30% deduction from the final grade per assignment.**
- LATE IS BETTER THAN A "0".
- *FINAL will NOT be accepted late.*
 - The Final Week's due date may NOT fall on a Thursday.
 - Pay attention to the written due date.

Extra Credit

- Later in the semester, there will be one opportunity for extra credit.
- Any student that has cheated and/or plagiarized his/her work will be ineligible for extra credit.
- Specific details will be addressed in class and on Blackboard.

Respect in the Classroom:

- Respect in the classroom is essential.
- Abusive language, CELL PHONES, personal attacks or disturbances will not be tolerated.
- Talking about sensitive information shared by the instructor and/or peers withing discussions outside of classroom, will result in removal from class.

- If you need to leave early, please sit close to the exit and notify the instructor, before class.

Content

- In this class you may be exposed to; strong language-graphic onscreen material- controversial ideas and points of view that may be at variance with your belief set.
 - Just keep repeating-it's only a movie/play.
- I do try my best to choose content that is appropriate for all.

Cellphone Policy:

- Phones are to be only used for CLASS WORK. Your phone and your computer (if you have one available) will be very important to your course success. We are here to participate in class and when our dependence/distraction with our phones gets in the way of this it can be detrimental to your grade and the educational success of others.
- Students are asked to place their phone on the corner of their desk.
- There will be 1 warning if the phone is being used improperly.
 - If the improper use continues the student is seen to not be actively participating in class and will be asked to leave the class.
 - An absence will be assessed.

Sleeping in Class:

- If you are "napping" I'll ask you to leave-one absence.

Dismissal Policy:

- A high standard of conduct is expected of all students.
- It is assumed that obedience to the law, respect for property, integrity, and common sense will guide the actions of each member of the class.
- If in the opinion of the instructor the conduct of a student is unacceptable, the student will be asked to leave the class or lab, counted absent, and not be allowed to re-enter without written permission from both the Dean of Students and the Dean of Instruction.
- In a case of severe misconduct, the instructor may request the dismissal of the student from class permanently.

Plagiarism:

- All written material must be the student's original ideas unless specifically indicated otherwise.
- Quotation marks should be used when the exact words of a person, a textbook, an article, or a webpage are used, and proper MLA credit should be given to that source.
- Failure to do so is one form of plagiarism.
- Students should also remember that using quoted, paraphrased or summarized ideas or information from a person, written source, or online source without giving the source credit is also plagiarism.
 - Students may not turn in duplicate work or work that expresses the same ideas in the same manner, which is also plagiarism.
- Students may not submit work that has been or will be turned in for another course.
 - ALL FORMS OF PLAGIARISM WILL RESULT IN THE OFFENDING STUDENT RECEIVING AN AUTOMATIC F FOR THE COURSE, and the Dean of Students will be contacted.
- ***Usage of Ai to create any work that is required to be of your own creation is considered a form of plagiarism.***
- The instructor has the final say on what is and what isn't plagiarism.
- All student work will be submitted to Blackboard and checked for plagiarism.

AI Generative Tools Class Statement:

- "Within the Creative Arts, the individual artist's voice is cornerstones. Writings, opinions and all creative work must be of your own creation. All students enrolled in this course are not allowed to use advanced automated tools (artificial intelligence or machine learning tools such as ChatGPT or Dall-E 2) on any assignments unless priorly authorized by the professor. Any usage must be properly quoted and cited or it will constitute a violation of academic integrity. Substantive assistance from others, including automated tools, is prohibited."

NETIQUETTE

- Students are expected to maintain an online environment conducive to learning, which includes “netiquette” (Internet etiquette).
- Diverse opinions are welcome in this course.
- The following are PROHIBITED:
 - making offensive remarks in e-mail or the discussion board or during class forums
 - spamming, hacking, phishing, trolling, gossiping over DM, discussion boards or class forums
 - Photographing, filming, screenshotting your fellow students'/Instructor's without permission
 - Photographing, filming, screenshotting your fellow students'/Instructor's work without permission
 - using SPC e-mail or discussion board for commercial purposes
 - cyber-bullying or online harassment of any type

Academic Integrity:

- According to the [Student Guide](#), “Dishonesty of any kind on examinations or on written assignments, illegal possession of examinations, the use of unauthorized notes during an examination, obtaining information during an examination from the text- book or from the examination paper of another student, assisting others to cheat, alteration of grade records, illegal entry or unauthorized presence in an office are examples of cheating. Complete honesty is required of the student in the presentation of any and all phases of course work. This applies to quizzes of what- ever length, as well as to, final examinations, to daily reports and to term papers.” (pgs. 14 & 15)
- At no time may a student be in possession of text or assessment materials without the instructor’s permission.
- Disciplinary action against all forms of cheating may include, but is not limited to, receiving a zero on the assignment and/or receiving an F in the course.
 - In some cases, the Dean of Students will also be contacted.

Language/Conduct Policy Statement:

- Students are expected to use respectful and professional language at all times in this course and as representatives of South Plains College Theatre.
 - The use of lewd, sexually explicit, vulgar, or profane language—including cursing—is strictly prohibited.
 - This policy applies in all class settings, including the classroom, the shop, and rehearsals, as well as during any events or appearances in the community or across the state where students are representing South Plains College Theatre.
- Maintaining a professional and respectful environment is essential to our creative and educational work.
 - Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action in accordance with college and departmental guidelines.

Institutional Policies

South Plains College policies concerning Disabilities, Non-discrimination, Title IX Pregnancy and Parenting Accommodations, CARE (Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation), Intellectual Exchange, Campus Concealed Carry, COVID-19, and AI (Artificial Intelligence) can be found here: [Syllabus Statements](#).

Course Calendar

Fall 2025 Calendar

(Subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Any extension must be requested and responded to in writing 24 hours before the due time. If not requested, a late penalty will be assessed.)

Module 1: Course Intro / What is Theatre? (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)

- Watch & Complete CC Notes:
 - “What is Theatre?” (<https://youtu.be/sNWOUwzax8>)
- Introduction / Syllabus / Procedures Video & Quiz

Module 2: The Story (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)

- Crash Course (online):
 - “Pee Jokes, the Italian Renaissance, Commedia Dell’Arte.” (<https://youtu.be/U96m8inKt24>)
- *Slava’s Snowshow* Viewing & Quiz (in Class)
- Dissecting the Play: Plot (Lecture, Notes & Application)

Module 3: The Story (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)

- **Weekly Assignments**
 - Crash Course (online):
 - [Tragedy Lessons from Aristotle](#)
 - [Antigone](#) (Part 1) Viewing
 - Dissecting the Play: Hero’s Journey (Lecture, Notes & Application)
- **“My Script” Project**
 - **Step #1:** Story Outline/Plot Structure (Assigned)

Module 4: Script Analysis (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)

- **Weekly Assignments**
 - Crash Course (online):
 - [Thespis, Athens and the Origins of Greek Drama](#)
 - [Antigone](#) (Part 2) Viewing & Quiz
 - Dissecting the Play: Script Analysis (Lecture, Notes & Application)
- **“My Script” Project**
 - **Step #1:** Story Outline/Plot Structure (Due)
 - **Step #2:** Rough Draft (Assigned)

Module 5: The Format (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)

- **Weekly Assignments:**
 - Crash Course (online):
 - [Straight Outta Stratford-Upon-Avon - Shakespeare's Early Days](#)
 - [Much Ado About Nothing](#) (Part 1) Viewing
- Writing the Play: The Setting (Lecture, Notes & Application)
- **“My Script” Project**
 - **Step #2:** Rough Draft (Work Continued - Check in on Day 2)

Module 6: The Format (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)

- **WE WILL NOT MEET SYNCHRONOUSLY THIS WEEK**
- **Weekly Assignments:**
 - Crash Course (online):
 - [Shakespeare's Tragedies and an Acting Lesson](#)
 - [Much Ado About Nothing](#) (Part 2) Viewing & Quiz
- **“My Script” Project**
 - **Step #2:** Rough Draft (Work Continued - Check in on Day 2)

Module 7: Art of Adaptation (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)

- **Weekly Assignments:**
 - Crash Course:
 - [Zola, France, Realism, and Naturalism](#)
 - [Macbeth](#) Viewing (Part 1) Viewing
 - Writing the Play: Say What? (Lecture, Notes & Application)
- **“My Script” Project**
 - **Step #2:** Rough Draft (Due)

Module 8: Letting the Idea Go (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)

- **Weekly Assignments:**
 - Crash Course:
 - [Race Melodrama and Minstrel Shows](#)
 - [Macbeth](#) Viewing (Part 2) Viewing & Quiz
 - Versions: Macbeth: Compare and Contrast (Lecture, Notes & Application)
- **“My Script” Project**
 - **Step #2.5:** Final Draft (Assigned)

Module 9: Set/Props (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)

- **Weekly Assignments:**
 - Crash Course-ish (online):
 - [TED Talk: Puppetry - Warhorse](#)
 - [Frankenstein](#) Viewing (Part 1)
- Set Design: Stages & Spaces (Lecture, Notes & Application)
- **“My Script” Project**
 - **Step #2.5:** Final Draft (Due)
 - **Step #3:** Set Design (Assigned)

Module 10: Set/Props (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)

- **Weekly Assignments:**
 - Crash Course:
 - [China, Zaju, and Beijing Opera](#)
 - [Frankenstein](#) Viewing (Part 2) & Quiz
- Set Design: The Floor Plan (Lecture, Notes & Application)
- **“My Script” Project**
 - **Step #3:** Set Design (Work)

Module 11: Set/Props (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)

- **Weekly Assignments:**
 - Crash Course:
 - [Broadway Book Musical](#)
 - Cirque du Soleil *Dralion* (Part 1) Viewing
- How to use Color... Part 1 (Lecture, Notes & Application)
- **“My Script” Project**
 - **Step #3:** Set Design (Work)

Module 12: Costuming (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)

- **Weekly Assignments:**
 - Crash Course:
 - [Off Broadway](#)
 - Cirque du Soleil *Dralion* (Part 2) Viewing & Quiz
- How to use Color... Part 2 (Lecture, Notes & Application)
- **“My Script” Project**
 - **Step #3:** Set Design (Due)
 - **Step #4:** Costuming (Assigned)

Module 13: Costuming (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)

- **Weekly Assignments:**
 - Crash Course:
 - [Checkov and the Moscow Art Theatre](#)
 - *Sonnets for an Old Century* (Part 1) Viewing
- So your Concept is... (Lecture, Notes & Application)
- **“My Script” Project**
 - **Step #4:** Costuming (Work)

Module 14: Costuming (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)

- **Weekly Assignments:**
 - *Sonnets for an Old Century* (Part 1) Viewing & Quiz
- Rendering (Lecture, Notes & Application)
- **“My Script” Project**
 - **Step #4:** Costuming (Due by end of Thanksgiving Holiday)

Module 15: Changing Minds (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)

- **Weekly Assignments:**
 - [Pipeline](#) Viewing & Quiz
- **“My Script” Project**
 - **Step #5:** The Readings (Part 1)

Final Exam Time: All Together Now

- **“My Script” Project**
 - **Step #5:** The Readings (Part 2)

Class Assessments/Grading

Further details and due dates can be found on BlackBoard.

<u>Assignment Category</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Syllabus & Procedure Quiz	10%
Attendance/Participation	10%
Notes/Short Assignments/In Class Work	15%
Production Viewing & Quiz	25%
Crash Course	15%
Final Project	25%

<u>90-100%</u>	A
<u>80-89%</u>	B
<u>70-79%</u>	C
<u>60-69%</u>	D
<u>59% and Below</u>	F
<u>Failure to Complete / Attend</u>	FX