

# **THE 4481: Production Dramaturgy - sec. 14G5**

Spring Semester 2018  
T/TH 3-4 (9:35-11:30)  
DAU 342  
Office Hours: M/TH/F 5 and by appointment

Dr. Chris Matsos  
227 McGuire Pavilion  
Phone 352 294-0549  
cmatsos@ufl.edu

This class is designed to introduce students to the field and concepts of production dramaturgy, a profession which has gained importance in the American theatre. The dramaturg is a multifaceted collaborator in the theatrical process, and the aim of the course is to address all aspects of this collaboration in some depth: script analysis, editing, research, adaptation, new play development, season selection, program notes. Increasingly, the emphasis will shift to the dramaturgy of new performance modes – devised theatre; postdramatic, immersive, and intermedial work; even dance. Students will select one major project for the semester, if possible an actual production, and complete a thorough dramaturgical protocol. At the conclusion of the course, a student should be able to function as production dramaturg on any mainstage production. Attendance at all departmental productions is required.

## **Required Texts:**

- Chemers, Michael Mark. *Ghost Light: An Introductory Handbook for Dramaturgy*. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 2010. (GL)

## **Course Website:** [elearning.ufl.edu](http://elearning.ufl.edu)

Log into the e-Learning system **Canvas** with your Gatorlink ID and password. You will see THE 4111 as one of your courses.

## **Attendance:**

Class attendance is mandatory. Attendance sheets are passed around every class. You may miss class three times without consequences; every further absence deducts 15 points from attendance total. If you are more than 15 minutes late to class, you are absent for that session. If you come late a lot, that may also result in a cumulative count of absence. **PLEASE NOTE: If you make 0 points in attendance/participation, you may fail the course, regardless of actual total points.**

## **Assignments:**

- 1: Historical dramatic theorists
- 2: Script analysis of *The Gnadiges Fraulein*
- 3: Edit Act 1 of Hamlet
- 4: Reader's report for new play
- 5: Selection of translations of a classical modern play,
- 6: Material for site-specific work
- 7: Season of 6 plays with justification
- 8: Adaptation of a chapter of *Einstein's Dreams*

**Grades:**

Attendance/participation	100 Points
Ongoing assignments (8 at 40)	320 Points
<u>Final casebook/presentation</u>	<u>100 Points</u>
	TOTAL 520 points

A	425 to 520
B+	400 to 424
B	350 to 399
C+	300 to 349
C	250 to 299
D+	200 to 249
E	below 200

**Readings:**

- Alexander, Catherine, "Complicite - The Elephant Vanishes" Bly, Mark, ed. *The Production Notebooks. Theatre in Process. Vol. 1.* New York: TCG, 1996. (PN1)\*
- Büchner, Georg. *Danton's Death*
- Friedman, Andrew. "Total Radical Fiction"
- Fuchs, Elinor. "Visit to a Small Planet"
- Lehmann, Hans-Thies. From *Postdramatic Theatre*
- Lightman, Alan. *Einstein's Dreams* [excerpts]
- Mee, Charles L. *Big Love*
- Murakami, Haruki. "The Elephant Vanishes"
- Oddey, Alison. Introduction to "Devising Theatre"
- Pearson, Mike. From *Site-Specific Performance*
- Performance Analysis Readings (from Keir Elam, *The Semiotics of Theatre and Drama* and Patrice Pavis)
- Rancière, Jacques. "The Emancipated Spectator"
- Remshardt, Ralf. "Posthumanism"
- Remshardt, Ralf. "Fugitive Performance: Nicolas Stemann's Die Schutzbefohlenen and the Medial Matrix of Refugee Theatre"
- Turner, Kathy, and Synne Behrnt. "Millennial Dramaturgies"
- White, Gareth. "Immersive Theatre"
- Williams, Tennessee. *The Gnädiges Fräulein*
- Program Notes

**Attendance at Performances:**

By decision of the faculty in the School of Theatre and Dance, the following statement is included on all departmental syllabi: *Since production is the laboratory for all theatre courses, attendance at all mainstage Department of Theatre and Dance productions is required of students enrolled in classes with the following prefix designations: THE, TPA, TPP, ORI. Critiques of and/or responses to*

*these productions may be required. Attendance at all related events is encouraged.*

### **Class Demeanor:**

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and behave in a manner that is respectful to the instructor and to fellow students. Please avoid the use of cell phones and restrict eating to outside of the classroom. Opinions held by other students should be respected in discussion, and conversations that do not contribute to the discussion should be held at minimum.

### **Computers in the Classroom:**

Students are encouraged to bring computers to the classroom in order to take notes and find online references. Students are STRONGLY discouraged from using their computers for social networking during class.

### **Students Requiring Accommodations:**

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

### **Course Evaluation:**

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

### **University Honesty Policy:**

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

### **Counseling and Wellness Center:**

Contact information for the Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

**Course Calendar (Subject to Change) to be distributed on first day of class.**