

University of Florida - College of the Arts - School of Theatre and Dance

TPP 6385: Section 08B4 / Spring 2019

GRADUATE DIRECTING / CREATIVE PROCESS

Class Meeting Time - TR Per. 6-7 (12:50-2:45) / CON G015

Dr. Mikell Pinkney / Office: 222 McGuire Pavilion / 273-0512 / mpinkney@arts.ufl.edu

Office Hours: Tues. 3:15-4:30PM & Thurs. 3:15-4:30PM by appointment. Other appointments possible.

Objectives and Outcomes:

- To refine the ability to analyze (seeing the structure of the text and preparation for the imaginative leap), to conceptualize (bringing the text to new life through a filter or a metaphor which amplifies and refocuses the text rather than reducing it), and to articulate (in written and verbal forms) your vision of the play.
- To amplify your communicative and collaborative skills.
- To develop a unique leadership style which will enable you to excite and inspire as well as to shape and coalesce the individual and the collaborative contribution of each member of the production team.
- To create and foster a strong sense of support and an ensemble within this class. Success in this area will be an indicator of your future collaborative ability as a director.
- To strive towards the life-long goal of becoming better citizens of the world. We are a product of all that has gone before and all that is happening now.
- To define verbally and in written form a critical aesthetic response to your own and others' directing. Good feedback focuses on the work, on the individual, and the specific, rather than the general. Constructive feedback is honest, direct, and explains the problem as the critic perceives it and offers possible solutions that are related to the director's vision of the play. The best feedback never attempts to redirect the director's scene or production.

Required Text:

Dean, Alexander and Lawrence Carra. *Fundamentals of Play Directing*.

Recommended Text:

Cole, Toby and Hellen Krich Chinoy, eds. *Directors on Directing: A Source Book of the Modern Theater*.

Thomas, James. *Script Analysis for Actors, Directors, and Designers*.

ALSO: Various in-class handouts in relation to specific areas of discussion

Optional Texts:

Shapiro, Mel. *The Director's Companion*.

Bogart, Anne. *And Then, You Act*.

Class Attendance:

* Attendance and participation in all classes is mandatory. Students arriving late for class **MAY NOT** be admitted depending on the discretion of the instructor in regard to the specific activity underway at the time. University Graduate Catalog states: "*The University recognizes the right of the individual professor to make attendance mandatory. After due warning, professors may prohibit further attendance and then assign a failing grade for excessive absences.*"

Required Viewings:

Attendance at live theatre productions is required for all students enrolled in this course: *Red Velvet*, *White Guy on a Bus*, and *Rough Magic*. Your attendance at these productions will be important and a production analysis paper will be required analyzing the perspective of the directing of the production. These "response papers" need not be longer than 2-3 pages in length and must focus on the direction of the production.

Course Projects:

- Project I: Directors on Directing Reports
- Project II: Directing Classical Scenes (2 actors each)
- Project III: Directing Modern Scenes (2 actors each)
- Project IV: Thrust, Arena and Alternative Space Staging (2-3 actors each)
- Project V: Production Critiques
- Project VI: Directing Fundamentals Exam
- Project VII: General Conceptual/ Creative Process Thesis
- Project VIII: 10 Minute Final Short Production Showcase (proposals and concepts approved)

Grading Scale:

A	= 90 or above	Excellent
A-	= 87-89	Almost Excellent
B+	= 84-86	Very Good
B	= 80-83	Almost Very Good
B-	= 77-79	Good
C+	= 74-76	Average
C	= 70-73	Needs Work

Grading Breakdown:

Performance/ Production Work	40%
Papers / Presentation Work	20%
Classroom Participation	20%
Attendance/ Promptness	20%

Academic Honesty:

As a result of completing the registration form at the University of Florida, every student has signed the following statement:

“I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University.”

The instructor of this course fully supports the intent of the above statement and will not tolerate academic dishonesty. We, the members of the University of Florida Community, pledge to hold ourselves, and our peers, to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

SOTD Handbook and Production Policy Manual:
Listed on webpage under General Theatre / Current Students/ Student Resources
<http://www.arts.ufl.edu/programs/generaltheatre.aspx>

SOTD Production Policy Manual
<http://www.arts.ufl.edu/downloads/sotd/10-11%20Production%20Policy%20Manual.pdf>

In case of a disaster affecting the UF campus, for the latest information see
<http://www.ufl.edu>

University Police
352-392-1111

City Emergency Notification:
Weekdays Evenings/ Weekends

Fire/Police/Medical Emergency: 911 911