

Directing
TPP 3311
Fall 2019
MWF, period 4-5

Professor: Tony Ramirez-Mata
Office: #228
Phone: 273-0514
Office Hours: TBA or Appointment

COURSE OBJECTIVES: To introduce aspiring directors to rudimentary elements of Directing through the art of collaboration. We will explore a creative process through script analysis, stage composition, blocking, rehearsal techniques and visualization. Theories and conceptual elements, casting as well as working with actors and designers will also be explored.

- A. To establish a common vocabulary and analysis that serve as a foundation for fundamental skills of the director's role along with critical thinking.
- B. To develop an understanding of the intention of the playwright and the super objective of the play and bringing it to the stage.
- C. To develop in the student an understanding of the compositions of stage pictures collaborating with actors and designers.
- D. To introduce the student to the concepts of script analysis and the application of that analysis to begin blocking the play.
- E. To expose the student to basic methods of organizational skills of a script and scene break down in order to create a cohesive schedule with the stage manager.
- F. To develops skills to collaborate with designers from the concept to the realization of that concept to the stage. Also, working with the production team to create a clear understanding and communication of expectations for everyone involved.

COURSE CONTENT:

- A. What does a director do and where do you begin.
- B. Script analysis and the application of that analysis.
- D. Directing scenes two contrasting pieces not to exceed five minutes each.
- E. Design concepts and communication with designers.
- F. The art of critical thinking and communication with actors to work through a creative process.

REQUIRED TEXT: **THE DIRECTORS VOICE** (VOLUME 2) by Jason Loeth.

Refernces: **The Directors Vision** by Louis E. Catron & Scott Shattuck,**The Creative Act: A Way of Being** by Rick Rubin.

EVALUATION:

Script Analysis & Concept Written Work	20%
Scene 1 (2 Actors/ 5 Minutes or less)	15%
Scene 1 (2 Actors/ 5 Minutes or less)	15%
One Performance Directing Critique	15%
The Directors Voice Presentations	15%
Final Presentation of Scenes	20%

GRADING RUBRIC: 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 POLICY: Your attitude and participation in each class period is important to the curriculum requirements of this course. Therefore, attendance and active participation is required. Three lates are counted as one absence. Unless excused, each absence beyond three absences will result in a lowering of one letter grade. These three absences would be equivalent to missing a week of class. Excused absences are limited to medical illness documented by physician, family emergency documented by the appropriate person and religious holidays. You are responsible for all material missed. Check syllabus and class schedule on material covered in case of any absence.

IF ANY WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS ARE LATE IT IS A DEDUCTION OF 2 POINTS PER DAY.

PRODUCTION ATTENDANCE: Productions are the laboratory for this class and are a key component for discussion. Therefore, attendance at all Mainstage School of Theatre and Dance productions is required of students enrolled in classes with the following prefix designations: THE, TPA, TPP and ORI. Critique of and/or responses to these productions may be required. Attendance at related events is encouraged. Take your coupons to the box office to get your admission tickets two weeks in advance of the productions.

PERFORMANCE CRITIQUE GUIDELINES:

- A. Topics for discussion are directly related to class content (Directing, Concept, Stage Composition, Blocking, Visualization and Design and Production values.)
- B. Structure
 1. Thesis statement: (opening paragraph)
 2. Three to four paragraphs relevant to support thesis statement.
 3. Conclusion (closing statement and final paragraph)
- C. Length 500 words, 3 to 4 pages double space.
- D. Header on upper left hand corner should include your name, course name, name of play and playwright.

SELF-EVALUATION: The self-evaluation should be one or two pages evaluating your work, growth and varied assignments throughout the semester. The self-evaluation should be turned in with your performance critique.

NOTICE: Lectures and notes given in this class are the property of the university/faculty member and may not be taped without prior permission from the lecturer and may not be used for commercial purpose. Students found to be in violation may be subject to discipline under the university's student conduct code. The above procedures and schedule in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances. See the student honor conduct code link below.

Directing

CALENDAR

(Subject to Change)

Friday	August 23	Course Overview, read syllabus, class orientation
Monday	August 26	The Director's Role/ Review handout
Wednesday	August 28	Bring curated scenes to present for consideration and discussion
Friday	August 30	Script Analysis/ Concept handout/ Auditions
Monday	September 2	LABOR DAY NO CLASSES
Wednesday	September 4	The Directors Voice / 15 min. presentations/bring written outline for each class member.
Friday	September 6	The Directors Voice/ 15 min. presentations/bring written outline for each class member.
Monday	September 9	Analysis/Concept discussion bring your initial concepts to discuss
Wednesday	September 11	Analysis/ Concept presentation due for grade. Turn in hard copy. (1-6) 15 Minute <i>Presentations of one of the two plays chosen.</i>
Friday	September 13	Analysis/Concept presentation due for grade. Turn in hard copy. (7-14) 15 Minute <i>Presentations of one of the two plays chosen.</i>
Monday	September 16	Table read with Actors 1-6 (Scene 1)
Wednesday	September 18	Table read with Actors 7-14 (Scene1)
Friday	September 20	Rehearsal/Guest Artist
Monday	September 23	Rehearse Scene 1 Group (1-4)
Wednesday	September 25	Rehearse Scene 1 Group (5-8)
Friday	September 27	Rehearse Scene 1 Group (9-12)
Monday	September 30	Rehearse Scene 1 Run through
Wednesday	October 2	PERFORM Scene 1 FOR GRADE
Friday	October 4	Rehearsal/Guest Artist
Monday	October 7	Table read with Actors 1-6 (Scene 2)
Wednesday	October 9	Table Read with Actors 7-14 (Scene 2)
Friday	October 11	Rehearsal/Guest Artist
Monday	October 14	Rehearse Scene 2 (1-4)
Wednesday	October 16	Rehearse Scene 2 (5-8)
Friday	October 18	HOMECOMING/ NO CLASSES
Monday	October 21	Rehearse Scene 2 (9-12)
Wednesday	October 23	Rehearse Scene 2 Run through

Friday	October 25	Rehearsal/Guest Artist
Monday	October 28	Perform Scene 2 FOR GRADE
Wednesday	October 30	Post discussion of Scene Work
Friday	November 1	Rehearsal/Guest Artist
Monday	November 4	Directing a Musical, Opera or Documentary.
Wednesday	November 6	Discuss your Creative Directing Process with Designers/Actors
Friday	November 8	Rehearsal/Guest Artist
Monday	November 11	Rehearse and review Scene 2 (1-6)
Wednesday	November 13	Rehearse and review Scene 2 (7-14)
Friday	November 15	Rehearsal/Guest Artist
Monday	November 18	Rehearsal for Final Project /Scene 1 Run through
Wednesday	November 20	Rehearsal for Final Project/ Scene 2 Run through
Friday	November 22	Rehearsal for Final Project Run Through of Scenes 1
Monday	November 25	Rehearsal for Final Project Run Through of Scenes2
Wednesday	November 27	NO CLASSES THANKSGIVING BREAK
Friday	November 29	NO CLASSES THANKSGIVING BREAK
Monday	December 2	PERFORM FINAL SCENE 1/ Self-Eval/Critique Papers Due
Wednesday	December 4	PERFORM FINAL SCENE 2/ LAST DAY OF CLASSES

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.

Software Use

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

Student Privacy

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see: <http://registrar.ufl.edu/catalog0910/policies/regulationferpa.html>

Campus Resources:

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care:

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

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

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)

Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>.

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu. <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. <https://www.crc.ufl.edu/>.

Library Support, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. <https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>.

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>.

Student Complaints Campus:

https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf.

On-Line Students Complaints: <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process>.