

Voice Mail: 541-917-4566

E-mail: dan.stone@linnbenton.edu

Office Location: SSH-213B

Office Hrs: WW 10:00am

“My characters have nothing. I'm working with impotence, ignorance... that whole zone of being that has always been set aside by artists as something unusable - something by definition incompatible with art.”

-Samuel Beckett

“The theatre, when all is said and done, is not life in miniature, but life enormously magnified, life hideously exaggerated.”

-H. L. Mencken

“I regard the theatre as the greatest of all art forms, the most immediate way in which a human being can share with another the sense of what it is to be a human being.”

-Oscar Wilde

Course Description

This course is focused on reading/discussion/examination of plays from world theatre of past and present. This course familiarizes you with the common working vocabulary of the theatre as well as providing you with an introductory knowledge of play analysis, theatre production, theatrical theory and criticism. This course provides opportunities for both written and verbal expression.

Course Objectives

Students will be able to:

1. Effectively articulate written and verbal analyses of plays and productions read and/or attended.
2. Identify, apply, and contextualize principles/approaches of dramatic analysis.
3. Begin to develop, expand, and defend a personal philosophy and aesthetic and ethic about theatre and dramatic literature.
4. Students will be able to appreciate, understand, and evaluate plays of a classic comedic nature
5. List and describe the parts of a play.

Assessment Procedures

Written and oral assignments- including tests and quizzes - will receive a number score based on your success of fulfilling the criteria. Guidelines detailing the assessment process used to grade each assignment will be provided for each assignment, this will assist in clarifying the objectives and to ensure the highest possible success for each student.

Graded Assignment:

Quizzes: 60%

Quizzes for each play will be given on the last day that particular play is discussed.

Final Exam: 40%

The final exam will be a comprehensive test on material covered throughout the quarter.

Extra Credit/Ushering

Students may volunteer to usher one of LBCC Theatre performance. If a student should decide to usher he/she will be given extra credit. Contact Patti Ball in the theater's Box Office should you want to usher - prior arrangements must be made.

Materials

Books required for this course: *The Seagull Reader, Collected Shorter Plays by Samuel Beckett, Rhinoceros by Eugene Ionesco*

Week 1

Introductions

What is Drama , Parts of a Play, Climatic Structure, Monomyth "The Hero's Journey".

Supplemental Material to be handed out.

Week 2

Introduction to Realism

A Doll House by Henrick Ibsen

Week 3

A Doll House

Week 4

A Doll House/Quiz

Impressionism

Death of a Salesman by Arthur Miller

Week 5

Death of a Salesman

Week 6

Death of a Salesman/Quiz

Fences by August Wilson

Week 7

Fences

Week 8

Fences/Quiz

Introduction to Avant Garde Theatre

Week 9

Footfalls, Come and Go, Rockaby, Play by Samuel Beckett

Week 10

Beckett Quiz

Review for Final

Week 11

Final

Participation & Attendance

I will assess your participation and understanding in part through individual assignments as well as contributions made within a group. Participation grades also reflect your respect of the theatre process as we discuss the material and questions that come up in class, the respect you show others in the group- including the teacher- and your active presence in class. Students are given 2 excused absences.

IF YOU DECIDE TO DROP THE CLASS YOU MUST DROP IT ON YOUR OWN. You will receive an "F" if the class has not been officially dropped within the first two weeks of the quarter.

Absences can seriously affect your grade. For each absence, beyond the 2 excused, you will lose 10% of your grade.

Extra Credit will be offered once per quarter and will be announced during class time.

Grading scale:

Percentages and correlating letter grades are as follows:

A= 90-100 B=80-89 C=70-79 D=60-69 F=59 or below

Assessment Procedures

Written and oral assignments- including tests, quizzes, presentations, and projects- will receive a number score based on your success of fulfilling the criteria. Guidelines detailing the assessment process used to grade each assignment will be provided for each assignment, this will assist in clarifying the objectives and to ensure the highest possible success for each student.

Student Decorum Statement: Because college coursework and professional correspondence require focused study and open exchange of ideas, the Department expects the classroom to be a place of courteous interaction, a forum for demonstrating mutual respect between teachers and students. Professional communication requires all of us to listen carefully to each other (whether we agree or not) and to state our positions with clarity and our disagreements with tact. Standards for academic courtesy apply to group work, on-line interaction, and student-teacher conferences as well.

Course Policies:

Email: I am available to you via email and during office hours. Send all correspondence to dan.stone@linnbenton.edu. When you email, it is very important that you include your name, **Playreading** and/or the assignment name or topic of the message in the subject line. ***If you leave the subject line blank, your message may be recognized as spam and deleted!*** This information will also help me identify the nature of your request and reply more quickly. ***I will work to respond to emails within one to two BUSINESS days (business days excludes the weekends), so plan accordingly.***

Assignment Submission: Please type all submissions and proofread carefully.

Attendance: Please attend regularly to receive full participation credit. If you are absent due to illness or an emergency, you must contact me within 24 hours to make further arrangements.

Late Work: Our classroom standards reflect workplace standards; a due date is a deadline and you don't miss deadlines without informing your director/supervisor in advance. If you feel circumstances are working against you, you may make arrangements for an extension **PRIOR TO THE DEADLINE**.

All incomplete or late work will result in a deduction from the final grade. Late work will lose 10% automatically and may suffer additional penalties should it be incomplete. Late assignments are accepted up to one week after the due date. Please keep a copy of every paper you submit.

Plagiarism: Do your own work. Using someone else's work as your own or using information or ideas without proper citations can lead to your failing the assignment or the class.

Resources:

The Writing Center: While enrolled in Writing 214, you are encouraged to seek extra help at the Writing Center (917-4684), located on the second floor of Willamette Hall in the Learning Center (above the library) on main campus. If needed, they will also be able to direct you to the ESOL lab for additional support. Visit their website at <http://www.linnbenton.edu/go/learning-center/writing-help> for the term hours. No appointment is necessary. You are encouraged to seek help early in the term. This is a free service to all LB students.

Computer Lab Resources: You may use either LRC 213 or Forum 204 as a drop-in computer lab whenever classes are not scheduled and space is available.

Library Information: The LB library homepage can be found by following the links from:
http://libweb.linnbenton.edu/rooms/portal/page/Sirsi_HOME The site provides library hours, an online catalogue, as well as many helpful research databases, including EBSCOHost, Electric Library, Facts on File, NetLibrary, Oregonian, Wall Street Journal, and other periodical indexes. We will be discussing these further as we approach the final unit of the course.