



# DRAM 1310 - Theatre Appreciation, F2F

## Course Syllabus: Spring, 2023

*“Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide personal, dynamic learning experiences empowering students to succeed.”*

**Instructor: Page Petrucka, PhD**  
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Office Hours	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	8:30 – 9:30 am, 2:00 – 5:00 pm	8:30 – 9:30 am, 11 am – 12:30 pm	8:30 – 9:30 am	8:30 – 9:30 am, 11 am – 12:30 pm	

***This syllabus serves as the documentation for all course policies and requirements, assignments, and instructor/student responsibilities.***

*Information relative to the delivery of the content contained in this syllabus is subject to change. Should that happen, the student will be notified.*

**Course Description:** 3 credit hours  
Survey of theater including its history, dramatic works, stage techniques, production procedures, and relation to other art forms. Participation in productions may be required.

**Prerequisite(s):** None

**Student Learning Outcomes:** Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

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

**Evaluation/Grading Policy:** The method of assessment will be as follows:

**1) Quizzes:** Students will be completing 8 quizzes on certain assigned chapters and plays. Quizzes not completed on time, prior to the class discussion, ***will receive no points and cannot be made up.*** Students are only given one opportunity to take the quiz, and therefore cannot begin the quiz, leave it unfinished, and try to take it again. Because the quizzes are timed at 30 minutes each, students should read the chapter first, BEFORE taking the quiz.

8 quizzes @ 20 points each – 160 possible points

**2) Play Critiques:** Students will complete written critiques of two virtual productions and one live production (3 total). These will need to be submitted on Blackboard by the due date as listed in the class calendar. Critiques must be a minimum of 2 pages in length. All written assignments are expected to be double spaced, 1-inch margins on all sides, 12-point font, Times New Roman or similar. You will be given a handout on the required content for the critiques. The purpose of the critique is to get YOUR reactions and insights to the productions.

*Oedipus Rex* by Sophocles (YouTube)

*Frankenstein* by Nick Dear (National Theatre Production, viewed on Blackboard)

*The 39 Steps* adaptation by Patrick Barlow (Whatley Center, NTCC)

Performance dates are April 20 – 22, 2023, 7:30 pm

Additional matinee on Saturday, April 22, 2:30 pm

3 Critiques at 100 points each – 300 possible points

**\* Note: *The play Frankenstein contains some adult content. It is minimal, however if any student feels uncomfortable with the subject matter, please contact the instructor for an alternative production to critique.***

**3) Playwriting:** Students will each complete a Playwriting Assignment. This will consist of creating an original play following the parameters given by the instructor. The play will be a minimum of seven (7) pages in length and maximum of ten (10) pages in length and follow the approved formatting. During class writing time, students will be expected to bring either laptops or paper/pen to class so they may work on the assignment.

Playwriting – 140 possible points

**4) Creative Projects:** The purpose of the creative project is for you to try your hand at some of the elements of theatre. You will be required to present your creative project to the class. The presentation in total should not exceed 10 minutes in length and must include a description of the project and specific reasons for choosing your particular project.

**Playwriting** – share with the class a short script you have written

**Acting** – perform for the class a short scene from a play or musical you have memorized

**Directing** – present a director's concept for a play of your choosing (not one read or seen for class)

**Costume** – bring to class either a costume design on paper or an actual costume from a play of your choosing (not one read or seen for class)

**Dramaturgy** – share with the class some historical background you have done on a play and

the playwright (not one read or seen for class)

**Set Design** – bring to class a set design (paper or small model) from a play of your choosing (not one read or seen for class)

**Makeup** – come to class with makeup project on a subject, or present pictures from a play of your choosing (not one read or seen in class)

Creative Project – 100 possible points

### 5) Midterm and Final Exam:

The Midterm and Final Exam will each be worth 100 points.

Midterm Exam – 100 possible points

Final Exam – 100 possible points

#### GRADING Point Totals

900 – 810 points: A

809 – 720 points: B

719 – 630 points: C

629 – 540 points: D

539 and below: F

### Required Instructional Materials:

*Theatre, The Lively Art 11<sup>th</sup> Edition*, by Wilson and Goldfarb

Publisher: McGraw Hill

ISBN Number: 978-1-264-04905-0

*Oedipus Rex* by Sophocles (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TmAMVIhRSYk>)

This is the 1957 Version and can be viewed for free on YouTube. Please follow the link above.

Optional Instructional Materials: None

### Minimum Technology Requirements:

- ✓ Daily high-speed internet access
- ✓ Microsoft Word
- ✓ Power Point

### Required Computer Literacy Skills:

- ✓ Rename, delete, organize, and save files.
- ✓ Create, edit, and format word processing and presentation documents.
- ✓ Copy, paste, and use a URL or web address.
- ✓ Download and install programs and plug-ins.
- ✓ Send and receive an email with attachments.
- ✓ Locate and access information using a web search engine.

- ✓ Use a learning management system.
- ✓ Attach a file

**Course Structure and Overview:** See Evaluation and Grading Policy.

**Communications:** Communication with instructor must be done through NTCC official email only. Turnaround time for email responses is 24 hours.

### **Institutional/Course Policy:**

**Late work:** All assignments must be completed on time. Quizzes cannot be made up, as they are used as student preparation for class discussions.

**Cell Phones:** Cell phones are not permitted during class time. Please put them away.

**Attendance:** Attendance is vital to learning and student success. *Therefore, students can only miss five (5) class periods during the semester.* If a student reaches six (6) absences, they cannot expect to receive a passing grade in the class.

Medical emergencies and illness can be excused with a doctor's note. For all other issues, please contact the instructor directly.

### **Alternate Operations During Campus Closure and/or Alternate Course Delivery**

#### **Requirements:**

In the event of an emergency or announced campus closure due to a natural disaster pandemic, it may be necessary for Northeast Texas Community College to move to altered operations. During this time, Northeast Texas Community College may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include, but are not limited to, online through the Blackboard Learning Management System, online conferencing, email messaging, and/or an alternate schedule. It is the responsibility of the student to monitor NTCC's website (<http://www.ntcc.edu/>) for instructions about continuing courses remotely, Blackboard for each class for course-specific communication, and NTCC email for important general information.

Additionally, there may be instances where a course may not be able to be continued in the same delivery format as it originates (face-to-face, fully online, live remote, or hybrid). Should this be the case, every effort will be made to continue instruction in an alternative delivery format. Students will be informed of any changes of this nature through email messaging and/or the Blackboard course site.

#### **NTCC Academic Honesty/Ethics Statement:**

NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. The college expects all students to engage in their academic pursuits in an honest manner that is beyond reproach using their intellect and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty and Academic Ethics policies stated in the Student Handbook. Refer to the student handbook for more information on

these subjects.

### **ADA Statement:**

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodations. An appointment can be made with the Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in Student Services and can be reached at 903-434-8264. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations, please refer to the special populations page on the NTCC website.

### **Eagle Assist**

At Northeast Texas Community College, we understand that students often need support that extends beyond the classroom. "Eagle Assist" is the place to start when looking for that type of assistance. Our support system is here to help you succeed in both your academic and personal growth. [www.ntcc.edu/eagleassist](http://www.ntcc.edu/eagleassist)

### **Services provided:**

- [Mental Health Counseling](#)
- [Classroom Accommodations](#)
- [NTCC Care Center Food Pantry](#)
- [NTCC Care Center Hygiene Closet](#)
- [NTCC Care Center Cook Nook](#)
- [Financial Literacy](#)
- [Child Care Assistance](#)
- [Emergency Aid](#)

Can't find what you are looking for? Send us a message at [eagleassist@ntcc.edu](mailto:eagleassist@ntcc.edu)  
[Mental Health Counseling Services](#) are available to all NTCC students.

- Visit the following page to get your account activated:  
[www.thevirtualcaregroup.com/ntcc](http://www.thevirtualcaregroup.com/ntcc)
- Dual credit students please contact the instructor if interested.

### **Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student's name, permanent address

and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.

**Tentative Course Timeline:** (Instructor reserves the right to adjust this timeline at any point in the term)

<b>Day/Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading Due</b>	<b>Assignment Due</b>
<b>T 1/17</b>	Introduction/ Why Theatre/ Syllabus		
<b>TH 1/19</b>	What is Theatre / Written Critique Discussion		
<b>T 1/24</b>	Theatre is Everywhere	Chapter 1	
<b>TH 1/26</b>	The Audience	Chapter 2	Quiz #1 – Chapter 2
<b>T 1/31</b>	Chapter 11 – Greek Theatre / Theatre Origins Lecture	Chapter 11	Quiz #2 – Chapter 11
<b>TH 2/2</b>	Warm Ups / Improvisation		Quiz #3 – Theatre Origins Lecture
<b>T 2/7</b>	Chapter 5 – Acting for the Stage	Chapter 5	Quiz #4 – Chapter 5
<b>TH 2/9</b>	Auditioning Workshop		
<b>T 2/14</b>	Chapter 3 – Creating the Dramatic Script	Chapter 3 and Chapter 4 (Genres)	
<b>TH 2/16</b>	Play Structure - Aristotle, Freytag, etc.		
<b>T 2/21</b>	Outside Class Work Watch <i>Oedipus Rex</i> on Youtube		Quiz #5– Play Structure (Quiz is over the previous two lectures)
<b>TH 2/23</b>	Theatre Games Redux		Written Critique #1 – <i>Oedipus Rex</i>
<b>T 2/28</b>	Chapter 6 – Director and Producer	Chapter 6	Quiz #6 – Director and Producer

<b>TH 3/2</b>	Director's Concept Exercise		
<b>T 3/7</b>	Designers – Set, Lights, Costume		
<b>TH 3/9</b>	Review for Midterm		
<b>3/13 – 3/17</b>	<b><i>Spring Break</i></b>	<b>No class</b>	
<b>T 3/21</b>	Midterm		Midterm Essay on Blackboard
<b>TH 3/23</b>	Chapter 15 - Modern Theatre p. 383 - 387	p. 383-387	Quiz #7 – Modern Theatre
<b>T 3/28</b>	Chapter 16 - Global Theatre p. 425 - 435	p. 425 - 435	Quiz #8 – Global Theatre
<b>TH 3/30</b>	Musical Theatre / Broadway		
<b>T 4/4</b>	Class Discussion - Frankenstein		Written Critique #2 - <i>Frankenstein</i>
<b>TH 4/6</b>	Playwriting Module	*Bring Laptops	
<b>T 4/11</b>	Playwriting	*Bring Laptops	
<b>TH 4/13</b>	Playwriting	*Bring Laptops	
<b>T 4/18</b>	Creative Project Prep Time		Playwriting – Submit Short Play on Blackboard
<b>TH 4/20</b>	Creative Projects		Attend <i>The 39 Steps</i> at Whatley Theatre (4/20 through 4/22)
<b>T 4/25</b>	Class Discussion – <i>The 39 Steps</i>		Written Critique #3 – <i>The 39 Steps</i>
<b>TH 4/27</b>	Creative Projects		
<b>T 5/2</b>	Creative Projects		
<b>TH 5/4</b>	Last day of class		

<b>5/9</b>	Final due on Blackboard		Final on Blackboard
<b>5/13</b>	<b>Spring Graduation</b>		