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| C:\Users\Dennis\Desktop\MTC signature logo.pngCourse SyllabusC:\Users\Dennis\Desktop\UT-Arlington-v4-mascot-full.png **Theatre and Film Appreciation**  **THEA   1342 -- Section   001**  **MTWR 800-1000 AM**  **Summer I, 2015 – 309 Fine Arts Bldg.**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | Instructor: | **Professor Dennis Maher, PhD, LMDA**  *Dramaturg & Coordinator, Theatre Studies* | | Office Location: | 151 Fine Arts Building | | Office Hours: | MTW 1000-1050 AM or by appointment  *(My E-Office door is always open)* | | Phone: | 817.272.5708 | | Fax: | 817.272.2697 | | Mailbox: | 144 Fine Arts Building | | Email: | [dmmaher@uta.edu](mailto:dmmaher@uta.edu) |  |  | | --- | | **Course Prerequisites** | | Reading the text THE ART OF WATCHING FILMS (Boggs/Petrie; ISBN 9780073386171).  Reviewing one (1) live theatre event and one (1) film during the summer semester. Passing three (3) examinations and reading quizzes on the texts. | | **Required Readings/Materials** | | THE ART OF WATCHING FILMS, 8th edition (Boggs/Petrie; ISBN 9780073386171)  HAMLET (William Shakespeare; available free on [www.gutenberg.org](http://www.gutenberg.org)) | | **Course Description** | | THEA 1342 (3) Course ID: 107110  **THEATRE AND FILM APPRECIATION**  Develops awareness of and appreciation for dramatic art as reflected in theatre and film. Designed to increase the student’s enjoyment and knowledge of drama and its historical, social and cultural contexts. Students may be required to attend plays and films. Open to all students as a Fine Art elective; Theatre Arts BFA and BA majors and minors may not use this course in place of THEA 1343 (Introduction to Theatre). | |  | | **Educational Objectives for this Course**  1.      To *demonstrate awareness* of the scope and variety of works in the theatre arts & film.  2.      To *understand* those works as expressions of individual and human values within a historical and social context.  3.      To *respond critically* to works in the theatre arts & film.  4.      To *engage in* the creative process or interpretive performance, and *empathize with* the physical and intellectual demands required of theatre & film artists.  5.      To *articulate an informed personal reaction* to works in the theatre arts & film.  6.      To *develop an appreciation* for the aesthetic principles that guide or govern the theatre arts & film.  **Basic Intellectual Competencies Gained Through This Course**  1.      Reading: The ability to *analyze and interpret* a variety of printed materials as applicable to this course.  2.      Writing: The ability to *produce clear, correct and coherent prose* as applicable to this course.  3.      Speaking: The *ability to communicate orally in coherent and persuasive language* appropriate to purpose, occasion and audience as applicable to this course.  4.      Listening: The ability to *analyze and interpret various forms of spoken communication* as applicable to this course.  5.      Critical Thinking: The ability to apply both *qualitative and quantitative skills analytically and creatively* to the course subject matter.  6.      Computer Literacy: The ability to *use computer-based technology in communicating, solving problems, and/or acquiring information* as applicable to this course.  **Perspectives**  1.      Establish multiple *perspectives on the individual in relationship to the larger society* as applicable to this course.  2.      Stimulate a *capacity to discuss individual, political, economic, and social aspects of life* as applicable to this course.  3.      Recognize the *importance of maintaining health and wellness* as applicable to course material.  4.      Develop a capacity to use *knowledge of how technology and science affect our lives* as applicable to this course.  5.      Develop personal values for *ethical behavior* in the theatre arts & film.  6.      Develop the ability to make *aesthetic judgments*.  7.      Use *logical reasoning in problem solving*.  8.      Integrate knowledge and *understand the interrelationships of the scholarly disciplines*. |   **Descriptions of major assignments and examinations:**  Attendance and participation in discussions. [See attendance policy below] **(10 % of grade)**  Three (3) tests or papers. Tests will be taken in class on the dates specified on the syllabus. Time will be spent prior to the exam in reviewing material for the exam, which will be multiple-choice Scantron-style. In lieu of any test, the student may elect to present a paper of a minimum ten (10) pages which will concern either a script analysis or biography or creative project based on lectures and discussions in class. All submissions will be typed or word-processed, spell-checked, MLA style formatted with a MINIMUM of five (5) citations, and professionally presented on the day of the examination. Please check with your instructor before choosing a topic for a paper.  **(20% each exam, 60 % of final grade)**  One (1) review of a film showing in the Metroplex (student’s choice).  One (1) review of a play performing in the Metroplex (student’s choice).  **(15 % of final grade each, 30% total)**  Failing to submit a paper past the deadline date is an automatic “F”.  Failing to take an examination is an automatic “F”  Each student is personally responsible for reading the assigned text.  **Attendance:** Although the university does not have an official attendance policy,I strongly believe that regular attendance is essential to success in this course; therefore, I take attendance each and every day of class through a sign-in sheet. **PLEASE SIGN IN ON TIME EACH AND EVERY DAY OF CLASS.**  I will take up the sign-in sheet at 8:05 and those who have not signed in after that time are considered absent. **THREE absences are allowed in this class, whether they are excused or unexcused.**  **Late Work**: Quizzes may NOT be made up after the fact, but can be taken early by arrangement if necessary. Other late work may be made up IF the instructor has been contacted **within 24 hours** of the missed class or deadline. **Without a doctor’s excuse or prior arrangement with the instructor, all late work will be penalized by one full letter grade.**  **Grading:**  **NOTE THIS WELL**: I grade based on the intellectual content of the work, the research that went into the work, and the presentation of the work, including spelling, grammar and syntactical usage of language. I am especially rigorous on spelling errors. If your writing skills are poor, contact the Writing Center to correct them PDQ. *[See Writing Center information below.]*  **Grades**:  Students can make the maximum 100 points through assignments and/or projects. I grade on a simple scale:  100-90 = A  89-80 = B  79-70 = C  69-60 = D  59-0 = F  There is no curve, and each student receives the grade that he/she earns.  Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels [*see “Student Support Services,” below*.] **The time to be concerned about your grade is NOT the week before finals—it is ALL semester. Email me for assistance in this matter.**  **Expectations for Out-of-Class Study**: Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional 9 hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for exams, etc.  **Drop Policy:** Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance**. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).  **Americans with Disabilities Act:** The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.  **Title IX:** The University of Texas at Arlington is committed to upholding U.S. Federal Law “Title IX” such that no member of the UT Arlington community shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. For more information, visit [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX).  **Academic Integrity:** Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:  *I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*  *I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and* ***I will appropriately reference any work from other sources****. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*  UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents’ Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university’s standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student’s suspension or expulsion from the University.  **Electronic Communication:** UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.  **Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.  **Conference/Audition Attendance & Participation:** Department of Theatre Arts majors are encouraged to participate in theatre conferences and auditions. However, Theatre Arts majors are required to submit an excused absence request to the instructor no less than two full weeks prior to the conference/audition in order for the instructor to consider granting an excused absence. Such notification must be in writing and support documentation will be required to verify the Theatre Arts major’s attendance, completion and/or successful (or professionally worthwhile) participation in said conference or audition. All students are expected to complete all coursework (as stipulated in the syllabus) and all course requirements (as stipulated by the syllabus) in a timely manner (the term “timely manner” will be defined/specified by the instructor at the time the Theatre Arts major submits their excused absence request to the instructor for initial consideration). At the discretion of the instructor, class participation grades may be affected; therefore, Theatre Arts majors are advised to fully consult with the instructor prior to engaging in such activities.  **Final Review Week:** A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.  **Emergency Exit Procedures:** Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located [see map of the nearest exit/emergency exit]. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist differently abled individuals.  **Student Support Services**:  UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources).  **Writing Center** **:** The Writing Center, 411 Central Library, offers individual 40 minute sessions to review assignments, *Quick Hits* (5-10 minute quick answers to questions), and workshops on grammar and specific writing projects. Visit [https://uta.mywconline.com/](https://owa.uta.edu/owa/luket@exchange.uta.edu/redir.aspx?C=jqplelmmw0KcvkWv1pRv_rHS8ofUUtFIXl_CWZTLffEmCPyZf3x4ncUbBmD9p3gSPROCbhSJj7U.&URL=https%3a%2f%2futa.mywconline.com%2f) to register and make appointments. For hours, information about the writing workshops we offer, scheduling a classroom visit, and descriptions of the services we offer undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty members, please visit our website at [www.uta.edu/owl/](http://www.uta.edu/owl/).  **Emergency Phone Numbers**: In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at **817-272-3003** (non-campus phone), **2-3003** (campus phone). You may also dial 911.  For non-emergencies, contact the UTA PD at 817-272-3381.  Library Home Page <http://www.uta.edu/library>  Subject Guides <http://libguides.uta.edu>  Subject Librarians <http://www.uta.edu/library/help/subject-librarians.php>  Database List <http://www.uta.edu/library/databases/index.php>  Course Reserves <http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do>  Library Tutorials <http://www.uta.edu/library/help/tutorials.php>  Connecting from Off- Campus <http://libguides.uta.edu/offcampus>  Ask a Librarian [http://ask.uta.edu](http://ask.uta.edu/)  The following URL houses a page where we have gathered many commonly used resources needed by students in online courses: <http://www.uta.edu/library/services/distance.php>.  The subject librarian for your area can work with you to build a customized course page to support your class if you wish. For examples, visit <http://libguides.uta.edu/os> and <http://libguides.uta.edu/pols2311fm> . If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Suzanne Beckett, at [sbeckett@uta.edu](mailto:sbeckett@uta.edu) or at 817.272.0923.  **11. Blackboard**  Blackboard, which is accessible to all students in this class, features a variety of informational tools to augment your learning experience in this class. All lectures which use PowerPoint are posted on the “Course Materials” section of the class’s website, as are study guides for upcoming exams, examples of reviews, and chat rooms. Grades and grade progress are also posted to Blackboard, as are any announcements relative to the class. Please check Blackboard daily.  **11. What’s playing?!**  For information as to what productions are available to you, performance times, prices, etc., I suggest [www.theatrejones.com](http://www.theatrejones.com) . The website, created by two theatre reviewers, also features reviews of current productions in the Metroplex. When you call a theatre for ticket reservations, don’t forget to ask about that theatre’s policy on student ticket prices and standby tickets. It’s a real money-saver. Some productions offer “pay-what-you-can” performances and some, like Shakespeare in the Park, are free.  **Additionally, the Central Library features a collection of stage plays filmed live. See your instructor for further information about these plays.** |

Any questions whatsoever relative to this class or syllabus may be directed to my Email: [dmmaher@uta.edu](mailto:dmmaher@uta.edu)

**CLASS CALENDAR**

**JUNE**

**“He’s For a Jig, or a Tale of Bawdry, or He Sleeps.”**

*Audience expectation, critics and stage spaces*

8 First Day of class/Theatrical Terms and Jargon **[Read BOGGS, Ch. 1]**

Search and search again: how to research—Information Scientist Melanie Mason

Critics and Reviewers/Criteria for Theatre Review

9Theatre vs. Film vs. Home theatre **[Read BOGGS, Ch. 2]**

Theatre vs. other arts

“This is art, this is soup”--Creativity & Imaginative Constructs

10 Video: THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE on video and live in performance

11 Playwriting & Screenwriting *(Census date is today)* **[Read BOGGS, Ch. 3]**

15 I never read “the book”: an analysis of GROUNDHOG DAY

16 Acting exercises and theatre games **[Read BOGGS, Ch. 4]**

17 Video: THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WLLM SHAKSPR (ABRIDGED)

18 Directing: Special Guest Melanie A. Mason **[Read BOGGS, Ch. 5]**

*Film comparison: THE TRAGEDY OF HAMLET, PRINCE OF DENMARK*

22 Review for Examination #1: let’s play. . .Jeopardy!

23 **EXAMINATION #1 @ 8:00 A.M.**

**CHICAGO, part 1**

24 **THEATRE REVIEW IS DUE TODAY!!!!!**

Theatre and Film Design: same song, different tune **[Read BOGGS, Chs. 6 & 7]**

**CHICAGO, part 2**

**JUNE** *(continued)*

25 The Art of Watching Films

The Quintessential Western: **THE SEARCHERS, part 1**

**[Read BOGGS, Chs. 8-9]**

29 *Today is the Last Day to Drop!!!!*

Elements of Film

**THE SEARCHERS, part 2**

**[Read BOGGS, Chs. 10-11]**

30 “Can You Do Less?”; Acting and Directing

Review for Examination #2: Let’s play. . .Jeopardy!

Dark Film: Film Noir-- **DOUBLE INDEMNITY, part 1**

**JULY**

1 **EXAMINATION #2 @ 8:00 A.M.**

**DOUBLE INDEMNITY, part 2**

**[Read BOGGS, Chs. 12-13]**

2 One of a Kind--A Film Noir Screwball Comedy : **HIS GIRL FRIDAY**

6 A terrific film about Film: **HUGO, part 1 -- FILM REVIEW DUE TODAY!!!!!**

**[Read BOGGS, Chs. 14-15]**

7 **HUGO, part 2**

8Review for Final Examination: let’s play. . .Jeopardy!

**Don’t forget:** *Student Evaluations available online! 100% participation is the goal!*

9 **Last Class Day** -- Postmortem of the class & Student Evaluations

13 **FINAL EXAMINATION @ 8:00 A.M.**

**BREAK A LEG!**