UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON COURSE SYLLABUS Fall 2017 THEA 1342-001 (80646) Theatre and Film Appreciation

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Section Information: THEA 1342-001, Theatre and Film Appreciation

Time and Place of Class Meetings: Tuesdays/Thursdays, 8:00am-9:20am, FA (Fine Arts Building, Central Section) 258

Description of Course Content: 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. Theatre Arts BFA and BA majors and minors may not use this course in place of THEA 1343. This course satisfies the University of Texas at Arlington core curriculum requirement in Creative Arts. *Course syllabus, course requirements, assignments, projects, and grading criteria are all subject to change or review by the instructor depending upon the instructor's evaluation of the class' progress and comprehension, without decreasing minimum departmental standards.*

Student Learning Outcomes: After successfully completing this course, students will be able to:

(1) Understand the uses of art for a socially and culturally engaged individual. (2) Develop an appreciation for the aesthetic principles that guide the theatre arts and film. (3) Recognize and analyze the function of theatre in comparison and contrast to the elements of film in performance. (4) Understand works of theatre and film as expressions of individual and human values within the historical and social context for their time and for contemporary audiences. (5) To respond critically to a performance using the skills acquired in this course using the written expression.

THECB (Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board) Core Curriculum Objectives and THECB Signature Assessment Information: THECB Core Curriculum Objectives are as follows: (1) Critical Thinking Skills. To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information. (2) Communication Skills. To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication. (3) Teamwork skills. To include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal. (4) Social Responsibility Skills: To include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities. The following signature assessment assignments are indicated to assess the student's level of achievement of the THECB Core Curriculum Objectives: Each student will compose a required exploration essay on a play or a film, analyzing the production's use of the tools of the medium to communicate its ideas and worldview with particular emphasis on Aristotelian elements (Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, and Social **Responsibility**) using specified instructions to be discussed, distributed and posted via Blackboard as indicated on the attached Class Schedule. In addition, a tool indicated for course content evaluation and ongoing course development may be developed by students working interactively within small groups (Critical Thinking, Communication Skills, Social Responsibility, Teamwork) during in-class time to be determined/specified by the instructor based on scheduling availability.

Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials: <u>The following texts are REQUIRED.</u> These texts are the stage plays that two of the films we will be studying are based upon. (UTA Bookstore is

specifically carrying these texts for our course.)

- Shakespeare, William. The Tempest (No Fear Shakespeare). New York: Spark Publishing.
- Wilson, August. <u>The Piano Lesson</u>. New York: Penguin Group (also published by Plume).

In addition to these required texts, students will need to log-on to this course's section of Blackboard frequently to access various additional documents. Also, at each class meeting please be fully prepared to take notes. Technology should <u>not</u> be used for any other purpose than to take notes unless specifically requested by the instructor. Notes do <u>not</u> need to be taken during the viewing of videos and <u>ALL TECH</u> <u>MUST BE POWERED COMPLETELY OFF DURING CLASS VIEWING OF VIDEOS FOR THE</u> <u>COMPLETE DURATION OF THE VIDEO, THIS IS AN ABSOLUTE REQUIREMENT OF THIS</u> <u>COURSE</u> (please see the instructor if you have an official Office for Students with Disabilities accessibility accommodation that is necessary). Please remain exclusively focused on this course's content during classtime.

Descriptions of Major Assignments and Examinations: Below you will find brief descriptions of the Major Assignment and Exams required of this course (--full descriptions, directions, specific requirements, and pertinent dates for the Major Assignment and Exams will be provided during specific dates listed on the attached Class Schedule).

Theatre Experience Critique OR Film Experience Critique = 25% of the semester grade. This graded, Major Assignment is a paper to be written by the student in regard to their viewing, on their own, either a full-length stage play or a full-length feature film. The student may <u>NOT</u> choose a stage play or film studied within the content of this course. The student <u>MUST</u> follow the specific instructions and requirements for this paper. On the date specified on the attached Class Schedule, all requirements for this paper will be discussed in class and a detailed instruction sheet will be provided (instruction sheet will also be posted on Blackboard on that date). Deadline for this paper is NO LATER than <u>Tuesday, December 12</u> at start of class; however, you are *EXTREMELY ENCOURAGED* to turn this paper in prior to the deadline at ANY point during the semester. Please note that this paper must be turned in directly to the instructor (no e-mailed assignments accepted).

Exam #1, #2, #3 (#3 is the Final Exam) = 75% of semester grade (each exam is worth up to 25% of the semester grade)

A total of three exams will be administered in the form of multiple choice questions regarding any and all aspects contained in the content of lectures, videos, and assigned reading. Exam #1 will focus exclusively on theatre facts and terminology. Exam #2 will focus on a combination of film facts, film terminology and up to three films that are examples of "stage to screen" (three stage plays that have been made into films). Exam #3 (the Final Exam) will focus on a combination of film facts, film terminology and up to three films with directors that have been widely recognized and honored (nationally or internationally). <u>All exams will require the use of a Scan-Tron form #882-E.</u> <u>Students MUST purchase Scan-Tron #882-E forms and bring a Scan-Tron #882-E form to class with them on each of the exam dates in order to take the exams.</u> Exam reviews and exams will occur on dates specified on the attached Class Schedule.

Attendance Policy: This course has a <u>**REQUIRED ATTENDANCE POLICY</u>**. This course is <u>**NOT**</u> an online course. This course is <u>**NOT**</u> a distance learning course. For the successful completion of this course, all elements of this <u>**REQUIRED ATTENDANCE POLICY**</u> must be fully observed. The <u>**REQUIRED**</u> <u>**ATTENDANCE POLICY**</u> for this course is as follows:</u>

A student is allowed <u>THREE</u> absences without grade point deductions. <u>EVERY absence after</u> the third absence will result in the deduction of one full letter grade from the student's final semester grade; the <u>ONLY</u> typical exception to this policy is when a student can provide

an <u>official</u> excuse from a doctor, with full contact information for the doctor's office, for the specific absence which is over and above the three allotted absences. (See your student Health Services center for a medical excuse if you cannot visit your regular doctor).

- DO NOT BE LATE. Three tardies total, of any length of time whatsoever, will equal one absence. Being tardy to a Major Assignment or Exam (or the syllabus equivalent of a Major Assignment or Exam) may result in a grade of zero unless the student provides an official excuse from a doctor, with full contact information for the doctor's office, which clearly indicates that a medical emergency restricted the student from prompt attendance to, the completion of, or the turning in of a Major Assignment or Exam at the specified due date/time.
- > THE SIGN-IN ATTENDANCE SHEET FOR THIS COURSE IS CIRCULATED PROMPTLY AT THE VERY BEGINNING OF EACH AND EVERY CLASS. <u>Students who</u> <u>arrive to class tardy have the sole responsibility to see the instructor IMMEDIATELY after</u> <u>class to sign the attendance sheet. If a student does not sign the sign attendance sheet they are</u> <u>counted ABSENT. Sign-in only for YOURSELF; the instructor WILL file a grievance with</u> <u>the university if any student signs in for another student.</u>
- Contact the instructor via e-mail (ngaupp@uta.edu) within twenty-four hours of <u>any</u> missed class in order to stay current with all course content.
- At The University of Texas at Arlington, each faculty member is <u>free</u> to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, <u>As the instructor of this section</u>, <u>I have ABSOLUTELY chosen to take attendance and all elements cited in this Required Attendance Policy (on PAGE 2 and PAGE 3 of this syllabus) are absolutely crucial and absolutely required for student success in this course. However, while UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the <u>U.S. Department of Education requires</u> that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients "begin attendance in a course." UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Blackboard. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients.</u>

Grading: Course grades are not "curved." Extra credit is not available for this course. At the end of the semester, the student's total grade points received will be calculated and scored on the traditional one hundred point scale, and any deductions based on absences will be made (see **Attendance Policy** on PAGE 2 and PAGE 3 of this syllabus). The overall grade for the semester will then be represented thusly:

- ➤ A=Excellent=90 to 100 points
- ▶ B=Good=80 to 89 points
- \blacktriangleright C=Fair=70 to 79 points
- \blacktriangleright D=Passing=60 to 69 points
- \blacktriangleright F=Failure= 59 points or less

Policies for Make-Up Work: If a student misses the date/time for <u>ANY</u> Major Assignment or Exam (or the <u>syllabus equivalent</u> of a Major Assignment or Exam), a grade of zero will be entered as the student's grade for that Major Assignment or Exam. The <u>ONLY</u> standard exception to this policy is when a student can provide an <u>official</u> excuse from a doctor, with full contact information for the doctor's office, which clearly indicates that a medical emergency restricted the student. (See your student health center for a medical excuse if you cannot visit your regular doctor). Any Make-Up opportunity that might be afforded to the student must be conducted in a timely manner, within the perimeters defined/specified by the instructor, during the given semester; the student will be given the grade of zero if the Make-Up opportunity is not completed by the given

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deadline and within all perimeters defined/specified by the instructor. A final grade of Incomplete (INC) can only be negotiated in extreme circumstances on a case-by-case basis and is <u>NEVER</u> automatically given; please see the university catalog and your Academic Advisor for all crucial information in regard to the policies related to the grade of Incomplete (INC).

Grade Grievances: Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current University Catalog. See your Academic Advisor for the further information regarding the current policies regarding the procedure and deadlines for grade-related grievances.

Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through selfservice 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 info, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/).

Disability Accommodations: UT 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), The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA),* and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.* 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 disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD)._ Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting: The Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) www.uta.edu/disability or calling (817) 272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability._Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS) www.uta.edu/caps/ or calling (817) 272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability._Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS) www.uta.edu/caps/ or calling (817) 272-3671, is also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.

Non-Discrimination Policy: The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit uta.edu/eos

Title IX Policy: The University of Texas at Arlington ("University") is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. *For information regarding Title IX, visit* www.uta.edu/titleIX or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or jmhood@uta.edu

Academic Integrity: Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code as follows:

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. Additional information is available at https://www.uta.edu/conduct/

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

Campus Carry: Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as "lecture," "seminar," or "laboratory" are 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 via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students' anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit http://www.uta.edu/sfs

Final Review Week: For semester long courses, 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 <u>unless</u> <u>specified in the class syllabus</u>. 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. 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 individuals with disabilities. Evacuation plans can be found at http://www.uta.edu/campus-ops/ehs/fire/Evac_Maps_Buildings.php and Emergency/Fire Evacuation Procedures can be found at http://www.uta.edu/police/Evacuation Procedures.pdf

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, or view the information at http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php

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. Please note that the non-emergency number is (817) 272-3381.

Department of Theatre Arts Production Duty Policy: Students cast in acting roles or who have lead technical or design assignments in UTA productions are required to attend class on a regular basis. Failure to do so shall result in the student being reported to the student's Area Head for their degree plan and the Production Manager and may result in the student being replaced in their production assignment. (Please refer to the Theatre Arts Student Handbook for all updated policies.)

Theatre Arts Conferences and/or Theatre Arts Graduate School Auditions Policy:

Department of Theatre Arts majors are encouraged to participate in theatre conferences and graduate school 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/graduate school 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.

Fall 2017 Class Schedule for THEA 1342-001

THURS. 8/24: Introduction to course, Course Syllabus discussed/distributed, info about use of Blackboard.

TUES. 8/29: Unit begins on Basic Theatre Facts/Terminology.

THURS. 8/31: Unit continues on Basic Theatre Facts/Terminology.

TUES. 9/5: Unit continues on Basic Theatre Facts/Terminology. Also, all requirements for the **Major Assignment** of the **THEATRE EXPERIENCE CRITIQUE** or **FILM EXPERIENCE CRITIQUE** will be completely explained and discussed today, with a detailed instruction sheet provided (the instruction sheet will also be posted on Blackboard following this class). **Deadline for this paper is NO LATER than** <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>December 12</u> at start of class; however, you are *EXTREMELY ENCOURAGED* to turn this paper in prior to the deadline at *ANY* point during the semester. Please note that this paper must be turned in directly to the instructor (**no e-mailed assignments accepted**).

THURS 9/7: Unit continues on Basic Theatre Facts/Terminology.

TUES 9/12: Unit continues on Basic Theatre Facts/Terminology.

THURS. 9/14: Unit concludes on Basic Theatre Facts/Terminology. EXAM #1 REVIEW.

TUES. 9/19: EXAM #1.

THURS. 9/21: Unit begins on Stage to Screen (TEMPEST lecture content).

TUES. 9/26: Graded Exam #1 returned. Unit continues on Stage to Screen (TEMPEST video begins).

THURS. 9/28: Unit continues on Stage to Screen (TEMPEST video continues).

TUES. 10/3: Unit continues on Stage to Screen (TEMPEST video concludes).

THURS. 10/5: Unit continues on Stage to Screen (SWEET CHARITY lecture content).

TUES. 10/10: Unit continues on Stage to Screen (SWEET CHARITY video begins).

THURS. 10/12: Unit continues on Stage to Screen (SWEET CHARITY video continues).

TUES. 10/17: Unit continues on Stage to Screen (SWEET CHARITY video concludes).

THURS. 10/19: Unit continues on Stage to Screen (THE PIANO LESSON lecture content).

TUES. 10/24: Unit continues on Stage to Screen (THE PIANO LESSON video begins).

THURS.10/26: Unit concludes on Stage to Screen (THE PIANO LESSON video concludes). **EXAM #2 REVIEW**

TUES. 10/31: EXAM #2.

THURS. 11/2: Unit continues on Recognized/Honored Films and Directors (SPECIALTY OF THE HOUSE and REAR WINDOW lecture content, SPECIALTY OF THE HOUSE video).

TUES. 11/7: Graded Exam #2 returned. Unit continues on Recognized/Honored Films and Directors (REAR WINDOW video begins).

THURS. 11/9: Unit continues on Recognized/Honored Films and Directors (REAR WINDOW video concludes).

TUES. 11/14: Unit continues on Recognized/Honored Films and Directors (THE SCENT OF GREEN PAPAYA lecture content

THURS. 11/16: Unit continues on Recognized/Honored Films and Directors (THE SCENT OF GREEN PAPAYA lecture content, THE SCENT OF GREEN PAPAYA video begins).

TUES. 11/21: Unit continues on Recognized/Honored Films and Directors (THE SCENT OF GREEN PAPAYA video concludes).

THURS. 11/23: UTA THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

TUES. 11/28: Unit continues on Recognized/Honored Films and Directors (THE GRADUATE lecture content).

THURS. 11/30: Unit continues on Recognized/Honored Films and Directors (THE GRADUATE video begins).

TUES. 12/5. Unit continues on Recognized/Honored Films and Directors (THE GRADUATE video concludes). **EXAM #3 (Final Exam) REVIEW**.

FINAL EXAM IS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12 at 8am

THIS IS ALSO THE <u>LAST POSSIBLE TIME</u> TO TURN IN THE THEATRE EXPERIENCE CRITIQUE *OR* FILM EXPERIENCE CRITIQUE <u>IN PERSON, IN HARD COPY</u> (no e-mailed assignments accepted).

PLEASE NOTE:

• Course syllabus, course requirements, assignments, projects, and grading criteria are all subject to change or review by the instructor depending upon the instructor's evaluation of class progress and comprehension without decreasing minimum departmental standards. –*Dr. Natalie J. Gaupp*

• After the semester concludes, if you wish to know your Exam #3 (Final Exam) grade, critique grade, semester grade, or any other grade, or have any question related to the course, you may contact the instructor at ngaupp@uta.edu. If you wish to have your graded Exam #3 (Final Exam) or graded critique returned to you (or any uncollected exam returned to you), you must contact the instructor by e-mail at ngaupp@uta.edu **BEFORE** December 31, 2017, to make arrangements for pick-up. All uncollected exams and uncollected critiques will be destroyed if not claimed, or if arrangements have not been pick-up, by December 31, 2017.