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| Maverick Theatre Company Logo**Course SyllabusUTA Maverick Mascot**  **THEA  1342-004**  **Theatre and Film Appreciation**  **Online Course**  **Fall 2018**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | Instructor: | Professor Dennis Maher, PhD, LMDA  Resident Artist & Dramaturg, Maverick Theatre Company  [Faculty Profile](http://www.uta.edu/mentis/profile/?1614) | | Office Location: | 151 Fine Arts Building | | Office Hours: | By appointment – On Campus on Wednesday mornings.  (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 fall semester. Passing three (3) examinations, plus assignments and reading quizzes on the text. | | **Required Readings/Materials** | | THE ART OF WATCHING FILMS, 8th edition (Boggs/Petrie; ISBN 9780073386171)  HAMLET (William Shakespeare; available free on [Gutenberg](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**   * To demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the theatre arts & film. * To understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within a historical and social context. * To respond critically to works in the theatre arts & film. * To engage in the creative process or interpretive performance, and empathize with the physical and intellectual demands required of theatre & film artists. * To articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the theatre arts & film. * To develop an appreciation for the aesthetic principles that guide or govern the theatre arts & film.   **Basic Intellectual Competencies Gained Through This Course**   * Reading: The ability to analyze and interpret a variety of printed materials as applicable to this course. * Writing: The ability to produce clear, correct and coherent prose as applicable to this course. * Speaking: The ability to communicate orally in coherent and persuasive language appropriate to purpose, occasion and audience as applicable to this course. * Listening: The ability to analyze and interpret various forms of spoken communication as applicable to this course. * Critical Thinking: The ability to apply both qualitative and quantitative skills analytically and creatively to the course subject matter. * Computer Literacy: The ability to use computer-based technology in communicating, solving problems, and/or acquiring information as applicable to this course.     **Perspectives**   * Establish multiple perspectives on the individual in relationship to the larger society as applicable to this course. * Stimulate a capacity to discuss individual, political, economic, and social aspects of life as applicable to this course. * Recognize the importance of maintaining health and wellness as applicable to course material. * Develop a capacity to use knowledge of how technology and science affect our lives as applicable to this course. * Develop personal values for ethical behavior in the theatre arts & film. * Develop the ability to make aesthetic judgments. * Use logical reasoning in problem solving. * Integrate knowledge and understand the interrelationships of the scholarly disciplines. |   **Descriptions of major assignments and examinations (ALL ARE REQUIRED):**   * Participation in class and in discussions. * Three (3) tests or papers. Tests will be taken online on the dates specified on the syllabus. Time will be spent prior to the exam in reviewing material for the exam, which will be Fifty (50) multiple-choice (A-D) questions. The exam will be timed. * In lieu of a 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. * Student is required to view a film and then write one (1) critical review of the film (the student chooses the film). * Student is required to attend a live theatre event (play or musical) OR may view a recording of an event within the Alexander Street Collection (information below) and then write one (1) critical review of the a live theatre event (the student chooses the play or musical). * Fifteen (15) required assignments based on viewing of select films in class. Assignments will be either discussions or short essay questions, and will be submitted on the dates specific on the syllabus. * Fifteen (15) required reading quizzes on the text. Quizzes will be taken online on the dates specified on the syllabus. Time will be spent prior to the quiz in reviewing material for the quiz, which will be ten (10) multiple-choice (A-D) questions. The quiz will be timed.   **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.**  **What’s playing?!**  For information as to what live theatre events are available for you to attend, performance times, prices, etc., I suggest [TheatreJones](http://www.theatrejones.com/) . This website, created by former Star-Telegram theatre critic, Mark Lowry, also features reviews of current productions in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. 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, our Central Library features The Alexander Street collection of stage plays filmed live. The library suggests the following procedure for accessing this collection:  Alexander Street videos are in the library database list, as is another video streaming database called Kanopy. The link to library databases is at the top left of the [UTA library website](http://www.uta.edu/library) under the research column. Click the “Database A-Z” link, then scroll down to the link for Alexander Street and follow the instructions. Access the letter “K” for a link to Kanopy.  **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 (ex: from a B to a C).   * Failing to submit a paper past the deadline date is an automatic “F”. * Each student is personally responsible for reading and comprehending the assigned text.   **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 and typographical errors. If your writing skills are poor, contact the Writing Center to correct them ASAP. [See Writing Center information below.]  **Grades:**  Weekly Assignments 40% of final grade  Reading Quizzes 20% of final grade  Critical Reviews 20% of final grade  Tests 20% of final grade  90 – 100 = A  80 – 89 = B  70 – 79 = C  60 – 69 = D  59 and below = 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 [here](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 [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 [MavMail](http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php).  I strive to return emails within 24 hours during standard business hours (M-F 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.)  **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 [here](http://www.uta.edu/sfs).  **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.  **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 [here](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 [Writing](https://owa.uta.edu/owa/luket@exchange.uta.edu/redir.aspx?C=jqplelmmw0KcvkWv1pRv_rHS8ofUUtFIXl_CWZTLffEmCPyZf3x4ncUbBmD9p3gSPROCbhSJj7U.&URL=https%3a%2f%2futa.mywconline.com%2f) Center 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](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.    **Your Central Library often-used links:**  [Library Home Page](http://www.uta.edu/library)  [Subject Guides](http://libguides.uta.edu/" \t "_blank)  [Subject Librarians](http://www.uta.edu/library/help/subject-librarians.php" \t "_blank)  [Database List](http://www.uta.edu/library/databases/index.php" \t "_blank)  [Course Reserves](http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do" \t "_blank)  [Library Tutorials](http://www.uta.edu/library/help/tutorials.php" \t "_blank)  [Connecting from Off-Campus](http://libguides.uta.edu/offcampus" \t "_blank)  [Ask a Librarian](http://ask.uta.edu/" \t "_blank)  Commonly used resources needed by students in online courses can be found [here](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 [here](file:///C:\Users\Dennis\Desktop\CLASS%20FILES%202016-2017\1342%20-%2016\here) and [here](http://libguides.uta.edu/pols2311fm) . If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Library’s home page for further information. |

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

# **THEA 1342-004 Fall 2018 CLASS CALENDAR**

## AUGUST

Week one:

First Day of Class—Theatre is the El Camino of the Arts

Theatrical Terms & Jargon (Read BOGGS, Chapter 1)

Week two:

Research Skills (Reading Quiz on Chapter 1, read Chapter 2) ASSIGNMENT 1

Critics & Reviewers; Criteria for Theatre/Film Review

Theatre vs. Film vs. Home Theatre (Reading Quiz on Chapter 2, read Chapter 3)

Theatre vs. the Other Arts

Creativity & Imaginative Constructs (Reading Quiz on Chapter 3, read Chapter 4)

## SEPTEMBER

Week three:

Labor Day Holiday

VIDEO: *The Pirates of Penzance* Filmed vs. Live in Performance ASSIGNMENT 2

Week four:

Playwriting vs. Screenwriting **[Census Date]** (Reading Quiz on Chapter 4, read Chapter 5)

“I Never Read the Book”—Groundhog Day analysis ASSIGNMENT 3

Acting—The Art of Self (Reading Quiz on Chapter 5, read Chapter 6)

Week five:

VIDEO: *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)* ASSIGNMENT 4

Stage Direction (Reading Quiz on Chapter 6, read Chapter 7)

Comparison & Contrast: *Hamlet* four ways ASSIGNMENT 5

Week six:

Review for Examination 1 **EXAMINATION 1 AVAILABLE**

(DUE OCTOBER 12th, BY 11:59 P.M.)

Design 101 (Reading Quiz on Chapter 7, read Chapter 8)

Set and Costume Design

## OCTOBER

Week seven:

Lighting Design (Reading Quiz on Chapter 8, read Chapter 9)

The Art of Watching Films

Elements of Film **FILM REVIEW DUE TODAY, OCTOBER 5TH, BY 11:59 P.M.**

Week eight:

Can You Do Less? Film Acting

Comfort Films: The Western -- *Silverado* ASSIGNMENT 6

**EXAMINATION 1 DUE TODAY, OCTOBER 12th, BY 11:59 P.M.**

Week nine:

Film Noir: *Double Indemnity* ASSIGNMENT 7

(Reading Quiz on Chapter 9, read Chapter 10)

Animation and Anime

*Persepolis* ASSIGNMENT 8

Week ten:

Adaptations: *Roxanne* ASSIGNMENT 9 (Reading Quiz on Chapter 10, read Chapter 11)

Socially Conscious film: *The Help* ASSIGNMENT 10

Reading Quiz on Chapter 11, read Chapter 12

Week eleven:

Review for Examination 2

**EXAMINATION 2 AVAILABLE (**DUE November 21st, by 11:59 P.M.)

**THE LAST DAY TO DROP A COURSE IS NOVEMBER 2nd!**

Musical Theatre and Film (Reading Quiz on Chapter 12, read Chapter 13)

The best musical ever: *Singin’ in the Rain* ASSIGNMENT 11

## NOVEMBER

Week twelve:

The Journey Film: *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* ASSIGNMENT 12

(Reading Quiz on Chapter 13, read Chapter 14)

The Best Film Ever (?!): *Citizen Kane* ASSIGNMENT 13

**LIVE THEATRE REVIEW DUE TODAY, NOVEMBER 9TH, BY 11:59 P.M**.

Week thirteen:

Fantasy: *Billy Elliot* ASSIGNMENT 14

The Musical Score (Reading Quiz on Chapter 14, read Chapter 15)

Foley Artists and SFX (Reading Quiz on Chapter 15)

Week fourteen:

Analyzing the Entire Film **EXAMINATION 2 DUE TODAY**, **November 21st, by 11:59 P.M.**

Film and Society **EXAMINATION 3 AVAILABLE** (DUEDecember 4th, by 11:59 P.M.)

22-23 *Thanksgiving Holiday*

Week fifteen:

Final examination review, part 1

Final examination review, part 2

## DECEMBER

Week sixteen:

**STUDENT-FACULTY SURVEY DUE TODAY, December 3rd**

Last day of class **FINAL EXAMINATION DUE TODAY, December 4th, by 11:59 P.M.**