

Course Syllabus: THE-3272-0001 What A Drag! – The Representation of Gender in Entertainment (3 cr.)

Fall 2017, University of Central Florida

Meeting Time: Tuesday/Thursday 3:00-4:15pm

Meeting Space: PAC M0261

Instructor: Daniel M. Jones

Office: Theatre Room 119A

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Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 10am-12pm

Course Catalog Description:

A study of the use of drag performance in entertainment from the theatrical traditions of Ancient Greece, Asia & Shakespearean England, through the music halls and theatres of the 19th Century and to the stages, screens and nightclubs of the 20th and 21st centuries. Guest Lecture/Artists from the Drag and Transgender Community as well as film and live performance observation will enhance the student experience.

Course Objectives:

- Provide the student with an overview of transgender performance
- Provide an understanding of the different aspects of the physical transformation and illusion used by Drag entertainers through discussion and demonstrations by Guest Lecturers/Artists.
- Provide an opportunity for the student to experience Drag entertainment through film and live performance

Course Requirements:

Attendance

Start of Term Journal Entry

Weekly Quizzes

Final Journal Entry

Written review of a live performance

As of Fall 2014, all faculty members are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, please complete the following academic activity by the end of the first week of classes. Failure to do so will result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid. There is a 10 question Quiz over our first lecture on webcourses that must be completed by you no later than 11:59pm on Friday, August 25th.

Attendance(100pts):

You are allowed 2 absences. For each absence beyond 2, you lose 4pts from your attendance grade.

Start of Term Journal Entry(150pts):

At the start of the semester, the student will submit a minimum of 500 words detailing and discussing their personal background in regards to tdrag entertainment and reasons for choosing the course.

Weekly Quizzes(25pts each):

Each week will have a quiz over materials from the previous week's course materials, lectures or guest speakers.

Final Journal Entry(250pts):

A minimum of 1000 words reflecting upon the experiences and material covered over the course of the semester specifically noting any change in personal perspective from the beginning of the semester to the end.

Written Review of a Live Performance(200pts):

The student will use the knowledge gained from the course to give their personal review of a live drag performance in any genre.

Changes to the Syllabus:

Changes to this syllabus may be necessary throughout the semester. The instructor will present all changes verbally in class as well as in written form.

Exams:

There are no written exams in this class

Academic Dishonesty:

Academic dishonesty is unacceptable. UCF is committed to a policy of honesty in academic affairs. Conduct that comprises a breach of this policy shall result in academic action and/or disciplinary action. Academic action affects student assignments, examinations or grades. Disciplinary action affects student enrollment status. You can find information on the universities policies including your rights and responsibilities at: <http://www.ucf.edu/goldenrule/studaca.html>

Classroom Policies:

No beepers or cell phones
No food or drinks

ADA:

If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please notify the instructor as soon as possible. You also must contact Student Disability Services at (407) 823-2371.

Religious Observance:

The instructor will reasonably accommodate absences due to observed religious holidays. However, you will be held responsible for any material covered during the absence.

Grade values:

Weekly Quizzes = 250pts Opening Journal = 150pts Review = 250pts
Attendance = 100pts Final Journal = 250pts
TOTAL AVAILABLE = 1000pts

Grade Scale:

1000-940 = A 939-900 = A- 899-880 = B+ 879-840 = B 839-800 = B- 799-780 = C+
779-740 = C 739-700 = C- 699-680 = D+ 679-640 = D 639-600 = D- 599-0% = F

*** This syllabus is subject to change. All Changes will be posted to students via email.***

Schedule:

August

T – 22	Go Over Syllabus, Terminology	
R – 24	Lecture/Discussion: Origins of Drag Performance	Quiz #1
T – 29	Lecture/Discussion: Pants Roles in Opera	
R – 31	No Class Campus Closed for	

September

T – 5	Lecture/Discussion: Shakespeare and Drag	Quiz #2
R – 7	Film Viewing <i>Stage Beauty</i> (Opening Journals Due)	
T – 12	Finish <i>Stage Beauty</i>	Quiz #3
R – 14	Lecture/Discussion: 19 th Century Drag Queens and Kings	
T – 19	Lecture/Discussion: Drag Representations in Musical Theatre	
R – 21	Film Viewing: <i>Hedwig & the Angry Inch</i>	Quiz #4
T – 26	Finish <i>Hedwig & the Angry Inch</i>	
R – 28	Guest Lecture	Quiz #5

October

T – 3	Lecture/Discussion: Drag Representations in Film	
R – 5	Film Viewing: <i>Transamerica</i>	
T – 10	Finish <i>Transamerica</i>	
R – 12	Guest Lecture	
T – 17	Lecture/Discussion: Charles Busch/Start <i>The Lady In Question</i>	Quiz #6
R – 19	Film Viewing: <i>The Lady In Question</i>	
T – 24	Film Viewing: <i>Die! Mommie! Die!</i>	
R – 26	Finish <i>Die! Mommie! Die!</i>	Quiz #7
T – 31	Lecture/Discussion: Drag Pageantry Start Film Viewing: <i>Pageant!</i>	

November

R – 2	Finish <i>Pageant!</i>	
T – 7	Guest Lecture	
R – 9	Lecture Discussion Drag on TV	Quiz #8
T – 14	Viewing: <i>Drag on TV</i>	
R – 16	Guest Lecture	
T – 21	Drag in the Music Industry (Live Performance Review Due)	Quiz #9
R – 24	NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING BREAK	
T – 28	Lecture Discussion: Drag Icons	
R – 30	Viewing: Drag Icons	Quiz #10

December

R – 7	1-3:50pm FINAL Lecture/Discussion: Drag Makeup in Theatre Makeup Room	
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Journal Entry Guidelines

All journal entries must be typed, double-spaced, with 1" margins. Please use Times or Times New Roman for your font and a point size of 12. Standard Written English is required. Please proofread and spell check. **One point will be deducted for every misspelled word, grammatical error or typo.**

If your writing is of poor quality your paper may be given no credit at all. Please spell-check all work and make sure it is college level writing. Handwritten papers will not be accepted nor will papers without full sentences.

Written Review of a Live Performance Guidelines

Please limit your critique to no more than two pages. All assignments must be typed, double-spaced, with 1" margins. Please use Times or Times New Roman for your font and a point size of 12. Standard Written English is required. Please proofread and spell check. **One point will be deducted for every misspelled word, grammatical error or typo.**

If your writing is of poor quality your paper may be given no credit at all. Please spell-check all work and make sure it is college level writing. Handwritten papers will not be accepted nor will papers without full sentences.

Correct terms and titles covered in class must be used or points will be deducted. Please remember that play titles of full-length plays are underlined or italicized. Only titles of one-act plays (usually under an hour in length) are put in quotation marks.

The Environment:

Tell me about the physical space, your state of mind, and your first impressions as you entered the theatre.

The Script: (if applicable)

In two or three sentences, what was the story or subject? Who were the main characters? How did it end?

The Production:

How would you describe the costumes, lighting, set, & sound? (Give examples.)

The Illusion:

Choose one or two performers that you found to be particularly good or particularly bad and explain why, as best you can. Did the cast seem to have varying levels of talent, or was the performing good/bad overall?

The Audience:

How did the audience react to this production? Was their reaction similar to your own? Why or why not?

Personal Comments:

Summarize your own response to this performance. Would you recommend it to a friend? Why or why not?