THE4230-Cultural Diversity

Everyone has a story.

Final Exam: 12/3/14

Please see our schedule for assignment due dates.
Also check out:

- [syllabus.html](#)
- [schedule.html](#)
- [protocols.html](#)

[Link](#) to Theatre UCF
**Link to H.M. FB Page offering a variety of information (local & abroad) on Theatre**

Financial Aid Alert:

**As of Fall 2014,** all faculty 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 (module one assignment) by the end of the first week of classes or as soon as possible after adding the course, but no later than August 27th. Failure to do so may result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid.

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**THE 4230 Syllabus**

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**PROFESSOR CONTACT:**

Professor Holly E. McDonald

E-mail: holly.mcdonald@ucf.edu

Office: T207, Main Campus, New Performing Arts Center
Office Hours: Monday 11AM-3PM, Wednesday 12-3PM and Thursday 1PM-3PM

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

To introduce the universal ideas, images, and myths that inspired the work of diverse theatre artists. The course will look specifically at the cultures that have yielded significant plays/playwrights from the 1950’s to the end of the twentieth century. We will define, discuss, and analyze common themes within the text.

COURSE GOALS- OVERARCHING GOALS FOR THE COURSE:

- To explore various cultures through theatre
- To understand how and why plays can represent/speak for a culture/group
- To be exposed to various ideas, values and challenges of other cultures/groups
- To gain a respect for the theatre in its role/representation of various cultures and values
- Awareness
- Tolerance

OBJECTIVES- STUDENTS SHOULD BE ABLE TO:

- Identify the important role theatre plays in supporting diverse communities
- Identify characteristics, challenges, stereotypes of various cultures
- Comment with respect and knowledge on diverse plays and the communities they represent
- Develop an open-minded thought process that allows intelligent conversation to transpire among people with different ideas.
- Appreciate various types of plays and the playwrights inspiration in creating these works
- Gain an appreciation and/or skills in the following Cultural Competencies:

1. A2, Engage in interactions with people of different "cultures and share examples of their own life experiences, values, beliefs, and feelings.
2. A3, Show receptivity to exploring cross-cultural communication styles.
3. S6, Demonstrate diversity leadership by providing constructive feedback to create more inclusive spaces.
4. C2, Understand that diversity is represented by all the ways in which human beings differ.
Cultural Competency is the ability to function effectively in the presence of sociocultural diversity. It consists of cognitive, affective and skill components, and to be cultural competent, all three of these domains of learning must be addressed.

REQUIRED READING:

- Spiderwoman Theater
- Two Trains Running – August Wilson (UCF Library, E-book)
- Tea – Velina Hasu Houston (in the Unbroken Threads Collection)
- The Vagina Monologues – Eve Ensler
- Stop Kiss – Diana Son
- Zoot Suit – Louis Valdez
- The Girl Who Fell From The Sky – Heidi W. Durrow-Extra Credit
- Still I Rise - Laird and Laird

GRADING:

Grades are based on the university grading system. To calculate grade at any point, proceed with the following:

1. Total the number of points earned
2. Divide by the amount of points that are possible (at that particular point)
3. This will provide you with a number
4. Check the following chart:

   A = 90-100
   B = 80-89
   C = 70-79
   D = 60-69
   F = 0-59

Activities:

1. one 15 point extra credit activity (optional) a. watch the film Crash and answer the questions b. Read The Girl Who Fell From The Sky and answer questions. Each student may only choose one activity.

2. Three assessments: one midterm, one final and one play quiz

3. One interview

4. Various (in modules) assignment posts. Some of these will be fact based and others will require your supported opinions.
CLASS NOTES:

- This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.
- Violations of student academic behavior standards are outlined in the Golden Rule, the University of Central Florida’s student handbook.
- Any student in this course who has a disability that may prevent him or her from fully demonstrating her/his abilities should contact Student Disabilities at UCF.
- There are plays and materials that may express adult/controversial themes, as well as, adult/strong language.
- Assignments must meet deadlines, no late work.
- Please allow 48 hours for an E-mail response.
- Disagreeing is allowed, disrespect will not be tolerated!

Academic Honesty

Plagiarism and cheating of any kind on an examination, quiz, or assignment will result at least in an "F" for that assignment (and may, depending on the severity of the case, lead to an "F" for the entire course) and may be subject to appropriate referral to the Office of Student Conduct for further action. See the UCF Golden Rule for further information. I will assume for this course that you will adhere to the academic creed of this University and will maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. In other words, don't cheat by giving answers to others or taking them from anyone else. I will also adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity, so please do not ask me to change (or expect me to change) your grade illegitimately or to bend or break rules for one person that will not apply to everyone.

Disability Statement

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the professor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services, Student Resource Center Room 132, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

Copyright

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Third-Party Software and FERPA

During this course you might have the opportunity to use public online services and/or software applications sometimes called third-party software such as a blog or wiki. While some of these could be required assignments, you need not make any personally identifying information on a public site. Do not post or provide any private information about yourself or your classmates. Where appropriate you may use a pseudonym or nickname. Some written assignments posted publicly may require personal reflection/comments, but the assignments will not require you to disclose any personally identity-sensitive information. If you have any concerns about this, please contact your instructor.