

Module 0.4 - Your Syllabus

THEATRE SURVEY

Fall 2019

THE 2000

Section OW60

Syllabus-

This is usually a place where students tend to skip and/or tune out. SUCCESS FOR THIS COURSE REQUIRES THAT YOU READ ALL OF THIS AND OTHER CONTENT PAGES. As a speed reader, I know how difficult this can be. DON'T skip around. I want you to succeed. Take the time to read it all. Refresh your memory from time to time here. Yes. It is that important.



UCF acting students performing a scene in class.

Instructor Contact

Instructor John Shafer

Office PAC T217

Office Hours MWF 12:30-2:30, TR 1:00- 3:00
- These Physical Office Hours may change as the semester shakes out and the needs adjustment

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TA	TBD
Phone	
E-Mail	

Course Information

Course Name Theatre Survey

Course ID & Section THE 2000-OW60

Credit Hours 3

Semester/Year Fall 2019

Location On Line

Course Description

It can be argued that most live entertainments developed from theatre. This course is an introductory overview of the arts and crafts of live theatrical venues. We will begin with, 'what is theatre and how did it begin?' What kinds of shows and styles of theatrical live entertainment can I see and how have they evolved? What kind of theatre space is this? Who are the people in my theatre program? What are their roles? Who decides if a show is good or bad? How do I assess the quality of a show? How do they pull it all together? What goes on in behind and in front of the curtain? Whose voices do American playwrights represent and what are their backgrounds? The class will examine the major elements of theatre and answer each of the previous questions.

NOTE: All instructors/faculty are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. This is done automatically by a recorded attendance or any grade assigned in the first week of class whether online or in a

physical classroom. YOU have a special 'free points Quiz' that will do this for you if you complete it)

Course Objectives

- Objective One – Upon completion of this course the student will be able to identify and discuss the basic elements of the origin of traditional theatre and the basic elements of the of the top live entertainment venues in the US and how they began and how some have evolved.
 - Objective Two – Upon completion of this course the student should be able to: define the major players and their roles in each entertainment venue
 - Objective Three – Upon completion of this class the student should be able to: evaluate the quality and describe some differences in the styles of each entertainment venue
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Required Text

No Text Required

Supplemental Texts

None

Course Requirements:

1. Show Paper & Approved Venue Production:

Attendance at one professional live approved performance venue or approved professional training venue for the semester is required. The student will write a review paper about the performance.



This Assignment is no problem for most students. HOWEVER, this project will EAT a procrastinator- YOU. NO. There are no other options. Fail to get your tickets and see the show for the Show Paper and it results in a BIG FAT 300 point ZERO! Don't feed the evil Procrastinator Demon.

To fully experience live theatre, attendance is required. Attendance is designed to aid the development of an understanding of the elements of theatre and to foster an appreciation for the art. (However, like film, you may not enjoy every play. Keep looking. The magic- when you find it- is worth the search.)

You will also be required to write **A Three TO Four PAGE PAPER**. Please be aware that each venue is likely to have a ticket cost that you will be required to pay in order to attend. The shows you will see are presented at UCF Theatre and tickets may be obtained via the box office at 407-823-1500.

Alternate Venues will be considered **only** for those **students living in cities other than Orlando**. An **Alternate Venue** is any theatrical event not on the pre-approved list featured below. **For students outside of Orlando** wishing to have an **Alternate Venue**, seek instructor approval before purchasing tickets. Many companies do not refund unused tickets. Contact the instructor for **Alternate Venue** approval in advance of ticket purchase.

Your Pre-Approved Play Venues

The Pre-Approved shows at UCF have expanded this semester. Normally, students get to choose from two productions. This semester, students may choose from three different productions. **DO NOT WAIT. DO NOT PUT THIS OFF. GO AS SOON AS YOU CAN.** Instructions about the requirements will be released early for you this semester since **#GODHATESYOU** by Emily Dendinger is showing **NOW**.

Please, read the descriptions and choose wisely for yourself. You know what you will likely enjoy and what you likely will not enjoy. ANY SHOW SCHEDULED IN A BLACK BOX WILL SELL OUT FASTER. ALL THESE SHOWS ARE SUBJECT TO SELLING OUT. (Do not wait to acquire your ticket. There are no other options.)

#GODHATESYOU

(NOTE: The poster art below was not generated by UCF Theatre. As the art for this season is not currently available, your instructor is using poster art from other productions of this play as a visual anchor.)



AUGUST 29 - SEPTEMBER 1 THEATRE, MAIN STAGE

Cost: \$20 standard, \$10 UCF ID

By Emily Dendinger
Directed by Cynthia White

“God punishes the wicked and rewards the good. #repentorperish”

Having attended her first picket at five years old, Laurel is proud of the good work she has done in the name of the Lord. While being groomed to be the next leader of her radical church (a fictional church similar to Westboro Baptist), Laurel takes to Twitter to spread the Word. When her tweets are responded to by an agnostic college student, a rabbi and a few Twitter trolls, Laurel struggles to determine the true meaning of her faith and define her relationship with God.

On Thursday, August 29, we will be joined by WMFE's very own [Three Wise Guys \(Links to an external site.\)](#) for a post-show talkback about the play, religion and social media.

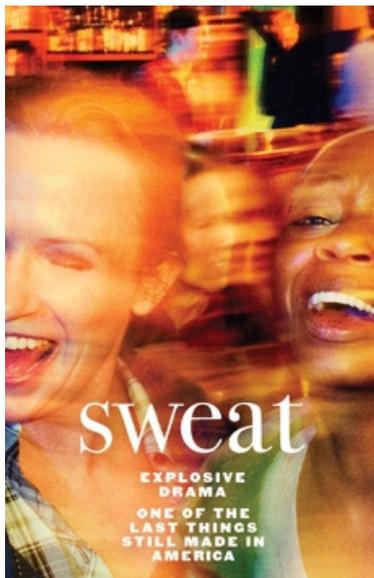
The following is the UCF Box Office Web Site. <https://theatre.cah.ucf.edu/season.php>

Cost: \$20 standard, \$10 UCF ID

NOTE: Get your Show Paper play seen as soon as you can schedule it.

SWEAT

(NOTE: The poster art below was not generated by UCF Theatre. As the art for this season is not currently available, your instructor is using poster art from other productions of this play as a visual anchor.)



SEPTEMBER 26 - OCTOBER 6
[THEATRE, BLACK BOX](#)

Cost: \$20 standard, \$10 UCF ID

By Lynn Nottage

Directed by Cynthia White

Layoffs and picket lines pit co-workers against each other as they fight to make ends meet.

Winner of the 2017 Pulitzer Prize, and 3-time Tony Award-nominee including Best Play, *Sweat* is filled with warm humor and tremendous heart. After having spent their lives sharing drinks, secrets and laughs, a group of co-workers are faced with hard choices when trouble begins to arise with their factory jobs. Layoffs and picket lines begin to chip away at their trust, the friends find themselves pitted against each other in a heart-wrenching fight to stay afloat.

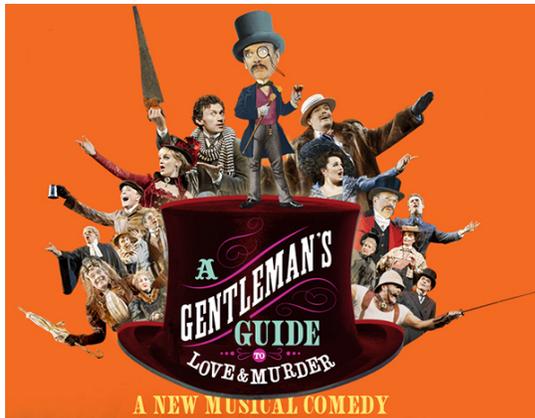
The following is the UCF Box Office Web Site. <https://theatre.cah.ucf.edu/season.php>

Cost: \$20 standard, \$10 UCF ID

NOTE: Get your Show Paper play seen as soon as you can schedule it.

A GENTLEMAN'S GUIDE TO LOVE AND MURDER

(NOTE: The poster art below was not generated by UCF Theatre. As the art for this season is not currently available, your instructor is using poster art from other productions of this play as a visual anchor.)



A GENTLEMAN'S GUIDE TO LOVE AND MURDER

OCTOBER 17 - OCTOBER 27
[THEATRE, MAIN STAGE\(107\)](#)

Cost: \$20 standard, \$10 UCF ID

Book and lyrics by Robert, L. Freedman

Music and lyrics by Steven Lutvak

Directed by Mark Brotherton

A distant heir to a family fortune sets out to speed up the line of succession by using a great deal of charm... and a dash of murder.

Winner of the 2014 Tony Award for best musical, *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* is a murderous romp filled with unforgettable music and non-stop laughs. When the low-born Monty Navarro finds out that he's eighth in line for an earldom in the lofty D'Ysquith family, he figures his chances of outliving his predecessors are slight and sets off down a far more ghoulish path. Can he knock off his unsuspecting relatives without being caught and become the ninth Earl of Highhurst? And what of love? Because murder isn't the only thing on Monty's mind....

The following is the UCF Box Office Web Site. <https://theatre.cah.ucf.edu/season.php>

Cost: \$20 standard, \$10 UCF ID

NOTE: Get your Show Paper play seen as soon as you can schedule it.

Don't Get On the Wrong Side of the Bull (This is not a play title! It's a warning.)



Do you know what these people got wrong during the Running of the Bulls?

No, it was not wearing sandals. It was bad timing. Book your tickets NOW. They do sell out. **Don't get on the wrong end of the bull** this semester with the **Show Paper Assignment**.

Investigate the schedule and secure tickets from the box office. Do this **Now** (or after approval). You are required to locate, secure tickets and pay for the theatrical venue you choose to attend and review. **By or before the end of the first week of class** you should try to book your ticket reservation.

Any alternate professional venue must be approved by Instructor before September, **6th 2019**.

PLEASE DO NOT SECURE Alternate Venue TICKETS UNTIL YOUR VENUE IS APPROVED. (Obviously, if an approved UCF production, go ahead!) **The company or venue might not be able to refund your payment.** If your venue does not meet the

requirements, you will need to choose a different venue right away. If you have questions about locating a venue or questions about your choice- please let the Instructor know right away. **For people who live in or near Orlando Florida, you must attend UCF's productions.**

November 7th (a Thursday) IS THE DATE YOU MUST TURN IN YOUR SHOW PAPERS. MORE ON THIS PROCESS WILL BE POSTED. You will be required to have your ticket stamped and a digital pic of this included with your digital submission. More on this will be coming.

Missed Assignments/ Make-Ups/ Extra Credit - There will be no late assignments, no make- ups or extra credit.

COURSE EVALUATION:

Grade Scale:

****The instructor reserves the right to adjust the syllabus according to the needs of the class.**

**** The shows, materials, and ideas covered during this class may express adult or controversial themes as well as strong language.**

***Assignments will be based on 100 point scale.**

MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS

Show Paper (300pts) Format for review to be posted later. (Show Paper Assignment)

2. Quizzes



Most students do not have trouble with these Quizzes. But, many DO feed the Procrastinator Demon's babies. The student gets busy, distracted, delayed, etcetera, and CHOMP! The bite of ONE Baby Procrastinator Demon is negligible. Two? Hardly annoying. But, the zeroes they leave in their wake will quickly fester and destroy your grade to become...



It will rain Quizzes. Each quiz is composed of **Ten or more Questions** and will include the required material covered each week in Modules. The format for quizzes may include multiple choice, short answer, and true and false. **All material covered in modules is considered material for assessment for quizzes** unless otherwise noted in the **Module**. Create an outline of the material covered in each **Module** as you are reading it. Have it with you when you take the **Quiz**. The **Quizzes** are timed and may only be attempted once. They also must be taken in a timely manner as they will close after they are opened whether you take them or not. Your Instructor recommends that you review the outline and material before you take each **Quiz**.

You will have only **X minutes** (varies depending on the length of the Quiz) and **one attempt** to take **each quiz**. **Please make sure that you are ready to take the entire quiz once you begin**. **Once you click on "begin assessment" the clock begins**. **When the time limit is up - you will not be able to go back and finish the quiz**. Each **Quiz** will note the time available for each **Quiz**.

Example of the Type of Questions on Quizzes

1. This course is an introductory overview of the arts and crafts of live theatrical entertainment venues in the US. List one of the major areas we covered in this class.
 - a. Broadway Musicals
 - b. Theme Parks
 - c. Circus Entertainment
 - d. Las Vegas Showcases

OR

2. You will be required to see a professional live entertainment venue. What is NOT TRUE of the requirements of this assignment?

- a. you will have to write a performance review of the show
- b. Most students will be required to see a UCF theatre performance
- c. you will have to secure and pay for tickets for the show you choose
- d. if your choice is not approved, you are exempt from this assignment

3. Final Exam

(300pts approx.)- 50-100 comprehensive questions worth one point/s each will be in the form of multiple choice. Questions will resemble the type of questions that appear on weekly Quizzes.

Evaluation and Grading

Letter Grade	Points
A	95 – 100 points
A-	90 – 94 points
B+	87 – 89 points
B	83 – 86 points
B-	80 – 82 points
C+	77 – 79 points
C	73 – 76 points
C-	70 – 72 points
D+	67 – 69 points

D	63 – 66 points
D-	60 – 62 points
F	59 and below

***The course is already so generous, rounding up would not be appropriate. Grades do not round up. Please, do not ask. (This usually happens late in a semester. I will simply cut and paste this in your reply. It will likely feel rude. It is not meant to be. It is meant to be efficient.)

The plays, materials, and ideas covered during this class may express adult or controversial themes as well as strong language. (I AM a little worried about how some may respond to #GODHATESME. Don't choose this one if you are offended easily.) If this presents a problem for you, please see the instructor immediately to access your chances for success in the course. Topics of sex and violence are inherently political historically. Expect to have questions raised that may raise your hackles. The professor is going to engage you as 'devils' advocate in ways intended to inform your personal choices for yourselves. Some views expressed will not even be the position of the Instructor. This is NOT a high school-hand holding-standardized test kind of course.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE MADE WITH YOUR SYLLABUS IN HAND. DO NOT EXPECT CLASS SCHEDULES, TESTS, OR DUE DATES TO SHIFT. WE WILL HOLD CLASS/DROP MODULES & QUIZZES EVERY DAY WE ARE SCHEDULED- ESPECIALLY JUST BEFORE HOLIDAYS.

CLASS TOPICS:

Week ONE 8/26/2019

Topic: Introduction to the Semester

**WITHDRAWAL DEADLINE! November 1st
Eject by now if you KNOW you need to...**

Schedule

August 26 - Class begins

**Faculty Confirmation of Academic Activity
August 26-September 2**

NO CLASS ON THESE DAYS

Labor Day

[no-classes](#)

Monday, August 2

Veteran's Day

[no-classes](#)

Monday, November 11

Thanksgiving

[no-classes](#)

Wednesday, November 27-December
1st

**Withdrawal Deadline
November 1st**

**Last Day of Class
December 4th**

Final Week

December 5th- December 11th

(NOTE: The Finals Day for this class will be announced multiple times. As this is an on-line course, it will be delivered much like a giant, honking on-line Quiz. You will be given a span of three Finals days to execute your Final Exam. More about this will be posted much later. You are responsible for staying in/available for class through the entire Finals Period for this course and all courses.)

The following will be counted as excused absences with compelling documentation;

***University functions, including participation in sporting events, teams clubs academic functions, scholarly conferences)**

***Illness that is documented by a doctor's note.**

***Death (do not try to convince me that you are dead- I probably won't buy it) or serious illness in the immediate family.**

***The observance of religious holy days - you must notate in writing the dates and names of any religious holy days that you must observe during the course of the semester and hand it into the instructor no later than two weeks in advance.**

(Note- if you can prove you are a robot, I will also honor Robonica.

US Service personnel and their families may receive release on a case by case basis. The Professor is very supportive of our servicemen and women and their families.

**A Poem for a Day That Follows or Proceeds a Holiday or Exam day
(with respects and apologies to Dr. Seuss)**

INTENTION:

**I will not change or cancel class
I could not, would not, for a house.
I would not, could not, for a spouse.
I would not change them for a pox.
I would not change them for some lox.
I would not move them here or there.
I would not move them anywhere.
I would not change a scheduled class
I do not like to, so don't be crass!**

Please, do not ask. Please, do not book travel. Please, inform your families they may not schedule you on trips during these times. Please, inform your employers they may not schedule you. Please, feed your family vitamins so they may be healthy on these days. Experience has shown these dates are perilous for your loved ones. Please, have no religious conversions, magic spells, alien abductions, exorcisms, bigfoot attacks, or out of body experiences on these days. Due dates, class, exams, and projects will go on without you.

Advice for care and feeding of professors- Never say the following to any instructor. Biting may occur.

- 1. Did we do anything important last class?**
- 2. Will we do anything important next class?**

The following are powerful incantations that can drive a professor to the dark side.

- 1. Do not lobby a professor for higher grades that are unearned**
- 2. Do not ask for answers to questions that may be found in a syllabus, UCF academic calendar, or have been answered in class more than three times.**
- 3. These dark acts have been known to transform professors into various evil creatures like banshees, ghouls, Shaun Hannity, and Donald Trump.**

Attendance Policy

It is the policy of the University to reasonably accommodate absences due to observed religious holidays. The student must provide proof of observation and the student will be held responsible for any material covered during the absence. If you know of any

dates you will miss due to religious observance you must inform the instructor through email during the first week of classes.

Academic Honesty

Violations of student academic behavior standards are outlined in The Golden Rule, the University of Central Florida's student handbook. See [HTTP://www.ucf.edu/goldenrule/](http://www.ucf.edu/goldenrule/) for further details. Plagiarism- whereby another's work is deliberately used or appropriated without any indication of the source thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is the student's own. Any student failing to properly credit ideas or materials taken from another source has plagiarized. Cheating- whereby non-permissible written, visual, or oral assistance including that obtained from another student is utilized on exams, course assignments, or projects. The unauthorized possession or use of examination or course related material shall also constitute cheating. A student who has assisted another in any of the aforementioned breaches of standards shall be considered equally culpable. Academic Action- Taken by Instructor, Chair, or Dean of College 1.Counseling 2.Loss of credit for the specific assignment, examination, or project 3.Removal from the course with a grade of 'F' Conduct Review Action- Taken by the Office of Student Conduct 1.Warning 2.Probation 3.Suspension 4.Expulsion 5.Permanent conduct record with UCF accessible by other institutions by request

Course Accessibility Statement

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing access and inclusion for all persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who need disability-related access in this course should contact the professor as soon as possible. Students should also connect with [Student Accessibility Services \(Links to an external site.\)](#) (Ferrell Commons 185, sas@ucf.edu, phone (407) 823-2371). Through Student Accessibility Services, a Course Accessibility Letter may be created and sent to professors, which informs faculty of potential access and accommodations that might be reasonable. Determining reasonable access and accommodations requires consideration of the course design, course learning objectives and the individual academic and course barriers experienced by the student.

Copyright

This course may contain copyright protected materials such as audio or video clips, images, text materials, etc. These items are being used with regard to the Fair Use doctrine in order to enhance the learning environment. Please do not copy, duplicate,

download or distribute these items. The use of these materials is strictly reserved for this online classroom environment and your use only. All copyright materials are credited to the copyright holder.

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.

This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

NEW SYLLABUS CONTENT:

Advice:

Professor Shafer's Syllabi have only recently included a safety section. However, schools can no longer be considered Safe Zones. It is up to all of us to stay alert before things happen and to think through a strategy for when things do happen. I encourage you to look up UCF emergency procedures and campus safety advice. Simply be aware of your surroundings and familiar with actions to take in various types of emergencies. This will help keep you safe.

Campus Safety Statement

Emergencies on campus are rare, but if one should arise in our class, everyone needs to work together. Students should be aware of the surroundings and familiar with some basic safety and security concepts.

- In case of an emergency, dial 911 for assistance.

- Every UCF classroom contains an emergency procedure guide posted on a wall near the door. Please make a note of the guide's physical location and consider reviewing the online version at http://emergency.ucf.edu/emergency_guide.html (Links to an external site.).
- Students should know the evacuation routes from each of their classrooms and have a plan for finding safety in case of an emergency.
- If there is a medical emergency during class, we may need to access a first aid kit or AED (Automated External Defibrillator). To learn where those items are located in this building, see <http://www.ehs.ucf.edu/workplacesafety.html> (Links to an external site.) (click on link from menu on left).
- To stay informed about emergency situations, sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to my.ucf.edu (Links to an external site.) and logging in. Click on "Student Self Service" located on the left side of the screen in the tool bar, scroll down to the blue "Personal Information" heading on your Student Center screen, click on "UCF Alert," fill out the information, including your e-mail address, cell phone number, and cell phone provider, click "Apply" to save the changes, and then click "OK."
- Students with special needs related to emergency situations should speak with their instructors outside of class.
- To learn about how to manage an active-shooter situation on campus or elsewhere, consider viewing this video. [You CAN Survive an Active Shooter](#) (Links to an external site.)

More New Content:

Statement on the Use of GroupMe and other Contract Cheating Sites

Very bluntly—DO NOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCE post discussion board links to the following:

GroupMe

WhatsApp

Furthermore, students are NOT allowed to use GroupMe, WhatsApp, or any other form of technology to exchange course material associated with a graded assignment, quiz, test, etc. when opened on Webcourses. The completion of graded work in an online course should be considered a formal process.

If you were in a classroom setting taking a quiz, would you ask the student sitting next to you for an answer to a quiz or test question? The answer is NO. Same goes for graded homework, quizzes, tests, etc. Just because you are not in a formal classroom setting being proctored while taking a quiz or test does not mean that the completion of graded work in an online course should not be treated with integrity.

The following is not all inclusive of what is considered academic misconduct. These examples are regarding how the use of technology can be considered academic misconduct:

- Taking a screen shot of an online quiz or test question, posting it to GroupMe or WhatsApp, and asking for assistance is considered academic misconduct
- Answering an online quiz or test question posted to GroupMe or WhatsApp is considered academic misconduct. Giving advice, assistance, or suggestions on how to complete a question associated with an online assignment, quiz, or test is considered academic misconduct
- The use of outside assistance from another student or by searching the internet, Googling for answers, use of websites such as Quizlet, Course Hero, Chegg Study, etc. is considered academic misconduct
- Gathering to take an online quiz or test with others and sharing answers in the process is considered academic misconduct

If a student or group of students are found to be exchanging material associated with a graded assignment, quiz, or test through any form of technology (GroupMe, WhatsApp, etc.) or use outside assistance (Googling answers, use of websites such as Quizlet, Course Hero, Chegg Study, etc.), they could receive anywhere from a zero grade on the exercise to an “F” in the course depending on the egregiousness of the act.

It just is not worth it. You really do not need to cheat in this course to succeed.