



# Directing for Theatre I – TPP 3310C

Class Location: Online      MF 8:30AM - 10:20AM

**Instructor:** David Reed

[David.Reed@ucf.edu](mailto:David.Reed@ucf.edu)

**Zoom Office Hours:**

T&R 2:30-3:20

M&F 10:30 -11:30

and by appointment

<https://ucf.zoom.us/j/9649316833>

**Course TAs**

Kate Milazzo

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## Course Syllabus

### COURSE OVERVIEW

Principles and techniques of play direction – to include script selection, directorial analysis, casting, composition/picturization, blocking, tempo, and rehearsal planning.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

**In this course, students will:**

- Learn to analyze a text, prepare for the rehearsal process, and work with actors in staging a play
- Use script analysis tools to articulate directing approaches to plays
- Develop an approach to directing a play / articulate an approach to a play text. Develop, articulate, and write your approach to your project play script.
- Discuss the mechanics of directing actors (stage pictures, strong and weak stage positions, blocking dynamics)
- Write a reasoned critique of a director's work after observing a rehearsal process

### REQUIREMENTS

#### Text

Required Readings will be provided via Web Courses

#### Course Content

Note that some of the material in this course may include language and topics that some people might find objectionable. If you have any concerns, please see me as soon as possible.

## **POLICIES**

### **Attendance is mandatory and monitored.**

- Perfect attendance is assumed. However, we are currently in the middle of a pandemic and physical, mental, and community health are of utmost concern.
- All missed class work (excused or otherwise) must be made-up.
  - **Late assignments will be discounted points in the following manner:**
    - **On time – Full points possible**
    - **Up to one day late – 10% off**
    - **Up to one week late – 20% off**
    - **After one week late – 50% off**
  - **Please speak to the instructor if you are concerned about an assignments due date.**

### **Covid-19 Policies**

- In the event that UCF deems it necessary to move to remote instruction, this class will meet for synchronous online instruction. Both the students and the instructor will revisit the syllabus to ensure that the instruction in the course meets University, College, and Participant standards.
- To ensure safety for all, please arrive at the scheduled time and do not congregate in the hallways.
- Please adhere to the building's traffic patterns and entrance/exiting procedures.
- The space and all furniture will need to be sanitized after each use. This is the responsibility of the instructor and the actors that used the material.

### **University-Wide Face Covering Policy for Common Spaces and Face-to-Face Classes**

To protect members of our community, everyone is required to wear a facial covering inside all common spaces (<https://policies.ucf.edu/documents/PolicyEmergencyCOVIDReturnPolicy.pdf>.) Students who choose not to wear facial coverings will be asked to leave the classroom by the instructor. If they refuse to leave the classroom or put on a facial covering, they may be considered disruptive (please see the [Golden Rule](#) for student behavior expectations). Faculty have the right to cancel class if the safety and well-being of class members are in jeopardy. Students will be responsible for the material that would have been covered in class as provided by the instructor.

### **Notifications in Case of Changes to Course Modality**

Depending on the course of the pandemic during the semester, the university may make changes to the way classes are offered. If that happens, you will receive emails about changes specific to this course.

### **COVID-19 and Illness Notification**

Students who believe they may have a COVID-19 diagnosis should contact UCF Student Health Services (407-823-2509) so proper contact tracing procedures can take place. Students should not come to campus if they are ill, are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, have tested positive for COVID, or if anyone living in their residence has tested positive or is sick with COVID-19 symptoms. CDC guidance for COVID-19 symptoms is located here: (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>) Students should contact their instructor(s) as soon as possible if they miss class for any illness reason to discuss reasonable adjustments that might need to be made. When possible, students should contact their instructor(s) before missing class.

### **In Case of Faculty Illness**

If the instructor falls ill during the semester, there may be changes to this course, including having a backup instructor take over the course. Please check the Knights email for alterations to this course.

## **Course Accessibility and Disability COVID-19 Supplemental Statement**

Accommodations may need to be added or adjusted should this course shift from an on-campus to a remote format. Students with disabilities should speak with their instructor and should contact [sas@ucf.edu](mailto:sas@ucf.edu) to discuss specific accommodations for this or other courses. Should this course shift to remote-only instruction, the university has provided several resources to assist students with learning: <https://digitallearning.ucf.edu/newsroom/keeplearning/>

**Live and Recorded Lectures (optional if applicable):** This course will include synchronous (“real time”) sessions that will also be available as a recorded session for later review in Webcourses@UCF. Students who are unable to attend on-campus sessions, are expected to review these available sessions. Students who are unable to actively participate in on-campus or remote learning, should contact their instructor to explore options. Any synchronous meeting times will be announced via Webcourses@UCF and should appear on the Webcourses@UCF calendar should remote instruction be activated. Such recordings/streaming will only be available to students registered for this class. These recordings are the intellectual property of the faculty and they may not be shared or reproduced without the explicit, written consent of the faculty member. Further, students may not share these sessions with those not in the class or upload them to any other online environment. Doing so would be a breach of the Code of Student Conduct, and, in some cases, a violation of the Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

**Technology Access** – Depending upon modality, this course might need to shift to remote or fully online instruction based on medical guidance. This course also could be fully online and thus This could require access to additional technology. If students do not have proper access to technology, including a computer and reliable Wi-Fi, please let the instructor know as soon as possible. Information about technology lending can be found at <https://it.ucf.edu/techcommons/> and <https://library.ucf.edu/libtech>. Resources: <https://www.ucf.edu/coronavirus/>

### **Academic Integrity**

Students should familiarize themselves with [UCF’s Rules of Conduct](#). According to Section 1, “Academic Misconduct,” students are prohibited from engaging in:

1. Unauthorized assistance: Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information or study aids in any academic exercise unless specifically authorized by the instructor of record. The unauthorized possession of examination or course-related material also constitutes cheating.
2. Communication to another through written, visual, electronic, or oral means: The presentation of material which has not been studied or learned, but rather was obtained through someone else’s efforts and used as part of an examination, course assignment, or project.
3. Commercial Use of Academic Material: Selling of course material to another person, student, and/or uploading course material to a third-party vendor without authorization or without the express written permission of the university and the instructor. Course materials include but are not limited to class notes, Instructor’s PowerPoints, course syllabi, tests, quizzes, labs, instruction sheets, homework, study guides, handouts, etc.
4. Falsifying or misrepresenting the student’s own academic work.
5. Plagiarism: Using or appropriating another’s work without any indication of the source, thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is the student’s own.
6. Multiple Submissions: Submitting the same academic work for credit more than once without the express written permission of the instructor.
7. Helping another violate academic behavior standards.

For more information about Academic Integrity, students may consult [The Center for Academic Integrity](#).

For more information about plagiarism and misuse of sources, see “[Defining and Avoiding Plagiarism: The WPA Statement on Best Practices.](#)”

- **Cheating of any kind will result in the suggestion of failure for the semester**
- Make sure you understand your professor’s guidelines about working with other students on assignments, receiving assistance from other students on assignments, citing sources, and using notes or exams from previous classes. If in doubt – ASK YOUR PROFESSOR!

### **Campus Safety Statement**

Emergencies on campus are rare, but if one should arise during class, everyone needs to work together. Students should be aware of their 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. Students should make a note of the guide’s physical location and review the online version at [http://emergency.ucf.edu/emergency\\_guide.html](http://emergency.ucf.edu/emergency_guide.html).
- 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, students may need to access a first-aid kit or AED (Automated External Defibrillator). To learn where those are located, see <http://www.ehs.ucf.edu/workplacesafety.html> (click on link from menu on left).
- To stay informed about emergency situations, students can sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to [ucf.edu](http://ucf.edu) and logging in. Click on “Student Self Service” located on the left side of the screen in the toolbar, scroll down to the blue “Personal Information” heading on the Student Center screen, click on “UCF Alert”, fill out the information, including 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](#).

### **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 (SAS) <<http://sas.sdes.ucf.edu/>> (Ferrell Commons 185, [sas@ucf.edu](mailto: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.

### **Syllabus**

- This syllabus may be modified by the course instructor.
- Notice of such changes will be made by announcement in class or by email notice.
- Any handouts provided to the student with guidelines for written or performance projects are to be considered part of the syllabus. In addition, verbal or written changes to the syllabus as announced during class, a lesson or via electronic means, are the responsibility of the student.

## Scholarship

### **Gordon Rule**

This course is a Gordon Rule course. The required three assignments which fulfill the Gordon Rule are indicated with an asterisk. Each has the following characteristics:

1. The writing will have a clearly defined central idea or thesis
2. It will provide adequate support for that idea
3. It will be organized clearly and logically
4. It will show awareness of the conventions of standard written English
5. It will be formatted or presented in an appropriate way.

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### GRADING CRITERIA

- This class will observe the plus and minus grade system. Realize that C- is considered to be a failing grade for a BFA student.

A = 1,000-940	A- = 939-900	B+ = 899-870	B = 869-840
B- = 839-800	C+ = 799-770	C = 769-740	C- = 739-700
D+ = 699-670	D = 669-640	D- = 639-600	F = 599-0

### ASSIGNMENTS

- Class Quizzes 100
- Sample Analysis for Bike America 100
- Analysis for Class Play Choice 100
- Director Research Paper 175
- Director Research Presentation 75
- Visitors papers (2 @ 75 each) 150
- Final Director Prompt Packet 250
- Classroom Attendance and Participation 50

**Total 1000 pts**

**Online Quizzes: (100 total)** Quizzes on reading, each worth 5 points and to be taken on Web Courses before each class period. These cannot be made up.

**Analysis for Bike America (100) and Final Play Choice (100):** Students will complete an Analysis based on plays read during class.

**\*\*\*\*\* If students have a different preferred analysis type, that may be substituted upon approval from the instructor. \*\*\*\*\***

**Director Research Assignment: (175 points)** Students will research a famous director and write a 5-7 page research paper on that director and their impact on the modern theatre. Students will also be responsible for a 5-7 minute presentation on the assigned director.

**Director Research Presentation:** In a group, students will take their research about their famous director and compile it into a research presentation.

**Visiting Artists Panel Response Paper: (2 @ 75 points each total)** Students will write a 3 page response to any two of the artist panels during the semester. Papers are due two class periods after the panel. This assignment will be graded for its cohesiveness, accuracy, and insight.

**Concept Packets: (250 points)** A prompt book of material discussed in class throughout the semester. Contents may be found on Web Courses.

**Participation: (50 points)** Students are expected to participate in every class. This includes discussion and all exercises and activities. Participation also includes being fully prepared for class (memorized, rehearsed, homework done, dressed appropriately, and with necessary supplies including scripts).

## CLASS SCHEDULE

### Week One: Introduction and Overview

	Class Activities	Assignments to complete after class
Monday, January 11	Introduction - Syllabus Schedule Assign Groups & Directors	Read Chapter 2
Friday, January 15	“The Role of the Director”	Read <i>Bike America</i>

### Week Two:

	Class Activities	Assignments to complete after class
Monday, January 18	<b>Martin Luther King Day - No Class</b>	
Friday, January 22	Visitors: Directors “Role of the Director”	Read Chapter 4, 5

### Week Three:

	Class Activities	Assignments to complete after class
Monday, January 25	Discuss <i>Bike America</i>	Read Chapter(s) 7, 8, 9
Friday, January 29	Lecture: Plot, Character, Language, Music, Spectacle	

### Week Four:

	Class Activities	Assignments to complete after class
Monday, February 1	Finish lectures on Key terms Start Analysis	
Friday, February 5	Visitors: Actors – Working with Directors	

Week Five:

	Class Activities	Assignments to complete after class
Monday, February 8	Analysis	Analysis – Bike America
Friday, February 12	Visitors: “Dramaturg Day” in class	

Week Six:

	Class Activities	Assignments to complete after class
Monday, February 15	Discuss/Create “About Set”	Analysis – Bike America Due
Friday, February 19	Visitors: Arts Admin and Development	

Week Seven:

	Class Activities	Assignments to complete after class
Monday, February 22	About Set Application and Imagery (Mood) Concept	
Friday, February 26	Visitors: Marketing and Stage Management	

Week Eight:

	Class Activities	Assignments to complete after class
Monday, March 1	Here’s your Final Project – Directing project Reminder of Assignment and paper due	
Friday, March 5	Visitors: Sound and Lighting Designers	<b>Director Presentation Due: MARCH 7th</b>

Week Nine:

	Class Activities	Assignments to complete after class
Monday, March 8	Director Presentation Day – Class time to look at the Directors	Assign: Skeleton Crew
Friday, March 12	Visitors: Technical Directors	Research Papers Due

Week Ten:

	Class Activities	Assignments to complete after class
Monday, March 15	Discuss Skeleton Crew	Assign: The Cake
Friday, March 19	Visitors: Scenic Designers, Costume Designers	

Week Eleven:

	Class Activities	Assignments to complete after class
Monday, March 22	Discuss The Cake	Assign: Abigail/1702
Friday, March 26	Visitors: Choreographers, Music Directors	

Week Twelve:

	Class Activities	Assignments to complete after class
Monday, March 29	Visitors: Fight Directors	Assign: Chapter 11
Friday, April 2	Discuss Abigail/1702	Assign analysis for the final play

Week Thirteen:

	Class Activities	Assignments to complete after class
Monday, April 5	Auditions and Casting and Working with Actors	Assign: Chapter 17 & 18
Friday, April 9	Visitors: Intimacy Directors	

**SPRING BREAK APRIL 12<sup>TH</sup> – 16<sup>TH</sup>**

Week Fourteen:

	Class Activities	Assignments to complete after class
Monday, April 19	Blocking and Power Structures	
Friday, April 23	Visitors: Playwrights	<b>Final Analysis Due</b>

Week Fifteen:

	Class Activities	Assignments to complete after class
Monday, April 26	Last Day of Classes Q/A	

**Final Exam:**

**Friday, April 30, 2021  
7:00 AM – 9:50 AM**