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DRAM 596.02: Independent Study

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Texts & Materials:
On Directing by Harold Clurman
The Empty Space by Peter Brook
In Contact With The Gods ed. Delgado & Heritage
A Director Calls by Wendy Lesser
Directing The Action by Charles Marowitz
Class Handouts, Journal

Course Description:
This independent study will focus on the theory and practice of directing for the stage.

Course Objectives:
- Demonstrate an understanding of the basic theoretical principles behind directing.
- Development of individualized directing methods and techniques.
- Examine the process required to mount a production from pre-production to opening.
- Development of the director as an artist.

Content
Through a series of readings and discussions, the student will delve deeply into the ideas and practices of some of the most influential directors of the last 100 years. The student and professor will maintain a dialogue about the experience of Assistant Directing a realized Drama/Dance production, and the student will prepare a complete pre-production package for a show of their choosing.

Expectations/Requirements:
Each student will be responsible for consistent in-depth, reflective self-analysis in the form of a journal, which must be brought on the second day of the semester.

Each student will be expected to create Director’s Notes and provide backing research and a prompt book for one full-length play.

Each student will be fully prepared for in-depth class discussion about all texts covered.

Each student will write one major research paper/project on a topic to be decided in consultation with the professor.

Written work must be received on time. All late work will drop by a full letter grade for each day late and will not be accepted after a two-day late period.

There is NO EXTRA CREDIT in this class.
Policy/Procedure:

Evaluation:

The final semester grade will be a reflection of the student’s effort, progress and development of skills covered. There will be regular evaluation of the student’s work including, but not limited to:

- Participation and attendance
- Effort
- Self-analysis
- Clear understanding of principles and practices taught
- Written work

Attendance:

MISSING CLASS WILL AFFECT YOUR GRADE. Two tardies equal one absence and more than two absences will lower your grade by one full letter.

- No eating or gum chewing. You are encouraged to bring a bottle of water, but other beverages are not acceptable.
- No weapons, drugs, or alcohol are allowed on campus or in the classroom. Failure to heed this rule will result in expulsion from the class and possibly the university.

“If you have any specific learning needs please make an appointment to meet with me.”

Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/Index.cfm/page/1321.

All Drama/Dance students must have an in-depth knowledge of the practices and procedures outlined in the Department of Drama/Dance Handbook. The Handbook is available online at http://www.sfa.ymt.edu/drama/index.html.