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9-2014

THTR 375.01: Directing I

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Recommended Citation

Hodgin, Jere, "THTR 375.01: Directing I" (2014). *Syllabi*. 1881.

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THTR 375
Directing I
3CR
CRN 72238

Jere Hodgkin
School of Theatre & Dance
College of Visual and Performing Arts
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PARTV 192
243-2877

Office Hours: 11:00 am- 1:00 Monday; noon- 1:00 Wednesday; and by appointment

Term: Fall 2014 TR 12:40- 2:00 pm

Location: PARTV- Montana and Masquer Theatres

Description:

This class and lab are designed to introduce the student to the concept of the directorial function historically and to experience what a director does within the framework of production of a play—from preparation to performance.

Objectives:

To study the unique method of textual analysis a director employs

To explore the concepts of Action, Shaping of Drama, and Character as they relate to interpreting a script

To study Composition for the stage by exploring scenic, lighting, and sound design

To explore the formation of a Production Concept for a play

Text:

Stage Directing by Jim Patterson

In addition, you are assigned two plays to read and analyze --

Hamlet by William Shakespeare

Stand-Off at HWY 37 by Vickie Rameriz (This script will be supplied electronically.)

Other assigned reading will include various articles, essays, and trade publications that relate to specific topics with which we deal in class.

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 http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.php.

School of Theatre & Dance:

All Theatre & Dance students must have an in-depth knowledge of the practices and procedures outlined in the School of Theatre & Dance *Student Handbook*. The *Handbook* is available online at <http://www.umt.edu/theatredance/about/handbook>.

There is inherent risk involved in many Theatre & Dance classes as they are very physical in nature. Please proceed through class, shop, or rehearsal with caution. Always be mindful of your personal safety and the safety of others. Students participating in class/shop/rehearsal/performance do so at their own risk.

Due to safety considerations, at **no** point during a student's time spent in class or serving on a production (in any capacity) should non-enrolled persons be guests of that student without consent of the instructor or director. Presence of such unauthorized persons in a class, shop, or any backstage/off-stage area will negatively affect a student's grade.

Disability Services:

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with DSS, please contact DSS in Lommasson 154. I will work with you and DSS to provide an appropriate accommodation.

Graded Course Requirements:

Written Responses to Theatre Productions (30%) (To be seen outside of regular class meetings)
Written Exercises: Text Analysis, Script Analysis (10%)
Participation (20%)
Monologue Work and Presentation (15%)
Scene Work and Presentation (20%)
Profile of Self Development/ Rehearsal Journal (5%)

Note: As this class is based on participation, attendance is requisite. The collaborative and creative processes of theatre are the foundation of our class. Mutual feedback and a free exchange of ideas are necessary. Your attendance supports the work; your absence has an effect upon the work of the entire class. **More than three unapproved and unexcused absences will result in a full grade reduction of one level.**

Calendar:

Tuesday	26 August	Introduction
Thursday	28 August	The Directorial Function
Tuesday	2 September	"The Director at Work"
Thursday	4 September	"Analyzing and Researching the Play Script"
Tuesday	9 September	"Analyzing and Researching the Play Script" Contd.
Thursday	11 September	Discussion of <i>Hamlet</i> and <i>Proof</i> ; Analysis Paper Due
Tuesday	16 September	"Selecting the Play Script" and "Conceiving the Production"
Thursday	18 September	"Conceiving the Production" Contd.
Tuesday	23 September	Monologue Exercises & Selection Criteria
Thursday	25 September	In-Class Monologue Rehearsals
Tuesday	30 September	In-Class Monologue Rehearsals
Thursday	2 October	In-Class Monologue Rehearsals
Tuesday	7 October	"Rehearsals: Staging, Shaping, and Polishing"
Thursday	9 October	"Rehearsals: Staging, Shaping, and Polishing"
Tuesday	14 October	Monologue Presentation/Critique
Thursday	16 October	Monologue Presentation/Critique
Tuesday	21 October	Discussion and Paper Due- <i>Cyrano</i>
Thursday	23 October	Staging Exercises and Discussion
Tuesday	28 October	Production Concept Presentations- Scenes
Thursday	30 October	Production Concept Presentations- Scenes
Tuesday	4 November	Election Day- No Classes
Thursday	6 November	Production Concept Presentations- Scenes
Tuesday	11 November	Veteran's Day Holiday- No Classes
Thursday	13 November	In-Class Rehearsals of Scenes
Tuesday	18 November	In-Class Rehearsals of Scenes
Thursday	20 November	In-Class Rehearsals of Scenes
Tuesday	25 November	In-Class Rehearsals of Scenes
Thursday	28 November	Thanksgiving Holiday
Tuesday	2 December	Presentation of Scenes- Round One
Thursday	4 December	Presentation of Scenes- Round Two
Tuesday	9 December	Discussion and Paper Due- <i>A Christmas Carol</i> ; Rehearsal Journals and Profile of Self Development Due
	Final 3:20- 5:20	