

BUTTE COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

DRAM 100 - Introduction to Professional Theatre

1 Unit(s)

Prerequisite(s): NONE

Recommended Prep: NONE

Transfer Status: NT

8.5 hours Lecture

25.5 hours Lab

This course introduces students to the major aspects of professional theatre production. Emphasis is placed on developing an awareness of the artistry, the scope, and the impact of live theatre presentations. Students are responsible for the entire cost of the field trip, including but not limited to transportation, lodging, meals, and admissions to performances. The instructor will select a genre and a specific production, and will lead the students on a guided field trip to attend the production.

II. OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Recognize and discuss the purpose and place of theatrical performance in human society and human expression, past and present.
- B. Compare differences and similarities of plays to be seen in terms of production value and approach to the performance by the actors.
- C. Evaluate orally and in writing the cohesiveness and unity of a production in terms of all the elements: acting, directing, staging, costuming, make-up, special effects, sound, etc.

III. COURSE CONTENT

A. Unit Titles/Suggested Time Schedule

Lecture

<u>Topics</u>	<u>Hours</u>
1. Introduction: An Approach to Theatre	1.00
2. The Performing Artist	1.00
3. The Scenic Artist	1.00
4. Critiquing the Performance	1.00
5. The Theatre Experience	4.50
Total Hours	8.50

Lab

<u>Topics</u>	<u>Hours</u>
1. The Performing Artist	4.00
2. The Scenic Artist	4.00
3. Critiquing the Performance	5.00
4. The Theatre Experience	12.50
Total Hours	25.50

IV. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- A. Lecture
- B. Group Discussions
- C. Field Trips
- D. Homework: Students are required to complete two hours of outside-of-class homework for each hour of lecture
- E. Discussion
- F. Reading Assignments

V. METHODS OF EVALUATION

- A. Exams/Tests
- B. Papers
- C. Oral Presentation
- D. Class participation
- E. Written Assignments

VI. EXAMPLES OF ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Reading Assignments
 - 1. Read the play "War Horse" that you will be attending to understand the through-line of actions and characters. Be prepared to share your analysis in class.
 - 2. Read the play "War Horse" that you will be attending to analyze the plot structure and the given circumstances. Be prepared to share your analysis in class.
- B. Writing Assignments
 - 1. Write a two-three page paper to critique (format given in class) the theatrical performances on acting, costumes, staging, lighting, etc.
 - 2. Read a script assigned by the instructor and write a short analysis of the plot structure.
- C. Out-of-Class Assignments
 - 1. Attend the backstage tours on the schedule time and dates.
 - 2. Attend the performances at the schedule time and dates.

VII. RECOMMENDED MATERIALS OF INSTRUCTION

Materials Other Than Textbooks:

- A. Script(s) assigned by instructor based on play(s) to be attended.

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