

# BUTTE COLLEGE

## COURSE OUTLINE

### I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

#### **DRAM 2 - Theatre Arts Appreciation**

**3 Unit(s)**

**Prerequisite(s):** NONE

**Recommended Prep:** Reading Level IV; English Level IV

**Transfer Status:** CSU/UC

51 hours Lecture

This course focuses on the relationship of theatre to various cultures throughout history, and on the contributions of significant individual artists. This course discusses elements of the production process including playwriting, acting, directing, design, and criticism. Students will also survey different periods, styles and genres of theatre through play reading, discussion, films and viewing and critiquing live theatre, including required attendance of theatre productions. (Acting is not required). (C-ID THTR 111).

### II. OBJECTIVES

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

- A. Analyze and evaluate the nature of theatre and its role in society.
- B. Assess the historical, artistic, social, and philosophical in which theatre exists.
- C. Critically analyze dramatic literature and performances.
- D. Identify and examine theatrical components in production.
- E. Propose alternative solutions to theatrical production situations.
- F. Appreciate viewing theatre as an art form.
- G. Analyze theatre as an art form.

### III. COURSE CONTENT

#### **A. Unit Titles/Suggested Time Schedule**

	Lecture	
<u>Topics</u>		<u>Hours</u>
1. Background and development of theatre: the rise of theatre the development of drama and theatrical performance theatre and its relationship to society multicultural issues relationship to TV and film		4.00
2. The play and the playwright: the elements and structure of a play basic differences between the play and the novel the substance, form technique of the playwright		3.00
3. The acting and the actors: theories and techniques of acting the actor's relationship to the technician playwright, and play		3.00
4. The direction and the director: theories and techniques of directing a play coordinating roles of the physical theatre		3.00

5. The evolution of theatre architecture	3.00
6. The design and design technicians: the role of costumes, scenery, sound lighting design and designers in production technical elements of the play and the role of the technicians in properties lighting painting building special effects music or sound effects wardrobe and make-up	3.00
7. The business of show business	3.00
8. The audience and dramatic criticism	3.00
9. The Greek theatre: development performance style production elements cultural and/or political significance	4.00
10. The Roman and Medieval theatre: performance style production elements cultural and/or political significance	4.00
11. Asian theatre: performance style production elements cultural and/or political significance	3.00
12. Renaissance theatre: performance style production elements cultural and/or political significance	4.00
13. Neoclassic, and Restoration theatre: performance style production elements cultural and/or political significance	4.00
14. Romantic theatre: performance style production elements cultural and /or political significance	3.00
15. Realism and Modern theatre: performance styles production elements cultural and/or political significance	4.00
Total Hours	51.00

#### IV. **METHODS OF INSTRUCTION**

A. Lecture

B. Homework: Students are required to complete two hours of outside-of-class homework for each hour of lecture

C. Discussion

- D. Multimedia Presentations
- E. Group Activities: Research Projects and Presentations
- F. Individual Activities: Projects on Artistic and/or Technical Elements of Theatre

#### **V. METHODS OF EVALUATION**

- A. Class Discussion and Activities
- B. Individual and Group Projects to Demonstrate Understanding of Theatre
- C. Student Reports. A Minimum of Two 500 word Play Production Critiques
- D. Quizzes, Mid Term Exam and Final Exam
- E. Final Project
- F. Attendance/Participation

#### **VI. EXAMPLES OF ASSIGNMENTS**

- A. Reading Assignments
  - 1. Read “A Doll’s House” by Henrik Ibsen, mentally “stage” the play and share your insights with the class.
  - 2. Read background materials about a period of theatre history, in preparation for a presentation to the class.
- B. Writing Assignments
  - 1. After attending a live performance of a play, write a critique commenting on the artistic and technical elements of the production.
  - 2. Write an essay (at least 750 words) discussing a particular aspect (i.e. theme, characters or genre) of one or two plays we have looked at in class.
- C. Out-of-Class Assignments
  - 1. As part of a group, research and prepare a presentation that describes and communicates the essence of theatre in a particular historical period.
  - 2. Prepare an individual project that demonstrates an understanding of and engagement with some aspect of theatre (i.e. make a model of a set design you create, or write a short original script).

#### **VII. RECOMMENDED MATERIALS OF INSTRUCTION**

Textbooks:

- A. Brocket, G. & Ball, R. The Essential Theatre. 10th Edition. Cengage Learning, 2009.

Materials Other Than Textbooks:

- A. Additional Plays or Scenes handed out by Instructor
- B. Informational Material handed out by Instructor
- C. Informational Material and Other Materials for creation of Projects

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