

Oxford College of Emory University  
THEA 101  
Introduction to Theater  
Tu/Thur 1:40 - 3:20  
Tarbuton Theater

Maia Knispel, Instructor  
[maiaknispel@gmail.com](mailto:maiaknispel@gmail.com), 404.621.5902  
Office hours Tu/Thurs 10:30-11:30  
Office 602 Emory Street

Attendance at occasional evening performances and outside of class rehearsals required

**Note:** Syllabus subject to change based on the instructor's assessment of class needs.

### Course Description:

Theater 101 is a theoretical and practical initiation to the process of theater making and its many facets of collaboration. This course will provide the student with a strong foundational knowledge of theatrical activity, which can be used after this class to enhance skills as a reader, writer, theatergoer, member of society, and performance generator.

### Particulars:

This is an experiential course. Participation in all classroom exercises and activities is essential. Therefore, attendance is mandatory. More than two absences will reduce your grade by one letter. Participation is a big part of this course. You cannot participate if you are not in class.

Text: None

Occasional assigned readings will be posted, emailed and/or distributed in class.

Students are required to attend 3 theatrical performances during the semester. One assigned (AS YOU LIKE IT at Theater Emory in the MGM March 31-April 10), and two of your choosing. Some possibilities are: Arcadia (Feb. 25, 26, 27), Oxford One Act Play Festival (third week of April), The Vagina Monologues (Oxford some time in the spring), Brave New Works (Emory Campus Schwartz Theater Lab Jan. 26-Feb. 14), OR any professional theatrical production you wish that is pre-approved by the instructor.

### Grading:

Attendance and

In class participation and discussion 28% (280 points; 10 points per class)

Playwriting, Solo writing/performance 12% (120 points; 60 per each)

Play attendance and written reports(3) 6% (60 points; 20 per each)

Oral presentation 10% (100 points)

In class performances (2) 20% (200 points; 100 per each)

Final project 24% (240 points)

### Total points possible = 1000

A = 930 - 1000

A- = 900 - 929

B+ = 870 - 899

B = 830 - 869

B- = 800 - 829

C+ = 770 - 799

C = 730 - 769

C- = 700 - 729

D+ = 670 - 699

D = 600 - 669

F = 0 - 599

### Honor Code:

The Emory Honor Code is in force in this class. Students requiring accommodation of special needs must inform the instructor at the beginning of the semester.

Week	Dates	Topic(s)	Assignments
Week 1	Jan. 12, 14	Introduction/The Theater	

<b>Week</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Topic(s)</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
Week 2	Jan. 19, 21	Elements of theater and theater making/Play reading	Read ARCADIA for 1/19; THE LEVEE for 1/21
Week 3	Jan. 26, 28	Acting	Outside of class rehearsals for scenes
Week 4	Feb. 2, 4	Acting	Outside of class rehearsals for scenes; Acting in class scene performances 2/4
Week 5	Feb. 9, 11	Acting/Playwriting	Acting in class scene performances 2/9
Week 6	Feb. 16, 18	Playwriting	Short Plays due 2/18
Week 7	Feb. 23, 25	Playwriting/Design	
Week 8	March 1, 3	Design	Design Orals 3/1 and 3/3
Week 9	SPRING BREAK		
Week 10	March 15, 17	Directing	Outside of class rehearsals for directed scenes
Week 11	March 22, 24	Directing	Outside of class rehearsals for directed scenes; In class performances 3/24
Week 12	March 29, 31	Devising	
Week 13	April 5, 7	Devising	
Week 14	April 12, 14	Devising Final Projects	AYLI reports due 4/12 Outside of class rehearsals for final projects
Week 15	April 19, 21	Final Projects	Last day to turn in written reports 4/19 Final Projects Performed 4/21

<b>Week</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Topic(s)</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
Week 16		Final Exam Week	

