



## Syllabus for Drama 24 (Introduction to Theatre)

### Course Information

Semester & Year: Fall 2021  
Course ID & Section #: DRAMA 24-D2360  
Instructor's name: Janessa Johnsrude  
Course units: 3

### Instructor Contact Information

This is a Correspondence Course. Office hours: By mail or appointment, when possible.  
Email: Janessa-Johnsrude@Redwoods.edu

### Catalog Description

This course focuses on the relationship of theatre to various cultures throughout history, and on the contributions of significant individual artists. This course introduces students to 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.

*\* Note: Any videos shown via the institutional channel are not required and live performances are not available this semester due to COVID concerns.*

### Course Student Learning Outcomes *(from course outline of record)*

1. Identify and describe the major historical periods, genres, figures, archetypal dramatic forms, and acting techniques of theater.
2. Define the roles of playwright, director, actor, technical designer, and audience in the dramatic process.
3. Analyze literary (plot, character, setting, theme) and performance (direction, acting, technical design) elements of a play in their cultural contexts.
4. Assess the historical, artistic, social, and philosophical context in which theatre exists.

### Correspondence Schedule

- Correspondence packets will be mailed out to students on Fridays during the term beginning on August 27.
- Mail sent by students will be picked up on Tuesdays and Fridays.
- Incoming assignments submitted by students are forwarded to faculty on Fridays.
- The week of Thanksgiving (November 26), there will be no packets mailed out.

**NOTE: YOU WILL NOT NECESSARILY RECEIVE A PACKET EVERY WEEK FOR THIS CLASS. Please see the tentative course calendar attached to this syllabus for mailing dates. This schedule varies slightly, so please take note.**

Burning Question (BQ) Forms are prioritized and forwarded to faculty on Tuesdays. If you have a question that can't wait, please use this form and I will try my best to answer promptly. If I see the same question more than once, I will answer it for the entire class in the following packet. Copies of the Burning Questions form were included in your registration packet.

## Accessibility

College of the Redwoods is committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability-related services and accommodations, please contact your instructor or [Disability Services and Programs for Students](#) (DSPS). Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS based on their campus location:

- Eureka: 707-476-4280, student services building, 1<sup>st</sup> floor
- Del Norte: 707-465-2324, main building near library
- Klamath-Trinity: 530-625-4821 Ext 103

## Student Support

For academic counsel and advising, transcript requests, and material requests, please send a formal request to Ms. Eagles via a letter or "Ask CR Sheet". Mail this to the Education Department (Attn: CR Scholars).

The Pelican Bay Scholars Program strives to offer quality education opportunities in a learning environment that promotes collaboration, individuality, capability and empowerment; to support students in leading meaningful and productive lives inside and outside of prison; and to provide education that boosts economic vitality for students as contributors and leaders within their communities.

Good information and clear communication about your needs will help you be successful. Please let me know about any specific challenges or limitations that might affect your participation in class. Correspondence learning presents a host of unique challenges we are still figuring out! It's important to me that you have the best possible learning experience, no matter the format. You can contact me via the Burning Questions form for anything urgent and I will do my best to respond quickly.

## A Note on Content

The plays we read in this class may contain sexuality, violence, racism and racial tension, gender norms, etc. I address this on a deeper level with you in our introductory packet, but please remember to communicate with me if you are unable to participate due to content material and we can discuss alternative options.

## Evaluation & Grading Policy

Each assignment will be worth a certain number of points. The points will be configured into a percentage and a letter value, shown below, to determine your final grade.

Course Grade - Minimum threshold for earning each letter grade is as follows:

Letter	Percentage %	Points
A	95%	950
A-	90%	900
B+	87%	870
B	83%	830
B-	80%	800
C+	77%	770
C	73%	730
D	63%	630
F	Less than 63%	0-629

Assignment	Points Valued	Overall Grade %
Response #1	50	5%
Quiz #1	150	15%
Plot and Character Analysis	300	30%
Quiz #2	150	15%
Response #2	50	5%
Play Assessment/Final Project	300	30%
TOTAL	1000	100%

Please note that it will take me approximately 2 weeks to grade your work and provide feedback (if necessary). If it will take longer, I will notify you of the reason and provide a date by which you can expect your grade. Responses submitted in handwriting must be legible in order to receive a grade/feedback.

I will synthesize your responses into a “class discussion” document so you can access the thoughts/opinions/commonalities/new ideas of others in the class. You will not be named individually in the document. The responses will be graded as either “complete” or “incomplete” - as in you completed it (full credit), kind of did it or didn’t do it (no credit).

The analysis and assessment projects will come with requirements and a grading rubric when assigned.

It is expected that you do your best to complete each assignment within two weeks of receiving it unless otherwise noted in the schedule, but I am aware that this might not be possible in every instance due to unforeseen circumstances. Any outstanding work must be

turned in by December 10 in order to be counted toward your final grade. If you have any questions or concerns about due dates, please let me know. Course work will not be available in advance of the tentative scheduled send out times.

## Admissions deadlines & enrollment policies

### Fall 2021 Dates

- *Classes begin: 8/21/21*
- *Last day to add a class: 8/27/21*
- *Last day to drop without a W and receive a refund: 9/03/21*
- *Labor Day Holiday (all campuses closed): 09/06/21*
- *Census date: 9/07/21 or 20% into class duration*
- *Last day to petition to graduate or apply for certificate: 10/28/21*
- *Last day for student-initiated W (no refund): 10/29/21*
- *Last day for faculty-initiated W (no refund): 10/29/21*
- *Veteran's Day (all campuses closed): 11/11/21*
- *Fall Break (no classes): 11/22/21 - 11/26/21*
- *Thanksgiving Holiday (all campuses closed): 11/24/21 - 11/26/21*
- *Final examinations: 12/11/21 - 12/17/21*
- *Last day to petition to file P/NP option: 12/17/21*
- *Semester ends: 12/17/21*
- *Grades available for transcript release: approximately 01/07/22*

## Academic dishonesty

In the academic community, the high value placed on truth implies a corresponding intolerance of scholastic dishonesty. In cases involving academic dishonesty, determination of the grade and of the student's status in the course is left primarily to the discretion of the faculty member. In such cases, where the instructor determines that a student has demonstrated academic dishonesty, the student may receive a failing grade for the assignment and/or exam and may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct ([AP 5500](#)) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the [College Catalog](#) and on the [College of the Redwoods website](#).

## Disruptive behavior

Student behavior or speech that disrupts the instructional setting will not be tolerated. Disruptive conduct may include, but is not limited to: unwarranted interruptions; failure to adhere to instructor's directions; vulgar or obscene language; slurs or other forms of intimidation; and physically or verbally abusive behavior. In such cases where the instructor determines that a student has disrupted the educational process, a disruptive student may be temporarily removed from class. In addition, the student may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct ([AP 5500](#)) is available by request.

## Inclusive Language in the Classroom

College of the Redwoods aspires to create a learning environment in which all people feel comfortable in contributing their perspectives to classroom discussions. It therefore encourages instructors and students to use language that is inclusive and respectful.

## Emergency Procedures: Pelican Bay

Students and faculty will follow the emergency protocols of Pelican Bay State Prison. Students are expected to be familiar with, and adhere to all safety procedures and guidelines pertinent to the location of their class. Pelican Bay Custody staff will be consulted for guidance with any safety concerns.

## Tentative Course Calendar

This outline is a guide for you to see where we are headed and plan your workload accordingly. I reserve the right to alter deadlines/assignment requirements if needed, and will inform you in writing if this happens. Noted below in the calendar are topics I've called "Heads-up". This is where I will send something (like a play) for you in advance of a packet with a lecture/assignment.

Please make sure all of your assignments are labelled with my name, our class title your name, student ID number, date and assignment title. Put my name, your name and the page number on all the pages of your assignment.

*For example:*

For: Ms. Johnsrude  
Drama 24  
Dougiedoo McDumpledindong  
000992  
September 17, 2021  
Response #1

Date Sent	Topic	Assignment	Due
Aug. 27	Intro packet & Heads-up: Brockett Chapter 1		
Sept. 3	Theatre: What It Is and What It Is Not	Response #1	Sept. 17
Sept. 17	Survey of Theatrical Periods, Forms, and Genres	Quiz #1	Oct. 1
Sept. 24	Heads-up: Antigone		
Oct. 1	The Greeks, Antigone, and Dramatic Structure		Oct. 15
Oct. 8	Heads-up: Hamlet		
Oct. 15	Shakespeare, Hamlet, and Character Analysis	Plot and Character Analysis	Oct. 29
Oct. 29	Production, Roles, and Techniques	Quiz #2	Nov. 12
Nov. 5	Heads-up: Verbatim Theatre		
Nov. 12	Focus: Verbatim Theatre	Response #2	Nov. 19
Nov. 19	Focus: Play Analysis	Play Assessment/Final Project	Dec. 10
Dec. 10	Wrap-up		