

# **COURSE OUTLINE**

## **THET-190 Theatre History I 3 Semester Hours**

### **HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

#### **Description**

A study of the evolution of theatre from primitive origins through Greek and Roman traditions, the medieval worlds of England and Japan, the Renaissance through Romanticism, examining Elizabethan and Jacobean drama, Restoration and Neo-Classical traditions, as well as the 17th and 19th century Italian, German, French, Spanish, and early American Theatre. Emphasis is on the play in performance reflecting the changing physical theatre, as well as the social, political, and artistic currents of each period. (3 hours weekly)

#### **Overall Course Objectives**

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

1. Experience theatre and evaluate it effectively, giving intelligent and sensitive reactions to the production as well as the literary work.
2. Describe the basic concepts of theatre with an understanding of its basic elements and special qualities.
3. Articulate the role of the script in the theatre, as it relates to dramatic structure, form and style.
4. Describe the role and importance of the audience and critical perspective.
5. Identify and describe the major themes of the playwrights studied.
6. Identify the various theatrical influences and movements in art that influenced the playwrights studied or that were influenced by the playwrights studied.
7. Analyze the characterization, conflicts, and/or themes of the plays read.
8. Analyze the production qualities and performances in plays seen and studied.
9. Evaluate the production and performances of plays viewed and studied.
10. Develop an interest in experiencing theatre more fully.
11. Discuss the major trends in the Theatre of Ancient Greece, Rome, and the Middle Ages.
12. Describe the effects of the major philosophical, psychological, and historic event on the theatre.
13. Develop sharper perceptions of theatrical performance as well as have a better awareness of theatrical excellence.
14. Discuss the major trends in the Theatre from the Renaissance through Romanticism.
15. Describe Elizabethan and Jacobean drama, Restoration and Neo-Classical traditions, as well as the 17th through 19th century Italian, German, French, Spanish, and early American Theatre.

## **Major Topics**

- I. The Origins of the Theatre: Ritual Drama in Egypt and the Near East
- II. Theatre in Ancient Greece
- III. Roman Theatre
- IV. Theatre in the Middle Ages
- V. The Italian Renaissance Theatre
- VI. The English Theatre from 1558 to 1642
- VII. The Spanish Theatre from 1500 to 1700
- VIII. The Theatre in France from 1548 to 1700
- IX. The English Theatre from 1642 to 1790
- X. Theatre of the Orient
  - India - Sanskrit Drama & Performance
  - Japan - Noh Theatre, Bunraku & Kabuki
  - China - Early Forms through Beijing Opera
- XI. Italy and France in the 18th Century
- XII. The Theatre in Northern and Eastern Europe During the 18th Century
- XIII. France, Italy, and Spain in the 19th Century
- XIV. The Theatre in Germany and Russia During the 19th Century
- XV. The English Theatre in the 19th Century
- XVI. The American Theatre to 1915

## **Course Requirements**

Grading/exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

Final grades will be based on unit exams and may be based on assigned critical paper(s).

Writing: Specific writing assignments will be determined by the individual faculty member.

## **Other Course Information**

This course is a Fine Arts Core course and a Humanities Core course.

This course is a Fine Arts, a Humanities, and an Arts and Sciences elective.