

THAR 1 Course Outline as of Fall 2012

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: THAR 1

Title: WORLD THEATRE

Full Title: World Theatre Through Time

Last Reviewed: 5/11/2020

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	8	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade or P/NP

Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

Also Listed As:

Formerly:

**Catalog Description:**  
An overview of the major periods in world theatre history through significant works of dramatic literature, as well as the global and cultural influences from which they emerged. Emphasis is placed on the interrelationship between theatre of different times and cultures, and the historical importance of theatre in society. Attendance at two or more SRJC Theatre Arts Department productions is required.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:**

**Recommended Preparation:**  
Course Eligibility for ENGL 1A

**Limits on Enrollment:**

**Schedule of Classes Information:**  
Description: An overview of the major periods in world theatre history through significant works of dramatic literature, as well as the global and cultural influences from which they emerged. Emphasis is placed on the interrelationship between theatre of different times and cultures, and the historical importance of theatre in society. Attendance at two or more SRJC Theatre Arts

Department productions is required. (Grade or P/NP)

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended: Course Eligibility for ENGL 1A

Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU;UC.

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

## **ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

<b>AS Degree:</b>	<b>Area</b>		Effective:	Inactive:
	E	Humanities	Fall 1981	
	H	Global Perspective and Environmental Literacy		
<b>CSU GE:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>		Effective:	Inactive:
	C1	Arts	Fall 1981	
<b>IGETC:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>		Effective:	Inactive:
	3A	Arts	Fall 1981	
<b>CSU Transfer:</b>	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1981	Inactive:
<b>UC Transfer:</b>	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1981	Inactive:

### **CID:**

CID Descriptor: THTR 113 Theatre History 1

SRJC Equivalent Course(s): THAR1

### **Certificate/Major Applicable:**

Both Certificate and Major Applicable

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Outcomes and Objectives:**

In order to achieve these learning outcomes, during the course the student will:

1. Demonstrate a general knowledge of the major periods of world theatre, including significant movements, practices, forms, artists, and literature.
2. Integrate knowledge of the larger historic context (social, economic, political, geographic, philosophical, and cultural) with the study of each major period in world theatre.
3. Compare and contrast basic elements of dramatic structure used in significant works from various cultures, civilizations, and periods in world theatre.
4. Conduct basic script analysis and scholarly research in the preparation of written critiques, discussions, and creative projects.
5. Identify and interpret thematic elements, including common thematic threads, within a historical and/or cultural context.
6. Apply various theories of aesthetic and critical analysis in the reading and interpretation of plays.
7. Analyze the relationship between the methods of production used during a script's period of origin and the structure of that script.
8. Expand critical comprehension through discussion of the literary and artistic value of a script, as well as its historical context.

9. Support one's own interpretation of a theatrical script with examples drawn from script analysis and research, while recognizing that there may be many valid interpretations of the same work.
10. Compare and contrast the present position of theatre in modern United States society to that of past cultures, civilizations, and periods in world theatre.

### **Topics and Scope:**

- I. What is Theatre?
  - A. Defining Theatre
    1. Theatre and its relationship to other art forms
    2. Aesthetics and personal response to the arts
    3. Theatre's role in society today
  - B. The benefits of studying theatre history
  - C. Origins of theatre
- II. Theatre as Literature: Introduction to Script Analysis
  - A. Differences between scripts and other forms of literature
  - B. Aristotle's poetics
    1. Character
    2. Plot
    3. Theme
    4. Diction
    5. Music
    6. Spectacle
  - C. Structural elements of a script
- III. Theatre in Performance
  1. Relationship of audience and performance
    - a. Willing suspension of disbelief
    - b. Aesthetic distance
  2. Genres, styles & conventions
  3. Components of theatre today (brief overview)
- IV. Theatre Research and Resources
  - A. Basic research techniques
  - B. Introduction to theatre resources
  - C. The role of research in theatre
  - D. Citing research sources
- V. Classical Greek Theatre
- VI. Classical Roman Theatre
- VII. Classical Theatre of Asia
  - A. India
  - B. China
  - C. Japan
- VIII. Medieval Theatre in Europe
- IX. The Renaissance: Italy
  - A. Perspective and illusionistic scenery
  - B. Commedia dell'arte
- X. The Renaissance: England
  - A. Elizabethan and Jacobean theatre
  - B. Shakespeare
- XI. The Renaissance: Spain
  - A. The Spanish Golden Age

- B. Theatre in the New World
- XII. The Renaissance: France
  - A. Neoclassicism
  - B. Moliere
- XIII. Western Theatre: Late 17th-Early 19th Century
  - A. Restoration and 18th Century Theatre in England
  - B. 18th Century European Theatre
  - C. Theatre and Colonialism
- XIV. Popular Western Theatre of 19th Century
  - A. Romanticism
  - B. Melodrama
  - C. Other forms and theatre-related entertainment
- XV. Modern Theatre: Realism and Naturalism
- XVI. Modern Theatre: Antirealism
  - A. The "isms"
  - B. Epic Theatre
- XVII. Theatre in the United States
  - A. Early/mid-20th century
  - B. History of the Broadway musical
- XVIII. Theatre of Africa and the African Diaspora
- XIX. Contemporary Theatre of Asia and the Middle East
- XX. Contemporary Theatre of Latin America
- XXI. Contemporary Western Theatre
  - A. Postmodernism
  - B. Experimental and avant garde
  - C. New voices in world theatre
- XXII. World Theatre in the New Millennium

Regarding V through XXII for each of the major historical periods and geographic cultures, the class may touch on:

- Major historical events and cultural movements of the period
- The theatre's function/relationship to the larger society
- Who attended the theatre, why, and when
- Major contributions to world theatre during the period
- Major artists of the period and/or major works
- Changes in theatre architecture and design, and the reasons why
- Relationship of the period's theatre to that of other cultures and time periods

### **Assignment:**

As a 3-hour lecture course, students will complete 6 hours of homework per week, which will include:

Homework and Graded Assignments:

1. Reading approximately 30-60 pages per week, including 8-12 plays and supplemental material.
2. Attending 2-3 Theatre Arts department productions and analyzing them from a cultural/historical perspective in class discussions and written assignments.
3. Quizzes: There will be short quizzes on assigned scripts and/or supplemental

reading, assessing students' retention and interpretation of material read. Depending on the instructor, the quizzes may be daily or approx. weekly; they may be take-home, in-class or a combination.

4. **Writing Assignments:** In addition to exam essay questions (see #3 below), students will complete 2-4 written assignments over the course of the semester (totalling approx. 8-15 pages of written work for the course).  
Examples of such assignments include:
  - A. **Research Assignment:** A series of research tasks intended to introduce students to research technique, methodology, and resources relating to world theatre history.
  - B. **Production Critique:** Attend a production and analyze the experience using historic aesthetic criteria, or identify the contributions and/or similarities of this production to those of other cultural/historical periods studied.
  - C. **Script Analysis:** Analyze an assigned script applying analysis criteria introduced in the course.
  - D. **Creative Project:** Each student completes a creative project relating to the historical/cultural focus of the class. All projects have a written component and are evaluated on preparation, research, and historic/script analysis applications, not skill. (8-10 hours of preparation, with documentation.)
5. **2-3 Exams:**
  - A. In addition to multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, matching and/or T/F questions, all exams will contain essay questions. Exams may include one or more take-home essays, in addition to the in-class portion.
  - B. Exams will include material from both assigned reading and lecture. Questions should include those assessing the following:
    - a. Ability to make connections between different theatres and traditions.
    - b. Ability to analyze elements of one or more scripts read.
    - c. Ability to identify historical influences in contemporary theatre productions.
  - C. While there may be some questions covering material taught earlier in the semester, the final exam is not cumulative.
6. Regular attendance and participation in class discussions and exercises.

### **Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:**

**Writing:** Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Written homework, Research papers, Creative project (documentation)

Writing  
20 - 35%

**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

None

Problem solving  
0 - 0%

**Skill Demonstrations:** All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

None

Skill Demonstrations  
0 - 0%

**Exams:** All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

2-3 exams (objective, short answer, essay); quizzes

Exams  
55 - 65%

**Other:** Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Attendance and participation; Creative project (creative elements)

Other Category  
5 - 15%

### **Representative Textbooks and Materials:**

The Longman Anthology of Drama and Theater: A Global Perspective (Compact Edition). Greenwald, Michael, Schultz, Roger, and Pomo, Roberto D. Longman: 2002.