

UWR **Upper-Division** Cover Sheet to accompany syllabi for EPCC approval

Course: THEA 360 Playwriting

Cover sheet completed by: April Curtis

Term UWR outcomes will be implemented in this course: Winter 2007

Instructions: Please complete the right-hand column of the table by indicating what activities and assignments students will complete to demonstrate the outcomes and also how your course addresses the UWR requirements.

Syllabi should include UWR lower- or upper-division outcomes and minimum C- grade requirement.

Please submit this form and syllabus to Nancy Knowles in LH 146 or nknowles@eou.edu.

| Outcome/Requirement | Means of Assessment |
|---|--|
| Students will produce at least 5,000 words (including drafts, in-class writing, informal papers, and polished papers); 2,000 words of this total should be in polished papers which students have revised after receiving feedback and criticism. | A Two-Minute Play (2 pages) A Ten-Minute Play (10 pages) An Action-Adventure Play (30 pages) A One-Act Play (40+ pages) Plays will be submitted to the New Play Series and at least one of the plays will be performed |
| Students will practice the forms of writing and reflect upon the nature of the writing used by graduates and professionals in the discipline the course represents. | Playwriting concepts and activities enhance student writing and will be generated and detailed in a daily Playwriting Journal/Notebook |
| Students will write at least one paper integrating information from more than one source, employing the appropriate documentation style for the discipline represented by the course. | The One-Act Play is the Formal Final Project This play is researched and that research is documented within the play review process |
| Students will draft, revise, and edit their formal written work. | Students will do rough drafts of each play and each play will be both peer and professor reviewed |
| Students will seek assistance from a Writing Tutor in the Writing Lab when needed and when referred by the instructor. | Noted in syllabus |
| Students must complete all UWR writing-intensive courses with a C- or better. | Noted in syllabus |
| UWR writing-intensive courses must allocate at least 30% of the overall grade to formal writing assignments, with at least 25% of the overall grade based on evaluation of individually written papers that have been revised after feedback. | Two and Ten-Minute plays – 20% Action Adventure Play – 20% One-Act Play – 30% |

Eastern Oregon University
School of Arts and Sciences
Course Syllabus

Number of Course: THEA 360

Name of Course: Playwriting for the Stage

Catalog Description

The study of playwrights and playwriting in a theatrical and performance-oriented context. The course will culminate in individual one-act plays showcased in the New play Series.

"Genuine beginnings begin with us, even when they are brought to our attention by external opportunities."

William Bridges

Credit Hours: 3

Learning Outcomes:

1. Student will **create** theatrical pieces to entertain, teach and enlighten
2. Student will **compare** and contrast various genres within playwriting
3. Student will **experiment** with the tools of the working playwright
4. Student will **develop** ways to write characters, dialogue, plot and thematic tension

Means of Assessment:

1. One Act Plays - Final
2. Two-Minute, Ten-Minute and Action Adventure plays
3. Evidence created in the playwright's journal
4. Playwriting peer and professor-reviewed work

Course Objectives:

1. To make the students aware of the value of the playwright in the theatrical process
2. To enjoy the art of playwriting
3. To study great playwrights and their work
4. To share work in a creative, safe environment

Course Schedule:

- Week One: Introduction
Aristotle's play themes
The Key is in the Drawer
The Two-Minute Play
- Week Two Tuesday – Free-Write Day
How to write the "Well-Made Play"
- Week Three Characterization
Character analysis
Building a character
- Week Four: Form Writing
Plot points

The 10-Minute Play

- Week Five Dialogue
Speech and subtext
Rhythm, tempo and sound
Dialogue techniques
Begin Action -Adventure!
- Week Six Format
Scenario
Creativity
- Week Seven Stage Directions
Parenthetical
Play-reading
Begin One-Act
- Week Eight One-Act Plays
Peer review
Special Guest
- Week Nine Rough One-Act
Peer review
One-On-One Professor Time
- Week Ten Read-Throughs in Class

Grading Policies:

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| Attendance and in Class Assignments | 30% | |
| 2-Minute and Ten Minute | 20% | |
| Action Adventure | 20% | |
| One-Act Final | | 30% |

Attendance is mandatory every day in this class. Writing every day is also mandatory in this class. **Exercise your creativity!!!** If you need additional assistance with your writing, please let me know and we can schedule times to work together. Also, the Writing Center has tutors who can help with your revision work. The Writing Center is a great place to learn to be a better writer.

To pass THEA 360, you must receive a C- or better.

Text or Suggested Materials:

Various materials and readings will be distributed throughout the course. I will be quizzing you on some of the material from time to time so be prepared!!!

Statement on Academic Misconduct:

Eastern Oregon University places a high value upon the integrity of its student scholars. Any student found guilty of an act of academic misconduct (including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, or theft of an examination or supplies) may be subject to having his or her grade reduced in the course in question, being placed on probation or suspended from the

University, or being expelled from the University-or a combination of these.
(Please see the 2004-05 on-line Student Handbook: Campus Citizenship -
Academic and Behavior, at the following web address:
<http://www.eou.edu/saffairs/handbook/honest.html>)

Statement on Americans with Disabilities:

If you have a documented disability or suspect that you have a learning problem and need accommodations, please contact the Disability Services Program in Loso Hall 234. Telephone: 962-3081.

Syllabus Prepared By: April Curtis

Date: December 30, 2006