

COMMON COURSE OUTLINE

THTR 155

Survey of Theatre History

3 Semester Hours

Community College of Baltimore County

Description

Survey of Theatre History

Explores a study of playwrights, players, and play-houses from Classical Greece through the modern era; emphasizes styles of acting, staging, and production in each period and the impact of new technologies upon production values.

Prerequisite: ACLT 052 or ACLT 053, THTR 101

Overall Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Recognize, analyze, and discuss the highest moments of theatre and drama.
2. Develop a perspective of historicity, in theatre and collateral culture.
3. Discern the processes that led to the finest expression in theatre art.
4. Understand and recognize the specific inherent aesthetics of each theatrical period.
5. Understand and recognize the general time line of theatre development and process across the centuries, to mirror that of significant historical eras.
6. Develop a critical view for recognized plays as great literature.
7. Amortize the styles of acting inherent in each period.
8. Recognize and differentiate the design similarities and differences in theatre architecture of each period and how they contributed to play construction, interpretation, and acting styles of that age.
9. Recognize how theatre reflects the cultural values of society and how drama played a part in each age's enhancement of its culture's growth.

Major Topics in Survey of Theatre History

- I. Origins of theatre. inherent in Ancient Near East and other civilizations and cultures, prior to the rise of Greek theatre and drama: Development and full expression of the drama and theatre in Greek

play contests.

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- II. Similarities and differences in Greek and Roman theatre and drama.
- III. Development of Church drama. Ascendance of the guilds and assumption of Passion-Cycle plays and Morality plays. .
- IV. Birth and development of the Renaissance. Development and expression of Commedia dell'arte.
- V. Elizabethan and Jacobean theatre.
- VI. Restoration Comedy of Manners and Post-Restoration comedy and drama.
- VII. Romanticism, Realism, Naturalism, Expressionism, Impressionism, Constructivism.
- VIII. Seminal Modern Playwrights and Stanislavsky and the Moscow Art Theatre.
- IX. Elements of the American Theatre: Melodrama, Operetta, Musical, and others.

Course Requirements

- 1. Attendance and active participation in class
- 2. A minimum of 2 written examinations.
- 3. Reading and writing assignments.
- 4. Annotated scholarly project. Oral presentation of at least 1 paper.
- 5. At least 1 group project involving reading selections of period plays.
- 6. At least 1 live production attendance, if available, or film, of classic work and written analysis.

Other Course Information

THTR 155 satisfies partial completion of Suggested Pattern Electives required for Departmental certification in Theatre. THTR 155 replaces THTR 151 and 152 to meet this partial requirement.

The Community College of Baltimore County is committed to providing a high-quality learning experience that results in a growth of knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to function successfully as a transfer student, as a career and as a citizen. To accomplish this goal, we maintain high academic standards and expect students to accept responsibility for their individual growth by attending class, complete all homework and other assignments, participating in class activities and preparing for tests.