July 2, 2013

1. College: Fine Arts
2. Department: School of Theatre
3. Course status: existing; does not require modification
4. Course prefix and number: THR 161
5. Course title: Theatre Appreciation
7. Number of semester credit hours: 3
8. Estimated total course enrollment per year: 800
9. Course prerequisites and/or required qualifications for enrolling in the class: Does not apply to any degree in theatre or the minor in theatre.
10. Course is/will be available online.
11. Foundational Component Area: Creative Arts
12. Explain why this course fits into this foundation component area: As per the component area description, this course focuses on "creative artifacts" and "works of the human imagination" (theatrical performance and dramatic literature). This course will expose students to these works through required attendance at play productions and reading of a variety of dramatic literature. Students will synthesize and interpret these works through written assignments, group projects, oral reports and discussion that will encourage critical thought and the development of intellectually defensible, conscientiously expressed person opinion.
13. Core Objectives
   o Critical Thinking - Students will be instructed in elements of critical thinking such as creative thinking, analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information. This instruction will take place by means of lecture, assigned readings, and instructor input in class discussions. Each student's mastery of critical thinking will be demonstrated by means of production critiques in which students will be asked to synthesize information from assigned readings, lectures and class discussions in the service of their own analysis and evaluation of plays and productions.
   o Communication Skills - Students will be instructed in elements of communication skills such as effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication. This instruction will take place by means of lecture, assigned readings, instructor input in class discussions, and demonstration using elements of the School of Theatre production season. Each student's mastery of communication skills will be demonstrated by means of a group "theatre season" project in which students will be asked to write concise descriptions of a theatre company and the plays and related events it proposes to present, develop a visual element to promote a play or the season of plays, and give an oral presentation introducing the company, season and its descriptive/promotional materials to the class.
   o Teamwork - Students will be instructed in elements of teamwork such as the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively to support a shared purpose or goal. This instruction will take place by means of lecture, assigned readings, instructor input in class discussions, and demonstration using elements of the School of Theatre production season. Each student's mastery of teamwork will be demonstrated by means of a group "theatre season" project in which students will be asked to collaborate on the creation of a theoretical theatre company and season and on the development of descriptive and promotional materials supporting the company and its season.
Social Responsibility - Students will be instructed in elements of social responsibility such as intercultural competence and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities. This instruction will take place by means of lecture, assigned readings and instructor input in class discussions. Each student's mastery of social responsibility will be demonstrated by means of a group "theatre season" project in which students will be asked to develop a theatre company and/or season aimed at a specific social sub-population such as Americans of a particular ethnicity or national origin, those with a particular disability, residents of a particular region or those with another commonality binding them together in a special interest, such as military veterans.

Contact person for questions about this submission:

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