

THR 492: Seminar in Dramaturgy (CID 8096)

Summer II 2008, 10:00-11:50 AM Daily
UTC 135 (Design Room)

David McTier, Instructor
Office Hours: 30 minutes before or after class in UTC 135
or by appointment

Course Description

This THR 492 is a writing-enhanced, hands-on workshop on production dramaturgy—an exploration and application of the processes and resources to assist a creative team make *better informed* production choices.

Typically, the first hour of class will be a lecture-discussion focusing on *Hamlet* and *Scenes from an Execution* from a dramaturg's perspective; the second hour will be supervised library and computer time developing individual dramaturgy blogs for a script of each student's choosing.

As approved by the administration, credit for this course may substitute for any one of the three required writing-enhanced courses I teach during the regular year: *Theatre History I* (THR 360W), *Theatre History II* (THR 460W), and *Theory and Criticism* (THR 463W).

Course Requirements

Attending at least 85% of all classes (34 of 40 class hours).

Reading Shakespeare's *Hamlet* and Howard Barker's *Scenes from an Execution*.

Developing and publishing an online blog (from Blogger.com) comprised of the assignments listed below for the script you've selected. (The script needs to have or be assigned a specific time and geographic location in the past or present—nothing futuristic or too abstract.)

Please bring a jump drive along with paper/notebook and pen/pencil to each class.

Graded Components (BLOG)

All graded assignments will be posted on your blog (www.shsudramaturgyyourlastname.blogspot.com). This blogging program is simple to use and FREE.

15% *General Dramaturgy (due noon Friday, July 11)*

- 5% definitions
- 5% LORT theatres and dramaturgs
- 5% U.S. graduate degree programs

15% *The Facts of the Play (due noon Friday, July 18)*

- 5% basics (facts about script and author)
- 5% exegesis (selective)
- 5% characters and non-traditional casting

15% *The World of the Play (due noon Friday, July 25)*

- 10% context: time and space
- 5% acoustic environment

20% *Productions (due noon Friday, August 1)*

- 10% production history and reviews
- 5% production photos
- 5% production designs

25% *Other (final blog due noon, Thursday, August 7)*

- 10% educator's packet
- 10% dramaturg's statement
- 5% additional resources and links

10% *Format (final blog due noon, Thursday, August 7)*

- 5% citations (present, accurate, and linked)
- 5% appearance, accessibility, and ease of use

Late Work

Assignments submitted late will be penalized one letter grade (-10 points) for each week overdue.

Attendance

You must attend a minimum of 34 class hours (17 of 20 two-hour classes). Three "bonus" days are offered to makeup missed hours/classes. For anything less than 34 hours, you will be penalized -3 points (from your final course grade) for each hour missed. No distinction is made between "excused" and "unexcused" absences.

For each class day that you arrive on time and remain until the end of the period, you will receive + $\frac{1}{3}$ (one third) point to add to your final course grade.

Technology & Conduct

Laptops are not permitted during the first hour (lecture-discussion) of each class day; however, you may use your laptop anytime that we, as a class, are using computers.

We will take a 10-minute break each day at appr. 10:50. Please restrict your text messaging, phone calls, bathrooming, eating, e-mailing, and socializing to that time

Calendar

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
JULY 7	8 BEGIN	9	10	11 BONUS
14	15	16	17	18 BONUS
21	22	23	24	25 NO CLASS
28	29	30	31	AUGUST 1 NO CLASS
4	5	6 END BONUS	7 FINALS	8