

Professor: Dr. Gina Weber
Email: gina.weber@unt.edu
Office Hours: After class, and by appointment.
Class Meets: Wednesdays, 11 am – 1:50 pm
Class Location: Lang 313

Please note that I will provide ALL reading materials on Canvas. You do not need to purchase any texts or plays for this course.

Plays

Zoot Suit by Luis Valdez
The Hungry Woman (A Mexican Medea) by Cherríe Moraga
Roosters by Milcha Sanchez-Scott
La Gringa by Carmen Rivera
Marisol by Jose Rivera
Luchadora by Alvaro Saar Rios
Eliot, A Soldiers Fugue by Quiara Alegria Hudes
Lirica (Two Kids in the Universe) by Gustavo Ott
Water by the Spoonful by Quiara Alegria Hudes
Native Gardens by Karen Zacharias
Anna in the Tropics by Nilo Cruz
Oedipus El Rey by Luis Alfaro
The Inheritance by Matthew Lopez
Swimming While Drowning by Emilio Rodriguez

Course Description

This course examines contemporary works of drama by Latinx artists. The course is geared towards those interested in both production and criticism, focusing on script analysis and critical thought about plays and productions. Students will examine the plays through writing, group/class discussion and a final project. Rather than try to survey the whole of such an extensive body of work, we will focus on the advent of a professionally-oriented Chicana/o and Latinx theatre, specifically examining significant plays, playwrights, and the theatre groups that produced those plays. In addition to the plays, we will study the history of Chicano/a and Latinx theatre, the biographies of particular playwrights and the social and historical context of Chicano/a and Latinx theatre.

Course Goals

The goals of the course are:

- Introduce students to a variety of performance texts and styles
- Develop the ability to analyze and comprehend play scripts, with a focus on the work of Latinx playwrights
- Explore the history of Chicano/a and Latinx theatre in the United States
- Help students participate in and lead critical discussions of theatre texts
- Explore critical and academic writing on plays and theatre performances

UNT email will be the primary tool used to communicate directly with students. Please feel free to email me should a concern or question arise. I will try to respond to emails within 24 hours. Please use your @unt.edu. I prefer not to communicate with students via address external to UNT. In the subject line, please include the class number (Thea 4370). My UNT e-mail address: **gina.weber@unt.edu**. Office hours are Wednesdays after class, or by appointment. Please let me know in advance that you would like to meet so that I can schedule Zoom or in person meeting with you. Note that while I will check my email every day, I do not check before 8 am, and stop checking it after 8:00 p.m. If you have an emergency, and will not be able to attend class, please send me an email ASAP.

Attendance

It is important to participate and be present in every class. Absences from class will result in a loss of participation points. Missing a class is missing out on the course content. In brief, poor attendance, disruptive behavior and excessive tardiness will seriously affect your grade.

Please note most classes will be held in person at the UNT Denton campus. However, some classes MAY be held via Zoom. Please consult the syllabus or visit Canvas for announcements and links. I will also keep you informed via email.

Grading

Class attendance (and participation): 300 (15 classes @ 20 pts each)

Weekly reading responses: 700 pts (14 assignments @ 50 pts each)

Class Presentation: 100 pts

Final Project: 400 pts

Total: 1,500 pts

A: 1500 - 1200 pts

B: 1200 – 1000 pts

C: 1000 – 800 pts

D: 800 – 600 pts

F: Under 600 pts

Reading Responses

Students will write a short response for each play assigned. Due every Tuesday by 12 midnight. Details can be found on Canvas under “Weekly Assignments.”

Final Project

Final project will be discussed at a later date.

Student Conduct

Students should be aware that “acts of dishonesty” include cheating, plagiarism, furnishing misleading information, forgery, as well as theft. The penalties for perpetrators as well as accessories (which includes advising, instigating, or encouraging) are extremely severe and we will uphold the policies and regulations of the University. If you use sources in a paper, you must properly cite them and give the writer credit. Passing off someone else’s work as your own is

plagiarism and will result in your receiving no credit for the assignment. The same penalty goes for collaboration with another person, including of course, another person in the class. If you receive no credit for an assignment for those assignments, there is no way to make them up.

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable, disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at www.unt.edu/csrr

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time; however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the ODA website at disability.unt.edu

Emergency Notification & Procedures. UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Blackboard for contingency plans for covering course materials.

UNT promotes the integrity of learning and embraces the core values of trust and honesty. Academic integrity is based on educational principles and procedures that protect the rights of all participants in the educational process and validate the legitimacy of degrees awarded by the University. In the investigation and resolution of allegations of student academic dishonesty, the University's actions are intended to be corrective, educationally sound, fundamentally fair, and based on reliable evidence.

ALL PORTIONS OF THIS SYLLABUS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE!

Course Calendar

August 23, 2023 Review Syllabus & Class Introduction	Homework: <u>ALL homework is due on Canvas no later than 12 midnight on Tuesdays.</u> Read <i>Zoot Suit</i> by Luis Valdez
August 30 Discuss <i>Zoot Suit</i>	Homework: Read <i>The Hungry Woman (A Mexican Medea)</i> by Cherrie Moraga
September 6 Discuss <i>The Hungry Woman</i>	Homework: Read <i>Roosters</i> by Milcha Sanchez-Scott
September 13 Discuss <i>Roosters</i>	Homework: Read <i>La Gringa</i> by Carmen Rivera-Tirado
September 20 Discuss <i>La Gringa</i> Zoom visit with Carmen Rivera-Tirado	Homework: Read <i>Marisol</i> by Jose Rivera
September 27 Discuss <i>Marisol</i>	Homework: Read <i>Luchadora</i> by Alvaro Saar Rios
October 4 Discuss: <i>Luchadora</i>	Homework: Read <i>Eliot, A Soldier's Fugue</i> by Quiara Alegria Hudes
October 11 Discuss <i>Eliot, A Soldier's Fugue</i>	Homework: Read <i>Two Kids in the Universe (Lirica)</i> by Gustavo Ott
October 18 Discuss <i>Two Kids in the Universe (Lirica)</i> Guest in class Gustavo Ott	Homework: Read <i>Water by the Spoonful</i> by Quiara Alegria Hudes
October 25 Discuss <i>Water by the Spoonful</i>	Homework: Read <i>Native Gardens</i> by Karen Zacarias
November 1 Discuss <i>Native Gardens</i>	Homework: Read <i>Anna in the Tropics</i> by Nilo Cruz
November 8 Discuss <i>Anna in the Tropics</i>	Homework: Read <i>Oedipus El Rey</i> by Luis Alfaro

November 15	Homework:
Discuss: <i>Oedipus El Rey</i>	<i>The Inheritance</i> by Matthew Lopez
November 22 No Class! Work on your final projects, and complete missed assignments.	Happy Thanksgiving!
November 29	Homework:
Discuss: <i>The Inheritance</i>	Read <i>Swimming While Drowning</i> by Emilio Rodriguez
December 6 Discuss <i>Swimming While Drowning</i> Zoom visit by Emilio Rodriguez	
December 13	Final Project due by 12 noon!