

# **THEA 1340 Aesthetics of Theatre Around the World**

**T/Th 8:00-9:20 am**

**RTFP 135**

## **Instructor Information**

Instructor: Julie Brinker (she, her, hers)

Office Hours: M/W 2-4 pm (or by appointment)

E-mail: Julie.Brinker@unt.edu

PREREQUISITES: None

HOURS: 3

## **Course Objectives**

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify several works by contemporary and classic playwrights, performers, directors, nations and movements.
2. Develop, improve, and apply critical analytical skills to live performances.
3. Discuss a personal sense of aesthetics, including what genres, artists, or works appeal to the student.
4. Speak and write in an educated manner on the appreciation of the theatrical art.
5. Connect with, consider, and discuss the cultural allusions our society has taken from certain dramatic works.
6. Collaborate with classmates on the creation of a creative project in which theatre skills are utilized.

Materials Required: *Theatre: The Lively Art* by Wilson and Goldfarb. The current edition is the 11th, but if you can find a used copy, that will be fine (I wouldn't go back further than the 9th edition). E-texts are fine, too.

- Technology requirements for courses with digital materials:

This course has digital components. To fully participate in this class, students will need internet access to reference content on the Canvas Learning Management System and the ability to record and upload images using a smart phone or computer camera. If circumstances change, you will be informed of other technical needs to access course content. Information on how to be successful in a digital learning environment can be found at Learn Anywhere (<https://online.unt.edu/learn>).

## **How to Succeed in this Course**

ADA accommodation statement: The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the

ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time; however, ODA notices of reasonable 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 reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information, refer to the Office of Disability Access website (<http://www.unt.edu/oda>). You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.

Connect with me through email and/or by attending office hours. During busy times, my inbox becomes rather full, so if you contact me and do not receive a response within two business days, please send a follow up email. A gentle nudge is always appreciated.

### **Supporting Your Success and Creating an Inclusive Learning Environment**

I value the many perspectives students bring to our campus. Please work with me to create a classroom culture of open communication, mutual respect, and inclusion. All discussions should be respectful and civil. Although disagreements and debates are encouraged, personal attacks are unacceptable. Together, we can ensure a safe and welcoming classroom for all. If you ever feel like this is not the case, please stop by my office and let me know. We are all learning together.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:** Punctual attendance is critical for your success in the course. Thus, students are expected to be present and punctual for all classes. Attendance will be recorded in Canvas after each class; attendance is worth 200 points (20%) of your final grade.

### **Course Technology & Skills Minimum Technology Requirements**

- Computer
- Reliable internet access
- Speakers
- Microphone
- Plug-ins
- Microsoft Office Suite
- Canvas Technical Requirements (<https://clear.unt.edu/supported-technologies/canvas/requirements>)

### **Computer Skills & Digital Literacy**

- Using Canvas
- Using email with attachments
- Downloading and installing software
- Using spreadsheet programs

- Using presentation and graphics programs

### **Technical Assistance**

Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a Student Help Desk that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

UIT Help Desk: UIT Student Help Desk site (<http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm>)

Email: [helpdesk@unt.edu](mailto:helpdesk@unt.edu)

Phone: 940-565-2324

In Person: Sage Hall, Room 130

Walk-In Availability: 8am-9pm Telephone Availability:

- Sunday: noon-midnight
- Monday-Thursday: 8am-midnight
- Friday: 8am-8pm
- Saturday: 9am-5pm Laptop Checkout: 8am-7pm

For additional support, visit Canvas Technical Help (<https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328>)

### **Virtual Classroom Guidelines**

Should online meetings of the class ever occur, it is expected that every student will practice virtual etiquette that is respectful to the class, the professor, and other students during these sessions. Adherence to appropriate virtual etiquette is factored into the student's grade. This includes the following:

- Log on at least a minute or two early; do not be surprised if you are counted late if you are not logged on to the virtual class when it starts.
- Do not attend class if you are unable to participate actively. Do not join the virtual classroom just to ignore it or walk away from it. If the instructor realizes this has occurred, your participation will be penalized, and you may be counted absent.
- Do not attend virtual class from your bed. While this is a virtual space, it is still a classroom. You will find it easier to pay attention, learn material, and complete your course work if you are seated at a table or desk.
- If you use a profile picture in virtual classroom, it should be a classroom-appropriate photo.
- Mute yourself unless you are making a presentation to the class or the instructor is seeking questions/comments from the class. For users in virtual classroom, the space bar acts as a quick unmute—press it down to speak on mic, then release the space bar to mute yourself again.

- You are expected to enable your video and remain on camera while class is in session, unless directed otherwise by the professor.
- Dress as if you are coming into a regular class.
- Make sure to illuminate your face with natural or artificial light so the instructor and others can see you clearly.
- Make sure there is nothing distracting or inappropriate in the background of your video feed.
- Try to avoid having other people enter and exit your frame to avoid distracting your classmates and instructor.
- If seeing yourself on camera distracts you, right-click on your own video feed in virtual classroom and choose HIDE SELF VIEW. This setting allows your instructor and classmates to see you, but you will not see yourself.
- Be careful when sharing your screen. You do not want your personal email, documents, or images to be displayed accidentally.
- Be aware everyone can see your messages in chat unless you have chosen to send the instructor a direct message. Private messages to other students are disabled to avoid distractions during class.
- Do not attend virtual class while operating a vehicle or doing anything else in which attending the virtual class at the same time may negatively impact your safety or the safety of others.
- Do not attend class in an unauthorized public space where others will see/hear the class. Your privacy and the privacy of your classmates is federally protected.
- If you know that you are unable to attend a class meeting, contact the instructor in advance to receive a recording of the class that you can watch later.
- Do not share the web URL for our virtual classroom class with anyone outside of class. If class is “virtual classroom bombed” because you shared the link, administration will be notified and will enact sanctions up to and including removal from the course and possible expulsion from the university.
- If the class is “bombed,” the instructor will first attempt to mute and boot the unwanted person from the meeting. If this is not possible or fails to stop the disruption, the instructor will end the meeting, create a new meeting link, and email it to you in short order.

### **Rules of Engagement**

Rules of engagement refer to the way students are expected to interact with each other and with their instructors. Here are some general guidelines:

- While the freedom to express yourself is a fundamental human right, any communication that utilizes cruel and derogatory language on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law will not be tolerated.

- Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in any communication online or face-to-face, even when their opinion differs from your own.
- Ask for and use the correct name and pronouns for your instructor and classmates. • Speak from personal experiences. Use “I” statements to share thoughts and feelings. Try not to speak on behalf of groups or other individual’s experiences.
- Use your critical thinking skills to challenge other people’s ideas, instead of attacking individuals. • Avoid using all caps while communicating digitally. This may be interpreted as “YELLING!”
- Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm in emails or discussion posts as tone can be difficult to interpret digitally.
- Avoid using “text-talk” unless explicitly permitted by your instructor.
- Proofread and fact-check your sources.
- Keep in mind that online posts can be permanent, so think first before you type. See these Engagement Guidelines (<https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips>) for more information.

### **Course Evaluation**

Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT) is the student evaluation system for UNT and allows students the ability to confidentially provide constructive feedback to their instructor and department to improve the quality of student experiences in the course.

### **Course Policies**

#### **Face Coverings**

UNT encourages everyone to wear a face covering when indoors, regardless of vaccination status, to protect yourself and others from COVID infection, as recommended by current CDC guidelines. Face covering guidelines could change based on community health conditions.

#### **Course Materials for Remote Instruction**

Remote instruction may be necessary if community health conditions change or you need to self-isolate or quarantine due to COVID-19. Students will need access to a webcam and microphone to participate in fully remote portions of the class. Information on how to be successful in a remote learning environment can be found at <https://online.unt.edu/learn>

### **Late Work**

No late work will be accepted. Consider the due date to be “opening night”—and the show must go on!

### **Assignment Policy**

Assignment due dates are listed in the syllabus; instructions will be presented in class and posted in Canvas.

Extra credit: Students may earn extra credit in consultation with the instructor.

The University is committed to providing a reliable online course system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will extend the time windows and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and contact the UNT Student Help Desk: [helpdesk@unt.edu](mailto:helpdesk@unt.edu) or 940.565.2324 and obtain a ticket number. The instructor and the UNT Student Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

### **Syllabus Change Policy**

This syllabus may change at any time; changes will be posted on Canvas and announced in class.

### **UNT Policies**

#### **Academic Integrity Policy**

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences. According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

#### **ADA Policy**

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (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 (<https://disability.unt.edu/>).

**Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation** (Policy 16.004) The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

#### **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 Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

## **Retention of Student Records**

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about student's records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University's policy. See UNT Policy 10.10, Records Management and Retention for additional information.

## **Acceptable Student Behavior**

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and 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 Dean of Students 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. Visit UNT's Code of Student Conduct (<https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>) to learn more.

**Access to Information** - Eagle Connect Students' access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: [my.unt.edu](http://my.unt.edu). All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student's Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward e-mail Eagle Connect (<https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect>).

## **Student Evaluation Administration Dates**

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 13, 14 and 15 of the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" ([noreply@iasystem.org](mailto:noreply@iasystem.org)) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website (<http://spot.unt.edu/>) or email [spot@unt.edu](mailto:spot@unt.edu).

## **Survivor Advocacy**

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct. Federal laws and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex as well as sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at [SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu](mailto:SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu) or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-5652648.

## **Student Verification**

UNT takes measures to protect the integrity of educational credentials awarded to students enrolled in distance education courses by verifying student identity, protecting student privacy, and notifying students of any special meeting times/locations or additional charges associated with student identity verification in distance education courses. See UNT Policy 07-002 Student Identity Verification, Privacy, and Notification and Distance Education Courses (<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/07-002>).

### **Use of Student Work**

A student owns the copyright for all work (e.g. software, photographs, reports, presentations, and email postings) he or she creates within a class and the University is not entitled to use any student work without the student's permission unless all of the following criteria are met:

- The work is used only once.
- The work is not used in its entirety.
- Use of the work does not affect any potential profits from the work.
- The student is not identified.
- The work is identified as student work.

If the use of the work does not meet all of the above criteria, then the University office or department using the work must obtain the student's written permission. Download the UNT System Permission, Waiver and Release Form

### **Transmission and Recording of Student Images in Electronically-Delivered Courses**

1. No permission is needed from a student for his or her image or voice to be transmitted live via videoconference or streaming media, but all students should be informed when courses are to be conducted using either method of delivery.
2. In the event an instructor records student presentations, he or she must obtain permission from the student using a signed release in order to use the recording for future classes in accordance with the Use of Student-Created Work guidelines above.
3. Instructors who video-record their class lectures with the intention of re-using some or all of recordings for future class offerings must notify students on the course syllabus if students' images may appear on video. Instructors are also advised to provide accommodation for students who do not wish to appear in class recordings.

Example: This course employs lecture capture technology to record class sessions. Students may occasionally appear on video. The lecture recordings will be available to you for study purposes and may also be reused in future course offerings.

No notification is needed if only audio and slide capture is used or if the video only records the instructor's image. However, the instructor is encouraged to let students know the recordings will be available to them for study purposes.

### **Academic Support & Student Services**



## Student Support Services

### Mental Health

UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

- Student Health and Wellness Center (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellnesscenter>)
- Counseling and Testing Services (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>) • UNT Care Team (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care>)
- UNT Psychiatric Services (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellnesscenter/services/psychiatry>)
- Individual Counseling (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testingservices/services/individual-counseling>)

### Chosen Names

A chosen name is a name that a person goes by that may or may not match their legal name. If you have a chosen name that is different from your legal name and would like that to be used in class, please let the instructor know. Below is a list of resources for updating your chosen name at UNT.

- UNT Records
- UNT ID Card
- UNT Email Address
- Legal Name

\*UNT eUIDs cannot be changed at this time. The collaborating offices are working on a process to make this option accessible to UNT community members.

### Pronouns

Pronouns (she/her, they/them, he/him, etc.) are a public way for people to address you, much like your name, and can be shared with a name when making an introduction, both virtually and in-person. Just as we ask and don't assume someone's name, we should also ask and not assume someone's pronouns. You can add your pronouns to your Canvas account so that they follow your name when posting to discussion boards, submitting assignments, etc.

### Additional Student Support Services

- Registrar (<https://registrar.unt.edu/registration>)
- Financial Aid (<https://financialaid.unt.edu/>)
- Student Legal Services (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services>)

- Career Center (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center>)
- Multicultural Center (<https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center>)
- Counseling and Testing Services (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>)
- Pride Alliance (<https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance>)
- UNT Food Pantry (<https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry>)

### **Academic Support Services**

- Academic Resource Center (<https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources>)
- Academic Success Center (<https://success.unt.edu/asc>)
- UNT Libraries (<https://library.unt.edu/>)
- Writing Lab (<http://writingcenter.unt.edu/>)

### **Assessing Your Work**

There are 1000 points possible for this course.

The final grades will be assessed on the following scale:

A = 900-1000 B = 800-899 C = 700-799 D = 600-699 F = 500-599

Grading:

Assignment	Points Possible
Post Introduction in Canvas + 2 responses to other students' posts	40 points
2 Unit Exams	200 points
Midterm	100 points
Comprehensive Final Exam	200 points
Critical Review of Play	100 points
Collaborative Participation • Final Project	160 points
Attendance/Participation	200 points
TOTAL Points: 1000	

Late work will not be accepted, except as recommended by the ODA office. This is to guarantee equitable treatment of all students. Please acquaint yourself with the attached calendar. In the theatre, the curtain rises on opening night and the show must go on. Consider the "due date" to be the last moment I will take the assignment. Any written work may be turned in early. Time management is a life skill.

Extra credit: You may see (at your own expense) and write a second critical review over a second theatrical production. The production must be cleared in advance by the instructor. You cannot write a review over a production you saw before this semester. See the instructor for clearance and a due date.

### **Course Requirements/Schedule**

#### **Fall 2022 Course Calendar (subject to change)**

T 8/30 Course overview; What is Art?/What is Theater?

Th 9/01 Toward a definition of theater; READING DUE TODAY: Wilson and Goldfarb Chapter 1

T 9/06 Common Ground—READING DUE TODAY: Wilson and Goldfarb Chapter 2

Th 9/08 Common Ground, cont.

T 9/13 Greek and Roman Theatre— READING DUE TODAY: Wilson and Goldfarb Chapter 11, pp. 256-280 ONLY

Th 9/15 Theater Spaces— READING DUE TODAY: Wilson and Goldfarb Ch. 7

T 9/20 Review for exam

Th 9/22 UNIT EXAM 1

T 9/27 Playwriting— READING DUE TODAY: Wilson & Goldfarb Chapter 3

Th 9/29 Playwriting, cont.

**\*\*UNT Theatre opportunity #1: Ursula in the University Theatre 2/16-18\*\***

T 10/04 Asian and Medieval Theater— READING DUE TODAY: Wilson and Goldfarb Chapter 11, pp. 282-290 and Chapter 12

Th 10/06 Genre— READING DUE TODAY: Wilson and Goldfarb Chapter 4

**\*\*UNT Theatre opportunity #1: *Pride and Prejudice* in the Studio Theatre 9/06-09\*\***

T 10/11 Review for Midterm

Th 10/13 MIDTERM EXAM

T 10/18 Shakespeare & Co.-- READING DUE TODAY: Wilson and Goldfarb Ch. 13

Th 10/20 Shakespeare and Co., cont.

T 10/25 Acting and Reacting— READING DUE TODAY: Wilson and Goldfarb Ch. 5

Th 10/27 Acting and Reacting, cont.

T 11/01 Theaters from Restoration through Romanticism— READING DUE TODAY: Wilson and Goldfarb Ch. 14

Th 11/03 The Rise of the Director— READING DUE TODAY: Wilson and Goldfarb Ch. 6

T 11/08 Review for Unit Exam

Th 11/10 UNIT EXAM

\*\*UNT Theatre opportunity #2: *Seven Guitars* in the University Theatre 11/10-13\*\*

T 11/15 Dawn of Realism— READING DUE TODAY: Wilson and Goldfarb Ch. 15

Th 11/17 Dawn of Realism, cont.

T 11/22 Designers: Scenery & Costume— READING DUE TODAY: Wilson and Goldfarb Ch. 8 & 9

Designers: Lighting & Sound— READING DUE TODAY: Wilson and Goldfarb Ch. 10

Th 11/24 THANKSGIVING BREAK

T 11/29 Modern Theatre Emerges—READING DUE TODAY: Wilson & Goldfarb Ch. 15

Th 12/01 Today's Diverse Global Theatre—READING DUE TODAY: Wilson & Goldfarb Ch. 16

T 12/06 Catch up/Final project presentations

Th 12/08 Review for final exams

Wk16 Finals Week—FINAL EXAM TBA

Students will be notified by Eagle Alert if there is a campus closing that will impact a class. The calendar is subject to change, citing the Emergency Notifications and Procedures Policy (PDF) ([https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.049\\_Standard%20Syllabus%20Policy%20Statements\\_supplement.pdf](https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.049_Standard%20Syllabus%20Policy%20Statements_supplement.pdf)). Standards for academic integrity in the course will align with the Academic Integrity Policy (PDF) ([https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.049\\_Standard%20Syllabus%20Policy%20Statements\\_supplement.pdf](https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.049_Standard%20Syllabus%20Policy%20Statements_supplement.pdf)).

Every student in my class can improve by doing their own work and trying their hardest with access to appropriate resources. Students who use other people's work without citations will be violating UNT's Academic Integrity Policy. Please read and follow this important set of guidelines for your academic success (<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>). If you have questions about this, or any UNT policy, please email me or come discuss this with me during my office hours.