THEA 2340 Theatre Appreciation

Instructor Contact

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Pronouns: she/her/hers

Office Location: RTFP 223

Office Hours: T/R 9:30-11 am and by appointment

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Communication Expectations: I will post messages and announcements on the Announcements tab in Canvas. You can send me messages through Canvas or my email address (Julie.brinker@unt.edu). I will strive to respond to messages within 24 hours on weekdays. Your online quiz/test grades will be available immediately; grades and feedback for other assignments will be posted as soon as possible, but may take a week or 10 days. A grader will be assigned to this course after the census date; we will work together to get grades to you expeditiously.

Welcome to UNT!

As members of the UNT community, we have all made a commitment to be part of an institution that respects and values the identities of the students and employees with whom we interact. UNT does not tolerate identity-based discrimination, harassment, and retaliation. UNT's full Non-Discrimination Policy can be found in the UNT Policies section of the syllabus.

Course Description

Study of the elements and production of the theatrical art form.

May not be counted toward a major or minor in theatre. May be repeated for credit when the productions vary.

Course Structure

This is a face-to-face course with Canvas back-up/support. Due dates will be posted on Canvas, as will Announcements and any syllabus/due date changes.

Course Prerequisites or Other Restrictions

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Course Objectives

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

- To construct social meanings from theatrical performances representing a variety of cultures and historical periods, and relate these to current personal, national, and international
- To articulate and justify personal aesthetic criteria for critiquing theatre
- To analyze and critique all aspects of the theatrical performance and articulate one's opinion through written

Materials

Required*: Theatre: Brief* by Robert Cohen. The current edition is the 13th, 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.

Course Technology & Skills

Minimum Technology Requirements

For access to the Canvas materials, and in case you need to isolate/quarantine for Covid, you will need:

- Computer
- Reliable internet access
- Speakers
- Microphone
- Plug-ins
- Microsoft Office Suite
- [Canvas Technical Requirements Links to an external site.](https://clear.unt.edu/supported-technologies/canvas/requirements)(https://clear.unt.edu/supported-technologies/canvas/requirements)

Computer Skills & Digital Literacy

- Using Canvas
- Using email with attachments
- Downloading and installing software
- 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 Links to an external site.(http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm)

Email: 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-midnighFriday: 8am-8pm
- Saturday: 9am-5pm

Laptop Checkout: 8am-7pm

For additional support, visit Canvas Technical Help Links to an external site.(https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328)

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 Links to an external site.](https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips)(https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips) for more information.

Course Requirements

Assignment	Points Possible
2 Original posts in Canvas + 4 responses to other students' posts (2 for each discussion board). (40 points each) **+** **2 Responses to in-class screened performances (40 points each)**	*160 points*
10 Online Quizzes (40-50 points each)	*420 points*
2 Critical Reviews of LIVE UNT Performances (100 points each)	*200 points*
Collaborative Participation	
• **Final Project**	*70 points*
Attendance	*170 points*
Total Points Possible	*1000 points*

Grading

A = 900-1000

B = 800-899

C = 700-799

D = 600-699

F = 0-599

The phone app of Canvas may not include point totals, so be sure to check on a dedicated computer.

Canvas can be a little confusing—be sure to check point totals, not percentages!

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 critical review over another 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. All Extra Credit reviews must be submitted by Reading Day.

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.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend class meetings regularly and to abide by the attendance policy established for the course. It is important that you communicate with the professor and the instructional team prior to being absent, so you, the professor, and the instructional team can discuss and mitigate the impact of the absence on your

attainment of course learning goals. Please inform the professor and instructional team if you are unable to attend class meetings because you are ill, in mindfulness of the health and safety of everyone in our community.

Three tardies will count as the equivalent of one absence. Leaving before class is dismissed will be counted as the equivalent of a tardy, and the same icon in Canvas will be used.

Examination Policy

Quizzes for this class will be online. You will have the chance to re-take an exam, if your internet connection goes out. Make-up quizzes will only be offered under extreme conditions of health or death in the family (must be documented). If you experience huge technical difficulties, contact the Student Helpdesk and document the remedy ticket number before contacting the instructor.

Assignment Policy

The official due dates for each assignment, along with assignment instructions, will be found in the attached course calendar and in the corresponding Canvas Module. Assignments should be saved as .DOC or .PDF, and files should be submitted to the Canvas assignment drop box or submission upload.

This course will be using Turnitin software for all assignments.

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 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.

Subject Matter Disclaimer: Theatre is an art with imitates human life: since sexuality and violence are a part of human living, so materials in this class may deal with sexual and violent images, behaviors, situations, and language. Students who may be offended by such materials may want to reconsider taking this course.

Syllabus Change Policy
Changes to the syllabus, including assignment due dates, exam dates, and/performance dates, will be communicated on Canvas (under Announcements) and 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.

In this class, plagiarism will result in consequences ranging from 0 for the assignment to reporting to the Academic Dean.

The use of AI (Artificial Intelligence) in the generation of ANY written work will be considered plagiarism and will result in a grade of 0.

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 Links to an external site.(https://disability.unt.edu/ Links to an external site.](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 Links to an external site.(https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) to learn more.

Withdrawal from the course must be initiated by the student. Otherwise, you will be subject to a WF or F for a final grade.

Access to Information - Eagle Connect

Students' access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: my.unt.edu Links to an external site.. 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 Links to an external site.(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 [insert administration dates] 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" (no-reply@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 Links to an external site.](http://spot.unt.edu/)(http://spot.unt.edu/) or email 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 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 Links to an external site.](https://policy.unt.edu/policy/07-002)(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 Links to an external site.](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center)
- [Counseling and Testing Services Links to an external site.](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
- [UNT Care Team Links to an external site.](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care)
- [UNT Psychiatric Services Links to an external site.](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry)
- [Individual Counseling Links to an external site.](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/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 RecordsLinks to an external site.](#)
- [UNT ID CardLinks to an external site.](#)
- [UNT Email AddressLinks to an external site.](#)
- [Legal NameLinks to an external site.](#)

*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 Links to an external site.](#)so that they follow your name when posting to discussion boards, submitting assignments, etc.

Below is a list of additional resources regarding pronouns and their usage:

- [What are pronouns and why are they important?Links to an external site.](#)
- [How do I use pronouns?Links to an external site.](#)
- [How do I share my pronouns?Links to an external site.](#)
- [How do I ask for another person's pronouns?Links to an external site.](#)
- [How do I correct myself or others when the wrong pronoun is used?Links to an external site.](#)

Additional Student Support Services

- Registrar (https://registrar.unt.edu/registration)
- [Financial Aid Links to an external site.](#)(https://financialaid.unt.edu/)
- [Student Legal Services Links to an external site.](#)(https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services)
- [Career Center Links to an external site.](#)(https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center)
- [Multicultural Center Links to an external site.](#)(https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center)
- [Counseling and Testing Services Links to an external site.](#)(https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
- [Pride Alliance Links to an external site.](#)(https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance)
- [UNT Food Pantry Links to an external site.](#)(https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry)

Academic Support Services

- [Academic Resource Center Links to an external site.](https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources)(https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources)
- [Academic Success Center Links to an external site.](https://success.unt.edu/asc)(https://success.unt.edu/asc)
- [UNT Libraries Links to an external site.](https://library.unt.edu/)(https://library.unt.edu/)
- [Writing Lab Links to an external site.](http://writingcenter.unt.edu/)([http://writingcenter.unt.edu/ Links to an external site.](http://writingcenter.unt.edu/))

Fall 2025 Course Calendar (subject to change)

Th   1/16   **Read Syllabus and contact me with any questions.** Get your textbook (if you haven't already) or make plans to access the one on reserve at the UNT library.

DUE by 11:59 pm 1/22: One original post and 2 replies to others in Introductions (Canvas discussion)

DUE: Take Quiz #1 by 11:59 pm 1/22 (read Chapter 1 and view the Powerpoint in the Week 1 module on Canvas.)

Th   1/23   Discuss Chapter 1

Watch *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged) in class.*

DUE: Take Quiz #2 by 11:59 pm 1/29 (read Chapter 2 and view the Powerpoint in the Week 2 module on Canvas.

Remaining Course Calendar TBA pending performance reservations.