

THEA 3030: World Theatre Before 1700

Summer 2026

Asynchronous

Instructor Contact

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Course Description

This course satisfies the Creative Arts requirement of the Core Curriculum. This course considers the concepts, facts, and works relevant to the practice of theatre and drama before 1700 around the world, with particular focus on Europe and America. Students will critically analyze a range of artistic work, consider diverse cultures and points of view, develop an ability to communicate about theatrical art from a variety of eras, and consider the social and cultural implications of theatrical practices and works.

Course Structure

The class is delivered fully online. There will be no synchronous meetings required in order to pass this class. The course will contain 5 modules, each of which will ask you to read a chapter in the textbook, then explore a play from the featured time period. Included in each unit will be material to help contextualize the works you are reading, the playwrights themselves, and their place in Theatre History. There will be discussion posts to expand your thoughts on the work you're reading, with a quiz over the chapter due at the end of each unit. There will be a midterm and a final paper where you will demonstrate what you've learned this semester.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Discuss/analyze theatrical art from a variety of eras
- Critically analyze and evaluate a range of artistic work
- Identify and discuss diverse cultures and points of view
- Identify the social, cultural, and historical implications of theatrical practices and works

Reading Materials:

Textbook: *Living Theatre 8th Edition* ebook by Norton Drama. You will be prompted to purchase digital access within the Canvas course.

How to Succeed in this Course

Even though this class is fully online, your **daily** engagement is necessary to be successful. This class requires critical thinking, daily reading and writing, and interactions with your peers.

Participating in an online Summer course can be challenging, and I strongly urge you to keep an eye on deadlines for each module so that you can pace yourself accordingly.

While this is not an English or writing course, it is expected that your written responses will contain appropriate spelling and grammar. Please make a habit of double checking your work for legibility.

I want to hear your own opinions and impressions of the play. Any information you use from another source, such as a previous course or your own reading, *must be cited*.

Communication

Generally, I am quick to respond to emails. However, I do not look at my email on evenings or weekends. If you email during these times, I will make best efforts to reply on the next business day. I also ask that you give me at least 24 hours to answer your email prior to sending me a follow-up.

Some things to be mindful of when emailing your professors:

- To make sure that your message gets seen in a timely manner, please use my UNT email, *not* Canvas messages
- If you have an extenuating circumstance preventing you from attending class or submitting assignments on time, please reach out to the Dean of Students for support. They are here to advocate on your behalf.
 - Dean of Students:
<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/dean-of-students/index.html>
- Use your resources: Make sure the answer to your question is not already on Canvas or in the syllabus. Read assignments carefully, consult a classmate, and Google your question if necessary. Then, if you still have a question, email me.
- If it is within 24 hours of a due date, please do not count on getting a reply from me in time.
- I am not tech support. If you are having problems accessing Canvas or elements in the course, please try the following before contacting me:
 - General Canvas Help Guides (Searchable):
<https://community.instructure.com/en/all-guides>

- UNT Tech Support (FAQ, Phone Number, and Chat):
<https://techsupport.unt.edu/students.html>
- Submit a Helpdesk Ticket:
https://unts.servicenowservices.com/unt?id=sc_cat_item&sys_id=bb9a0fd91b02f090b611f47b04bcbde

ADA Accommodations

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](http://www.unt.edu/oda) website (<http://www.unt.edu/oda>). You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.

Please contact me at the start of the semester to discuss your accommodation letter so that we are on the same page about how you will engage with the course.

Student Obligation to Academic and Production Work

Dance & Theater students are expected to budget and organize their time in order to meet both their academic and production commitments satisfactorily and on time. Production assignments, including tech week, are *not an acceptable excuse for missing class or failing to turn in assignments*.

Class Conduct

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 may be referred 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.

View [UNT's Code of Student Conduct](#) to learn more.

Academic Integrity

UNT Honor Code: *"I commit myself to honor, integrity, and responsibility as a student representing the University of North Texas community. I understand and pledge to uphold academic integrity as set forth by UNT Student Academic Integrity Policy, 06.003. I affirm that the work I submit will always be my own, and the support I provide and receive will always be honorable."*

See UNT Policy [06.003. Student Academic Integrity](#)

Academic integrity emanates from a culture that embraces the core values of trust and honesty necessary for full learning to occur. As a student-centered public research university, the University of North Texas promotes the integrity of the learning process by establishing and enforcing academic standards. Academic dishonesty breaches the mutual trust necessary in an academic environment and undermines all scholarship. Unless explicitly stated otherwise, the submission of AI-generated work is not accepted in this course. *Any violation of this will result in a full loss of points for the assignment.*

When considering whether to use AI tools in your studies, please consider these guiding principles laid out by the university:

- **Be Transparent** - Clearly disclose when AI tools are used to generate content, make decisions, or assist in communication.
- **Ensure Accountability** - Take full responsibility for any AI-assisted work; do not blame the tool for errors or harmful outcomes.
- **Fact-Check AI Outputs** - Always verify the accuracy and reliability of information produced by AI, especially in research, education, and public communication.
- **Maintain Academic and Professional Integrity** - Do not use AI to cheat, plagiarize, or misrepresent knowledge or work. Follow institutional policies on AI use.
- **Credit and Cite Appropriately** - Acknowledge use of AI tools when relevant, and cite sources if AI outputs include or are based on third-party content.
- **Hallucinations and Fabricated Information** - Generative AI tools may produce content that sounds plausible but is factually incorrect or entirely made up.

- **Lack of True Understanding** - AI tools do not comprehend meaning or context the way humans do—it predicts text based on patterns in data.
- **Bias in Outputs** - AI can reflect or amplify social, cultural, or data-based biases present in its training data.

See UNT [AI policy and FAQs](#)

Sexual Assault Prevention: 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 940-565-2648.

Sensitive Subject Matter: In this course sensitive subject matters may be discussed. Everyone is expected to treat these moments with the sensitivity and respect they deserve. Racist, misogynistic, homophobic, or any other form of hateful language is disruptive and will not be tolerated.

All discussions should be civil and courteous. Disagreement and debate is welcome; however, personal attacks are unacceptable. Together, we can ensure a safe and welcoming online environment. Anyone who finds it difficult to act respectfully toward their classmates and the subject matter may be asked to leave the class.

Student Perceptions of Teaching: 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. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website at www.spot.unt.edu or email spot@unt.edu.

Grading

All written work will be submitted on specified due dates. Written work must be typed, and double spaced using 12 point font in either Times New Roman or Arial. I do not accept hand-written work. AI-generated work, in whole or in part, will receive a 0.

Assignment	Points
Chapter Questions	9 @ 5 points each
Discussions	10 @ 5 points each
Considerations	8 @ 10 points each

Chapter Quizzes	9 @ 15 points each
Response Papers	1 @ 50 points each
Total	360 points

Final grade breakdown for points earned:

A : 324–360 points B: 288–323 points C: 252–287 points
D: 216 – 251 points F: Below 215 points

Course Schedule

Below is an outline for the scope of the course. As a general rule, all assignments due by the posted day at 11:59pm.

Absolutely no late work is accepted.

Module 1: | Due May 23rd

Chapter 1: Studying Theatre History

Chapter 2: Origins of Theatre

Module 2: Due May 29th

Chapter 3: Greek Theatre

Chapter 4: Roman Theatre

Module 3: Due June 4th

Chapter 5: Early Theatre in the Middle East, North Africa, and Asia

Module 4: Due June 10th

Chapter 6: Medieval European and Classical Asian and African Theatre

Chapter 8: Theatres of the English Renaissance and Restoration

Module 5: Due June 16th

Chapter 7: The Theatre of the Italian Renaissance

Chapter 9: The Spanish Renaissance and French Neoclassical Theatres

Final Paper due: June 18th @ 11:59pm