



THEATRE IN NEW YORK

Third Trimester, 2018

Mr. Grunner

Course Description

This course invites students to take advantage of New York City's diverse theatrical offerings and consider what makes a "living theater" so exciting, challenging, and rare. We will attend performances around the city with possible choices ranging from popular Broadway musicals to the avant-garde world of Off-Off-Broadway. In order to make the most of this experience, we will engage in acting and dramaturgy exercises and, when practical, will also read the play before taking in the live performance; assessments will take the form of brief newspaper-style reviews and discussion papers as well as a final group project. *Please note that participation in this course requires a \$225 fee to cover the cost of tickets and texts.*

Methodology

Class discussion; student presentations; the occasional lecture; outside speakers; and, of course, excursions to the theater!

Number of Class Sessions

Ideally, we will meet three times (3x) per cycle for forty-minute sessions, save for the classes that fall

on a Tuesday and will thus be canceled on account of Christian Service.

Expectations

Homework: Students are expected to come to each class session (1) having read every last word of an assigned text and (2) prepared to discuss the text with the class. The success of this endeavor rests upon your shoulders.

Writing: Through the course of the trimester, students will compose four (4) newspaper-style reviews of any three performances we attend.

Final Performance Project: Details to be announced.

Final Grade Breakdown

Review Essays (60%)
Final Performance Project (40%)

Miscellaneous

In my experience, laptop computers are more likely to tempt a student into distraction than to aid him in his learning and note-taking. Thus, use of a laptop computer will not be permitted during class discussion. After all, when coming together as a group to discuss a piece of literature, which we have all spent time reading and thinking about, there is absolutely no need to use a laptop. Furthermore, cell phones should remain on silent and, ideally, should be left in your bags.

Performance Schedule

See Moodle