Los Angeles Mission College, Spring 2013: Theater 100– Introduction to the Theater (Section #3320)

Day and time: Wednesday from 6:50pm to 10:00pm
Class Location: Instructional Building (INST) 1008
Instructors: Guillermo Avilés-Rodríguez
E-mail: avilesgg@lamission.edu (e-mail is my preferred method of communication)*
Office Location: Learning Resource Center 131B
Office Phone: 818-364-7711
Office Drop In Hours: Mondays 3:45pm-5:45pm ~ Thursdays 3:00pm-6:45pm or by appointment

*****Response to email, discussion forums, and telephone messages will not be instantaneous. Please factor in the response time when completing your work. If you wait until the last day, you may not have time to receive a response before your assignment is due.

ADDING POLICY
Students wishing to add the course on the first day of class should sign in on the wait list sheet as they enter the room. At the end of class, I will check the roll sheet, count empty seats and give away all seats with no-shows. All Students must have a signed contract sheet in order to add this class.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Theater 100 is a survey of the dramatic structure and styles of theatre from 5th Century B.C. to the late 20th Century. Students develop perceptual and critical thinking skills by analyzing the evolution and function of theatre within historical, cultural and philosophical contexts.

COURSE CONTENT
- Examine the nature of theatre including theatrical space, stage picture, acting styles, scenic design, costume, make-up, lighting and sound.
- Evaluate the motives for the origins of drama. Identify the principle myths, gods and heroes of Greek mythology as basis for drama. Discuss the contributions of the various Greek dramatists.
- Analyze the structure and content of plays from English Renaissance and Restoration Theatre. Write an essay examining the importance of all theatrical elements to the phenomenon of theatre. Recall names and contributions of major 16th-21st century dramatists.
- Distinguish between the old and new comedy, farce, extravaganza, burlesque, pantomime and comic opera styles of the Victorian era.
- Discuss the cultural and philosophical aspects of modernist theatre.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
The student will:
- Develop perceptual and critical thinking skills by analysing the evolution and function of theatre within historical, cultural, and philosophical contexts.
- Explore the human need to tell our stories through performance
- Explain the critical differences between dramatic literature and prose, and describe live performance in written form

ATTENDANCE
1. Attendance is mandatory and class will begin punctually. Please be on time. Being tardy more than two times equals an absence. An early departure is treated as a tardy, returning late from a break is also counted as a tardy.
2. Absences will adversely affect your grade. Participation points, exercises and quizzes cannot be made up.
Whenever absences "in hours" exceeds the number of hours the class meets per week, the instructor will exclude the students from the class. Again being tardy more than two times will be treated as an absence.
3. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed in class and whether there are any assignment or schedule changes. If written work is due, arrange to deliver the work to me on the day of class; your grade for that assignment will go down a full grade (from the grade you get on your assignment) for each day it is late (A to B to C etc). **All requests to make up work must be made through a one-page typed written request and need to come with supporting documentation.**

4. I recommend that you enroll your cell phone number in LA Mission's AlertU system. This is an emergency notification system whereby you will be contacted via cell phone should there be a campus emergency or closure. Go to http://www.lamission.edu/students/ on the top left to enter your cell phone number. You will need to text the system with a "Y", after you get a confirmation text from the system to complete enrolment.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

1. Theatre the Lively Art, by Wilson and Goldfarb, 7th Ed. (Available in LA Mission College Bookstore, bring it to every class)
2. Three Blue Books 8 ½ X 11, a black or blue ink pen and college rule paper
3. Enrollment in Etudes

GRADING BREAKDOWN

1. Three group performance exercises that focus on fundamental aspects of theatre and acting.
2. Two Performance Review based on one off campus production and one on campus. (Must be approved by instructor)
3. One Design Exercise in which you explore and participate in the design process.
4. Four Quizzes that test your comprehension of assigned readings and lectures.
5. One Final Presentation or Paper – You may choose between a five to ten page paper or a 5-minute final presentation of a dramatic scene. This is a scene that you as a group choose from a number of possible scenes provided. All members of the group receive the same grade.

Grading is based on quality of class participation, performances, written work, and exam results.

1. Participation/Final	20 points
2. ALMAS Performance Review (3- 5page)	25 points
3. Design Exercise (10 individual / 5 group) "Mid Term"	15 points
4. Plagiarism Print Out	5 points
5. 4 Quizzes (@ 5 points each)	20 points
6. Light in the darkness discussion*	15 points
TOTAL	100 points

A: 94-100	B-: 80-83	D+: 67-69
A-: 90-93	C+: 77-79	D: 64-66
B+: 87-89	C: 74-76	D-: 60-63
B: 84-86	C-: 70-73	F: 59 and below

*For Light in the Darkness, the discount code is "Aviles" the discount ticket rate is $15. Students can go to www.casa0101.org and buy tickets there for any of the 12 performances. The play runs Fridays and Saturdays at 8 PM and Sundays at 5 PM.

N.B

As part of this class you will be required to write a 3-5page paper on ALMAS the Los Angeles Mission College Drama Club's *Dia de los muertos* production. Should you audition and be cast as a performer or crewmember in the show, you will receive extra credit and be exempt from writing the analysis paper.
All papers must be in MLA style and turned in, in hard copy form. Electronically submitted papers are never accepted. For tests and quizzes use blue or black ink only, work in pencil will not be graded. Be neat and always proof read the work you turn in, no crumbled, torn, stained, or otherwise messy papers will be graded.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES/ AUDIO AND VIDEO RECORDING

Cell phones, cameras, audio recorders, I-Phones, laptops, Blackberries, e-readers, and any other electronic communication devices are not allowed in class at any time and must be stored away and turned off before the beginning

class. Section 78907 of the California Education Code prohibits the use of any electronic listening or recording device without prior consent of the instructor. Any student violating this section is subject to disciplinary action. If your phone goes off during class you will be asked to leave class and will not receive participation credit for that day. If you are expecting a call for some sort of emergency, please speak with the instructor prior to the beginning of class. **During breaks, please step outside of class to check your email and/or to text.**

PARTICIPATION

I will also take into account the quality of your participation in class, and may adjust your grade either up a step (i.e., B+ to A-) or down a step (i.e., A- to B+) based on how you have engaged with and contributed to the classroom community. *Using cell phones, checking the time on your cell phone, checking to see if you turned off your cell phone, eating, putting your feet up on the furniture, or otherwise distracting from learning during class time are all examples of poor participation.*

DESIGN EXERCISE

Students will assume the role of a designer of their choice (costume, light, set or sound) and develop a design for a play from a provided list. The design elements must support a specific artistic concept that each student will develop. Students will translate their design concepts via drawings, plots, swatches and/or other materials and will pitch their designs to the class just as a professional designer would present his/her design concepts to a director at a production meeting.

QUIZZES

Quizzes are based on assigned readings in the text and in the course reader as well as material covered in class. Quizzes will be primarily short answer but may also include multiple choice or essay questions. Again, missed quizzes cannot be made up.

THE ENSEMBLE SPIRIT

When working on group projects together students tend to become a bit of an ensemble, a group that helps each other create work. Film and performance work is fun and full of passion, but they can be a little scary and a little challenging, and none of us are perfect at it. It can feel risky, but I want to encourage you to take risks, and to make each other feel safe to take risks. This is our opportunity to create a safe space. Of course this means being courteous in terms of cell phone use, texting, eating, and so forth. But in a larger sense, please do everything you can to positively support each other, in the way you give each other respect and attention, in the way you collaborate with each other, and with the way you share your energy and sense of spirit with each other.

A NOTE ON MATERIAL WE READ, WATCH, AND CREATE

Some of the material we are reading or viewing in this course deals frankly, but not gratuitously, with issues of violence and sexuality. If you have concerns about this, please see me in advance. In the original material that you may create, you may want to explore certain mature issues. I encourage this. However, in your exploration, please be as respectful of your audience as possible, and do not look to purposefully shock or offend your spectators. Almost always, this will not be the best way to tell the story that you want to tell.

HARASSMENT

This course requires that all members of the class be respectful in ALL areas of communication. Be respectful of physical boundaries, new ideas, and cultural perspectives and treat all the way you wish to be treated.

PHYSICAL OR LEARNING DISABILITIES

If you feel you may need an accommodation for any type of disability, please inform me before the end of the second week of class. If you have any injuries or physical problems (permanent or temporary) that might affect your participation in some exercises please tell me as soon as possible. You are the best judge of your physical limits and are encouraged to take care of yourself. If you require an accommodation for a disability in order to complete the goals of the course, please go to the campus DSP&S office (located on the first floor of the Instructional Building: INST 1018) to obtain official accommodation clearance prior to the second class meeting. Please present accommodation paperwork provided by the DSP&S office to the instructor before the beginning of the third session. No accommodations are

provided to any student without proper documentation from DSP&S. Please see me if you have any questions. **As part of this course all students will be referred to tutoring services in the second week of class.**

ACADEMIC HONESTY & PLAGIARISM
On the subject of Academic Honesty and plagiarism, it is your responsibility to do your best work, honestly. If you are caught cheating on any assignment or test, for any reason, you will receive an automatic grade of "F" on that assignment or test and may be subject to further disciplinary action. When you write, you are doing something good and important to your growth as both a writer and a student. When you use another writer's words or ideas without giving them proper credit, you are guilty of plagiarism. I reserve the right to determine if cheating or plagiarism has occurred; if it has then you will receive an "F" on the assignment or exam, and you may receive an "F" for the course.
Your first assignment in this class is to go to: www.indiana.edu/~istd/definition.html and take the free test and print and fill out the certificate **Due by September 4th**.

CHILDREN, GUESTS AND ANIMALS
Due to insurance limitations and other concerns, children guests and animals are not allowed in the classroom without instructor's prior consent. (Registered dogs that help people with physical challenges are exempt). All requests to have a guest must be made in writing no less than five days before the class where guest wishes to attend.

STUDENTS UNDER THE AGE OF 18
It is a requirement of this course for all students under the age of 18 (Birthdates after December 9th 1995) to set up a meeting with instructor along with parents before the end of the second week of classes. **Instructor will exclude any underage student who fails to meet this requirement by our third class meeting.**

EXTRA CREDIT
Extra Credit opportunities often arise in this class but they are not guaranteed. Please be careful about getting yourself in a situation where you will need extra credit to pass this class.

MAKE UP
No make-up is available for a missed presentation. Students wishing to make up other assignments for any reason will need to turn in a one-page typed written request along with any supporting documentation, request must be made no later than five days after absence *N.B. no electronic submissions will be excepted.*

A NOTE ON THE SYLLABUS
This syllabus is a contract between the professor and the individual student, it is subject to revision with prior notification to the student by the instructor. If you stay in the class, you are agreeing to follow the requirements of the syllabus. As your instructor, I agree to do my best to help you to succeed in the course. To that end, I expect you to meet with me at the first sign that I am not teaching you to your satisfaction. Indeed, if you need to see me for whatever reason, please do.

N.B.
A new state policy in effect as of Summer 2012 limits students to three (3) attempts per course. Receiving a grade or "W" for a course counts as an attempt, regardless of when the course was taken. Withdrawal before the drop deadline will help you avoid a "W" on your transcript. This is also addressed in your Spring 2013 Schedule of Classes.

COLLEGE RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS
1. Admissions and Records: Students can register for classes, update contact information, request transcripts, file petitions for graduation, and drop classes at this office. For more information call 818-833-3322 or visit: http://www.lamission.edu/admissions/
2. Assessment Center: Offers student assessments in English, English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) and Mathematics, please contact the Assessment Center at (818) 364-7613 for more information or visit http://www.lamission.edu/assessment/ Bookstore: For hours of operation, book availability, buybacks, and other information call 818-364-7767 or 7768 or visit http://eagleslanding.lamission.edu/default.asp
4. Counseling Department Office: For appointments and information call 818-364-7655 or visit http://www.lamission.edu/counseling/ Disabled Students Programs and Services (DSP&S): For appointments, eligibility

and information call 818-364-7732 or visit http://www.lamission.edu/dsps/
5. Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS): For appointments, eligibility, and information call 818-364-7645 or visit http://www.lamission.edu/eops/16

ONLINE LEARNING
If this is your first class with an online component, this section is very important reading. Even if you have taken an online class before, please review this information. Class material and lectures will be presented in a variety of formats, including PowerPoint presentations, Word documents, and PDF documents. Often students new to online learning perceive and expect online courses to be easy and involve little to no work on their part. This is a misperception, and in fact, online hybrid courses like this one may be more demanding than a face-to-face course depending on the learning style of the student.
This course is conducted mostly face to face but there is a substantial online component. The online portion of instruction is through the ETUDES Learning Management System. You are expected to communicate with your instructor and other classmates about specific assignments. Most of your work, however, is done on your own through reading assignments and accompanying lecture materials, this course is not self-paced. You will have weekly assignments with weekly due dates. In order to successfully complete this course, you must submit your assignments on time. If You Have Questions when taking an online course you must take the initiative to ask your instructor questions if you do not understand the material. The Course Discussion Forum is to be used to ask questions concerning class material. Your response from the instructor will most likely not be instantaneous.
Please do not email your instructor questions about the course material; use the course discussion forum so that your classmates may also benefit from the answer. In addition, I will also post information and updates to this forum. It is your responsibility to read all the posts in to the course discussion forum in a timely manner.

ETUDES COURSE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
You must use ETUDES to participate in this course. You will need a computer with access to the internet.
• PC users: use the most current version of Internet Explorer
• Mac users: You must use the most current version of Firefox. Safari is not supported by ETUDES.
• AOL browsers are not suitable for ETUDES.
Your web browser should display frames, run Java 1.4.1 (or later) and JavaScript, and have cookies enabled. You must also be able to view:
• Pop-up windows
• PowerPoint presentations
• Word documents
• PDF files
• Flash files
• And be able to listen to sound.

NETIQUETTE RULES
Online etiquette is important to keep in mind when communicating with others on the Internet.
These core rules of netiquette are excerpted from the book Netiquette by Virginia Shea (Albion Books, 1997).
Rule 1: Remember the Human
Rule 2: Adhere to the same standards of behavior online that you follow in real life
Rule 3: Know where you are in cyberspace
Rule 4: Respect other people's time and bandwidth
Rule 5: Make yourself look good online
Rule 6: Share expert knowledge
Rule 7: Help keep flame wars under control
Rule 8: Respect other people's privacy
Rule 9: Don't abuse your power
Rule 10: Be forgiving of other people's mistakes
For further information on each rule, go to: http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html

Twining's Laws for Computer Users

1. Think before you click
2. Read the help files
3. Save early, save often
4. Keep a backup, keep it current
5. The network will fail, count on it
6. The first answer is always "it depends"

Source: Dr. Joanne twining at http://intertwining.org/sjsu/

COURSE ADVISORIES

- I love being corrected and or proven wrong, if you should catch a mistake or inaccuracy my teaching it will be worth BIG points.
- Grammar, spelling, and style are important to me. You are expected to use proper English grammar. IM, chat, and email slang and abbreviations are not acceptable forms of communication in this course. Please do not use them in homework, the discussion forum, or in e-mails to your instructor.
- I was born before cell phones were.
- Check my Rate My Professor comments before staying in this class
- Always speak for yourself (I think... In my opinion… I saw… etc.)
- We take one 20 min. breaks about midway in this class.

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TENTATIVE COURSE AGENDA – THEATRE 100

Date	Assigned Reading	Theme	Notes
8/28	-	Theater vs. Theatre, Syllabus	This is the best way for you to get to know the class and what it will take to do well in it.
9/4	Ch. 10	The Greeks Did Not Invent Theatre & Space and Place: Theatre In The Theatre	A look at the real origins of Theatre and the architecture of Theater
9/11	Ch. 3	Rehearsal and Performance	A /B Scenes **Quiz 1**
9/18	-	The Glory That Was Greece…	A look at Greek Mythology & Drama
9/25	Ch. 4	Design in the Theater	A look at design elements in the theatre **Quiz 2**
10/2	-	Rehearsal and Performance	Monologue **Light in the Darkness Discussion**
10/9	Ch. 11	What Part of Noh Don't You Understand?	A look at Noh and Kyogen
10/16	-	A Devine Comedy	A look at Medieval Theatre
10/23	**Independent Mid-Term Work & Rehearsal**		
10/30	Ch. 12	Mid-Term Presentations	A look at the Theatre of Lope De Vega ***Design Exercise Due**
11/6	-	Theatre Get's Real	A look at Modern Realism
11/13	Ch. 15	Here We Go With Godot	A look at Theatre of the Absurd **Quiz 3**
11/20	-	Theatre Out of Joint	Joint Stock and the birth of interview based Theatre **ALMAS Review Paper Due (3-5page)**
11/27	Ch. 16	Theatre of the Oppressed	A look at Agit-Prop Theatre
12/4	-	Theatre Through the Grape Vine	*El Teatro Campesino* **Quiz 4**

12/11	**Final Pot Luck 8:00pm-10:00pm**

SYLLABUS CONTRACT SHEET

I have fully read and understand the syllabus and agree to abide by all rules and regulations therein.

Name *(Please Print)* _____

Signature _____ Date_____