

VERNON COLLEGE  
SYLLABUS

DIVISION: Communications

DATE: Fall 2010

COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: DRAM 1310 Introduction to Theatre

CREDITS HRS: 3    HRS/WK LEC: 3    HRS/WK LAB: 0    LEC/LAB COMB: 3

I.    VERNON COLLEGE GENERAL EDUCATION PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

General education at Vernon College reflects the institution's deep conviction that successful, satisfying lives require a wide range of skills and knowledge. We are dedicated to providing educational opportunities that develop the academic, career, and personal capabilities of individuals so they may achieve self-fulfillment and participate fully and positively in a democratic society. Vernon College has identified the following college-level competencies generated from the general education core:

GENERAL EDUCATION CORE COMPETENCIES:

- A.    Critical Thinking: Students will evaluate the validity of their own and others' ideas through questioning, analyzing, synthesizing, and evaluating results into the creative process.
- B.    Communication/Interpersonal: Students will develop effective reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills to communicate verbally and nonverbally.
- C.    Scientific and Mathematical Literacy: Students will apply an understanding of mathematical, natural, and behavioral scientific principles and methods to solve abstract and practical problems.
- D.    Information Literacy: Students will develop the information literacy skills to confidently and competently locate, use, and evaluate information.
- E.    Cultural Literacy: Students will develop an appreciation of human culture and its diversity and the role of the creative arts in society.

II.    CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

Survey of all phases of theater including its history, dramatic works, stage techniques, production procedures, and relation to the fine arts. Participation in major productions may be required. Special Fee: \$18.00

III.    REQUIRED BACKGROUND:

No prior experience is necessary

IV.    TEXT AND OTHER REFERENCE MATERIALS:

Cohen, Robert, Theatre Brief Version and Enjoy the Play. 9th Edition. McGraw-Hill Publishing, Mountain View, California, 2008

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## V. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

1. An overview of the history of Theatre
2. Lecture/demonstration on the elements of acting, directing and design
3. Audio visual aids to allow the student to see various play productions
4. Tests and/or quizzes to determine the students understanding and knowledge of the subject

Students desiring auxiliary aids and services for this course should make their requests to the instructor and the Special Services Director.

## VI. COURSE CONTENT:

1. Viewing and evaluating plays, and the basic elements of acting, directing and design
2. Survey of the history of theatre

## VII. LEARNER OUTCOMES:

By the end of this course each student should be able to:

1. Evaluate the literary form of a play
2. Evaluate the acting, directing and design of a play
3. Discuss the influences of theatre in his daily life

## VIII. ASSESSMENT:

Grades are based on participation in class discussion, completion & mastery of assigned projects and test/quiz grades.

1. To pass the class with a "C" students must attend the presentation and discussion of the productions to be viewed and make no lower than 70 on all tests and quizzes.
2. To pass the class with a "B" students must complete the above with no lower than 80 on tests and quizzes and write a 3-5 page, typed & doubled spaced biographical essay on one of the names from the attached list.
3. To pass the class with a "A" students must complete the above with no lower than 90 on all tests and quizzes and attend the Vernon College Theatre Ensemble production and write a 2-3 page typed and doubled spaced critique of the production.
4. Extra credit may be earned by participation as either cast or crew in the Vernon College Theatre Ensemble's production.

Vernon College does not discriminate on the basis of color, race, gender, age, religion, national origin, or disability.