Course Syllabus

Department: Visual and Performing Arts

Date: Nov, 2012

I. Course Prefix and Number: THE 200

Course Name: Directing Workshop

Credit Hours and Contact Hours: 3 credit hours and 6 contact hours

Catalog Description including pre- and co-requisites: A workshop in directing techniques with emphasis on play interpretation, casting, stage movement, character development, rehearsals and performance. Each student works with students in Acting II on various directing techniques including one scene presentation. Prerequisites: THE 102 and THE 103 or permission of the instructor.

II. Course Outcomes and Objectives

Student Learning Outcomes: The primary objectives of the course are to examine the role of the director in the theatre today; to familiarize students with the techniques of play interpretation and directing; and to provide practical experience in directing.

The student will:
1. Perform play analyses and character analyses.
2. Define the theme, spine and super objective for the plays they will be working with, and recognize how their scenes functions within the plays’ dramatic structure.
3. Break a play down into French scenes and title each.
4. Determine traits for actors and hold auditions.
5. Pre-block a scene and convey that information to actors.
6. Direct actors during the rehearsal process.
7. Prepare a scene for performance (create a floor plan, rehearsal schedule, costume, and select props).
8. Participate in post-mortem critique sessions of their work.

Relationship to Academic Programs and Curriculum:

This course is an elective within the Theatre Arts advisement area. The course may also be taken as a general elective for any student at the college provided they meet he prerequisites or have equivalent experience.

College Learning Outcomes Addressed by the Course:

- [x] writing
- [ ] computer literacy
- [x] oral communications
- [ ] ethics/values
- [x] reading
- [ ] citizenship
- [ ] mathematics
- [ ] global concerns
III. Instructional Materials and Methods

Types of Course Materials:

Textbook and a minimum of two play scripts.

Methods of Instruction (e.g. Lecture, Lab, Seminar …):

Lectures, discussions, exercises, written assignments, rehearsals, performances and critique sessions

IV. Assessment Measures (Summarize how the college and student learning outcomes will be assessed):

Oral communication – will be assessed during observations of directors working with their actors during rehearsals.

Reading, writing, and critical thinking will be assessed through the students’ analysis of the play texts and its characters.

V. General Outline of Topics Covered:

A. Directorial Vision
B. Director’s Functions and Responsibilities
C. Play Analysis
D. Character Analysis
E. Thought, Diction and Music
F. Floor Plan
G. Blocking
H. Prompt Book
I. Rhythm, Tempo and Pace
J. Auditions and Casting
K. Rehearsal Schedule
L. Working with Actors
M. Rehearsals
N. Performances
O. Critique Sessions