

**TRE101 (1) Introduction to Theatre**  
**Department of Communication & Theatre**  
**Point Loma Nazarene University**  
**Fall 2017**

**Instructor:** Megan DeBoard

**Office Location:** Salomon Theatre (Behind the building, looking onto the tennis courts)

**E-mail:** mdeboard@pointloma.edu

**Office Hours:** MW 10:30-12:30 & by appointment

**PLNU MISSION**

**To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send**

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

At the end of the course, you should be able to do the following:

1. Understand the different aspects of theatre.
2. Identify and explain changes theatre has made throughout history.
3. Discuss where theatre is going in the future and imagine new possibilities.
4. Take part in practical design, playwriting and acting.

**COURSE TEXT**

Cohen, Robert. *Theatre*. (9<sup>th</sup> Ed.). New York: McGraw-Hill.

**CLASS EXPECTATIONS**

1. Please arrive on time. Turn off your cell phones before class starts and place them where they will not be a distraction to you or others. Personal computers, tablets, smartphones can be used only for taking notes or completing in-class assignments. You will be asked to leave the classroom if you are found texting or doing other homework, playing games or are on social networking sites on laptops during class time. Food must be consumed outside of the classroom, but drinks are fine.
2. **ATTENDANCE:** Regular attendance is required. You need to be present to learn and this is a participation course. Roll will be taken at the beginning of each class meeting. Excused absences (University-sponsored sports, forensics or other activities) need to be brought to my attention in email **before** the day(s) you will be absent. See “Academic Policies” in the undergraduate academic catalog.
3. **SYLLABUS:** You are responsible for the due dates stated in the schedule. If changes to the syllabus are given verbally in class, any student absent on that day is responsible for getting the changes.
4. **COMMUNICATION:** Please check your Point Loma Canvas messages regularly. This is the primary way that I will be contacting you. You are responsible for any changes to assignments that are sent through the pointloma.edu address. Allow up to 48 hours for a response from me. If you have not received a response within 48 hours, please follow up.
5. **FINAL EXAMINATIONS.** No accommodations for early examinations or alternative days are allowed per university policy. The final examination schedule is posted on the “Class Schedules” site.
6. **ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSIONS:** All work is due by 11:59 p.m. on the day indicated on the assignment requirement sheet and on the schedule. If you turn in an assignment after the due date

indicated on the syllabus, there will be a 5 point deduction for each day the assignment is late. There is no distinction between “excused” and “unexcused” assignments.

7. **GROUP PRESENTATIONS:** You must be ready to present on your assigned day. If there are extenuating circumstances (medical or family emergencies, PLNU team games/activities), you may prearrange to exchange speech days with another group if prior notice is given to the instructor. I am not responsible for finding another group to switch with you.
8. **ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:** At PLNU, we want you to exhibit integrity in your work. If you reference another person, give them credit. If credit isn’t given, it demonstrates academic irresponsibility and reflects disrespect for your community and yourself. As stated in the university catalogue: “Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one’s own when in reality they are the results of another person’s creativity and effort. Such acts include plagiarism, copying of class assignments, and copying or other fraudulent behavior on examinations. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for a) that particular assignment or examination, and/or b) the course.”
9. **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS:** Students requiring special accommodations on the basis of physical, learning or psychological disability for this class are required to file documentation with the Disability Resource Center (in the Bond Academic Center). The DRC will write me with recommendations as to how to meet the individual needs of the student. Please contact Pat Curley within the first two weeks of the term so as to give accommodations as early as possible.
10. **FERPA POLICY:** In compliance with federal law, neither PLNU student ID nor social security number should be used in publicly posted grades or returned sets of assignments without written permission from the student. This class will meet the federal requirements by distributing all grades and papers individually. Also in compliance with FERPA, you will be the only person given information about your progress in this class unless you have designated others to receive it in the “Information Release” section of the student portal. See ‘Policy Statements’ in the undergrad student catalog.

### GRADING

Assignment	Description <i>(please see Canvas for detailed descriptions of each assignment)</i>	Points
<b>Major Projects</b>	Design Project	150
	Group Presentation	150
	Scenefest	100
<b>Assignments</b>	Play Reviews <i>(3 plays in the semester, 50 points each)</i>	150
	CPAs	50
<b>Participation</b>	Extremely important, especially when we have guests	100
<b>Final Evaluation</b>	Exam – cumulative	150
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>		<b>850</b>

## GRADING SCALE

Points	Percentage	Grade
925 – 1000	93 – 100	A
895 – 924	90 – 92	A-
885 – 894	88 – 89	B+
825 – 884	83 – 87	B
795 – 824	80 – 82	B-
775 – 794	78 – 79	C+
725 – 774	73 – 77	C
695 – 724	70 – 72	C-
675 – 694	68 – 69	D+
625 – 674	63 – 67	D
595 – 624	60 – 62	D-
0 – 594	0 - 59	F

## PARTICIPATION RUBRIC

Points	Grade	Description
100 - 90	A	Frequent participation in class discussions; listens and responds with thoughtful ideas; is proactive in offering ideas & viewpoints in group work; does not engage in distracting behavior (social media, texting, looking at other sites/homework while “taking notes”)
80 - 89	B	Participates in most class discussions; responds to others’ input with little prompting; may engage in distracting behavior
70 - 79	C	Occasional participant in class discussions; has to be prompted to provide response and input; engages often in distracting behavior
60 – 69	D	Infrequent participant in discussions; needs to be prompted often to respond; engages frequently in distracting behavior
59 & below	F	Little or no participation; is not proactive in class and small group & below discussions, even with prompting; engages frequently in distracting behavior

## GRADING POLICY

The core of my grading philosophy is that one’s grade is earned. In other words, you must work for the grade that you want. All assignments outlined in the following pages have requirements that outline the bare minimum work—any student who fulfills the minimum requirements, earns, at best, a “C”. In order to achieve “A” or “B” level work, a student must demonstrate work that is above and beyond the requirements of any given assignment, which include, but are not limited to: critical thinking, thorough analysis, and creativity.

**CPA’s:** These assignments must have **two copies**, one for to be turned in and one for you to hold onto during discussion. This is also my way of seeing who came to class. They are pass/fail. If you have turned a copy in with thoughtful answers you pass (even if the answers are wrong, you pass.). If you turn it in with short answers, or do not turn it in at all, you fail.

**PLAY ATTENDANCE AND WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS:** There are only a few written assignments planned for this course. The purpose of the written assignments are to help you analyze certain plays and concepts, and to think critically about them. These assignments will also help you prepare for the your final projects. Requirements for each assignment will be distributed ahead of the due date. These assignments will be graded on the presence of critical thinking and insightful analysis.

**PRESENTATIONS** make up the bulk of the semester grade. Each assignment has an accompanying list of requirements (see Canvas for detailed instructions) and will be graded on two different components: the content and the delivery.

For each project, I will be looking for fulfillment of the stated requirements, whether it be designing an entire show, or leading the class in learning about an era of theatre.

**PARTICIPATION** is one of the key components in a course such as TRE101. Participation includes, but is not limited to, volunteering points of view in class discussions, engaging in active listening of fellow students, refraining from texting, looking at the Internet on laptops, napping, or other activities unrelated to the class. If you are found consistently not participating, points will be deducted from the total participation grade, at my discretion, for each infraction after the first warning.

### ASSIGNMENT STYLE & FORMATTING

All speech outlines, the final paper and assignments are to be typed, double-spaced, using Times New Roman, 12 pt. font, with 1” margins. Speech outlines are required to use APA formatting for source citations and bibliographies.

Please refer to [www.apa.org](http://www.apa.org), <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/> or your friendly local librarian for help with paper formatting.

Name Date  Assignment Title	Last Name pg. #
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### CLASS SCHEDULE

*(subject to change at the instructor's discretion)*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic(s)</b>	<b>Assignment(s)/Readings Due</b>	<b>Homework</b>
August 29	Welcome & Class overview		-Read Ch. 1 What is Theatre? -CPA Ch. 1 (found on Canvas) <b>MUST PRINT TWO COPIES</b>
30	What is Theatre?	-Ch. 1 What is Theatre? -CPA Ch. 1 <b>MUST PRINT TWO COPIES</b>	-Read Ch. 2 What is a Play? -CPA Ch. 2 (found on Canvas) <b>MUST PRINT TWO COPIES</b>
September 4	<i>Labor Day – No Class</i>		
6	What is Theatre? What is a Play?	-Ch. 1 What is Theatre? -Ch. 2 What is a Play? -CPA Ch. 2 <b>MUST PRINT TWO COPIES</b>	-Read Ch. 16 The Critic and the Dramaturg -CPA Ch. 16 (found on Canvas) <b>MUST PRINT TWO COPIES</b>
11	What is a Play? The Critic and the Dramaturg	-Ch. 2 What is a Play? -Ch. 16 The Critic and the Dramaturg	
13	The Critic and the Dramaturg	-Ch. 16 The Critic and the Dramaturg	-Read Ch. 13 The Playwright -CPA Ch. 13
18	The Playwright	- Ch. 13 The Playwright	-Prepare questions for Guest
20	The Playwright – Guest Playwright		-Read Ch. 15 The Director -CPA Ch. 15 -Think about play ideas for project
25	The Director	- Ch. 15 The Director	-Prepare questions for Megan DeBoard and Rob Lutfy

27	The Director – Guest Director Rob Lutfy		-Read Ch. 14 Designers and Technicians - CPA Ch. 14 - Choose play for Project
October 2	Designers and Technicians	- Ch. 14 Designers and Technicians	-Prepare questions for Chad Lee Thymes
4	Designers and Technicians – Chad Lee Thymes		-Read Ch. 12 The Actor -CPA Ch. 12 -Submit concept for project
9	The Actor	- Ch. 12 The Actor	-Prepare questions for Jacque Wilke
11	The Actor – Jacque Wilke		-Prepare projects!
16	Design Projects!		-Prepare projects!
18	Design Projects!		-First Review paper! Due in Canvas MONDAY, 10/24 AT 11:59PM
23	Design Projects!		-Prepare Era projects!
25	Class not in session, meet outside of class to work on Era projects		-Practice leading class for Era projects! -Read Ch. 3 and 4: The Ancients and The Middle Ages
30	The Ancients and The Middle Ages	Ch. 3 and 4: The Ancients and The Middle Ages	-Read Ch. 5: The Renaissance
November 1	The Renaissance	Ch. 5 The Renaissance	-Read Ch. 6 The Theatre of Asia
6	The Royal Era	Ch. 7 The Royal Era	-Read Ch. 8 The Modern Theatre: Realism -Paper on <i>Little Women</i> DUE MONDAY, 11/13 AT 11:59PM
8	The Modern Theatre: Realism	- Ch. 8 The Modern Theatre: Realism	-Read Ch. 9 The Modern Theatre: Antirealism -Paper on <i>Little Women</i> DUE MONDAY, 11/13 AT 11:59PM
13	The Modern Theatre: Anti Realism	- Ch. 9 The Modern Theatre: Anti Realism	-Read Ch. 10 Musical Theatre - Paper on <i>Little Women</i> DUE MONDAY, 11/13 AT 11:59PM
15	Musical Theatre	-Ch. 10 Musical Theatre	-Read Ch. 11 Theatre Today
20	Theatre Today	- Ch. 11 Theatre Today	
24	<b>No class – Thanksgiving</b>		☐ Be thankful that you are almost done!
27	Physical Theatre	Physical Theatre (no reading to accompany)	-Extra Credit Play Paper due MONDAY, 12/4 AT 11:59PM on Canvas! -Begin working on Scenefest -Prepare for Review Session
30	Study Session for Written Exam		-Extra Credit Play Paper due MONDAY, 12/ AT 11:59PM on Canvas! - Study and Scenefest!

7	<i>Final Exam pt I - written</i>	In class; multiple choice/written portion of final exam	
9			<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare for Scenefest over Finals week
12-16	<i>Final Exam pt II - oral (time and date TBA)</i>	Details TBA	<input type="checkbox"/> Go forth and celebrate!