

**“Introduction to Theatre” TRE 101, Section 2**  
**Department of Communication & Theatre**  
**Point Loma Nazarene University**

<b>Meeting days:</b> Tuesday & Thursday	<b>Instructor title and name:</b> Prof. Arnica Laurice, MFA
<b>Meeting times:</b> 11:00am – 11:55am	<b>Phone:</b>
<b>Meeting location:</b> LSCC Rm. 205A	<b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:alaurice@pointloma.edu">alaurice@pointloma.edu</a>
<b>Final Exam:</b> May 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2018 @ 10:30am	<b>Office:</b> By appointment, Main Campus - Cabrillo Annex, Rm.102

**PLNU MISSION STATEMENT**

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.

**REQUIRED MATERIALS & RESOURCES**

Cohen, Robert (2016). *Introduction to Theatre (8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> Ed.)*, McGraw-Hill Education.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is an introduction to the principles and practices of the theatre arts, and an exploration of how the theatre has powerfully impacted human societies from the beginning of recorded history. We will employ lectures, applied reading, discussion and participatory activities including group projects and required attendance of local theatrical performances to this end.

This course is one of the components of the General Education Program at Point Loma Nazarene University, under the category of Seeking Cultural Perspectives. By including this course in a common educational experience for undergraduates, the faculty supports the survey of human endeavors from a historical, cultural, linguistic and philosophical perspective, including developing critical appreciation of human expression-- both artistic and literary.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Learning Objectives	Learning Activities
Through successful completion of this course, you will be able to:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Identify and discuss the role of theatre during major historical periods and social movements.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Readings, quizzes, discussions, lectures, midterm and final paper.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Describe and analyze the work of the various practitioners who collaborate in the creation of theatre.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Play attendance &amp; reviews and SceneFest project.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Connect with your local theatre community to engage in culturally enriching activities.</li> <li>▪ Articulate an informed opinion to thoughtfully and critically evaluate stage performances.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Play attendance &amp; reviews</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Collaborate with others in the creation and performance of a short piece for the stage.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ SceneFest project.</li> </ul>

**COURSE PROCEDURE**

- You are expected to be familiar with all material in this syllabus.
- You must create a “Live Text” account at the beginning of the semester. <https://www.livetext.com/>

- Written assignments may be submitted in person, uploaded to Canvas or by email by the due date stated in the assignment. Class Preparation assignments (such as quizzes, discussions on Canvas or questions on the readings) will not be accepted for credit if submitted late. Other assignments may be considered for partial credit, unless otherwise stated, at the professors discretion, based on the following: assignments submitted within 24 hours of the assignment due date will be eligible for up to 90%, assignments submitted 24-48 hours after due will be eligible for up to 85%, assignments submitted 48-72 hours late will be eligible for up to 75%, assignments more than 72 hours late may be submitted for review and feedback from instructor.
- A group project (SceneFest) is a significant part of your grade for this course. You are not being evaluated on your talent, but your willingness to participate and contribute. Some class time will be given to assist you with this, but plan to make yourself available outside of class as well. Be respectful of your group member’s time and be sure to pull your weight. You will be evaluated by your group on your attendance and contributions to the project.
- Final papers must be typed. Work should be proofread and free of errors, following MLA standard formatting, 10-12 point font size, single spaced, and all research materials properly cited. This on-line writing lab from Purdue is very helpful: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/1/> As well, the Tutorial Center has people available to help with proofreading, etc., and the staff at Ryan Library can assist with research.

**CLASS ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING BREAKDOWN**

Your grade for the course will be based on the following breakdown:

20%	Class Preparation, Attendance & Participation	Short assignments, quizzes and discussions on Canvas will be used to engage with assigned readings and promote greater student involvement in classroom learning. Attendance will also be taken into account for this portion of the grade.
20%	Play Attendance & Reviews	Students will be required to attend two live theatre productions, chosen from a short-list of approved productions which will be provided by the instructor. A Theatre Critique and Theatre Review for these shows will be submitted for credit by the applicable due dates. More detailed information will be provided in class.
20%	Midterm Exam	A midterm exam will be given which will cover the material in class and readings up to this point. The midterm exam is tentatively scheduled for March.1 <sup>st</sup> , 2018.
20%	SceneFest	In groups, students will prepare, rehearse and present a short dramatic performance for the class. Students will practice the various “jobs” of theatre: writing, directing, scenic & costume design, as well as acting. More detailed information will be provided in class.
20%	Final Exam	A final paper will be submitted in lieu of an exam. Students will explore in more depth an aspect of theatre that has piqued their interest. A list of suggested topics, rubric and more detailed information will be provided in class.

**ASSESSMENT & GRADING**

**According to PLNU policy, the Grade Scale is as follows: (% to Letter):**

93-100% = A	73-76% = C
90-92% = A-	70-72% = C-
87-89% = B+	67-69% = D+
83-86% = B	63-66% = D
80-82% = B-	60-62% = D-
77-79% = C+	0-59% = F

Some assignment for this course will be graded as complete/incomplete while others may receive a point value based on provided rubric and assignment information. These will then be weighted into the overall Grading Breakdown as provided above. Canvas will reflect completed portions of the Grading Breakdown but will not account for assignments that have not been graded yet (for example Attendance & Participation and Final Exam grades will not be entered until the end of the semester). You can speak with the instructor at any time if you have questions about your standing in the course. Your mid semester and final letter grade for the course will be submitted through the PLNU Portal.

**PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY**

Regular and punctual attendance at all classes is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent from more than 10 percent of class meetings, the faculty member can file a written report which may result in de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation. See [Academic Policies](#) in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog.

**COURSE SPECIFIC ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY**

In order to benefit from this course, you are expected to attend each class session and participate in a positive manner. Distracting or disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated and may result in removal from the classroom and significantly affect your final grade.

Being on time and ready at the start of class is important not only to your instructor but to your fellow student. If you are late, please enter the classroom quietly. If you are late on a presentation day, you may not enter the class while a speech or presentation is in progress. Lates will be considered as a half absence when calculating Attendance & Participation grades. If you are late, it is your responsibility to ensure that the professor know so you are not marked as absent for the class period.

Excused absences (University-sponsored sports, forensics or other activities) need to be brought to the instructor's attention in writing before the day(s) you will be absent. Any absences, excused or otherwise, mean you are responsible for finding out what you have missed, including any assignments that may be due before your next class. If an absence is scheduled for the same time as you are scheduled for a presentation or midterm exam, it is up to you to notify the instructor well in advance in order to coordinate alternative arrangements.

**STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY**

It is the student's responsibility to maintain his/her class schedule. Should the need arise to drop this course (personal emergencies, poor performance, etc.), the student has the responsibility to follow through (provided the drop date meets the stated calendar deadline established by the university), not the instructor. Simply ceasing to attend this course or failing to follow through to arrange for a change of registration ([drop/add](#)) may result in a grade of F on the official transcript.

**FINAL EXAMINATION POLICY**

Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination on its scheduled day. The final examination schedule is posted on the [Class Schedules](#) site. No requests for early examinations or alternative days will be approved.

**USE OF TECHNOLOGY**

Technology can be a powerful tool for learning, communication, and collaboration. However, it can also be distracting and interfere in other levels of human interaction and syntheses of course material. Please keep cell phones on silent during class. Electronic devices such as laptops, tablets and smart phones, may be used on a limited basis during class with instructor approval, but instructor reserves the right to monitor or eliminate their use or welcome in class.

**PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY**

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

**PLNU ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY**

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. 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. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

**PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY**

If you have a diagnosed disability, please contact PLNU's Disability Resource Center (DRC) within the first two weeks of class to demonstrate need and to register for accommodation by phone at 619-849-2486 or by e-mail at [DRC@pointloma.edu](mailto:DRC@pointloma.edu). See [Disability Resource Center](#) for additional information.

**Proposed Class Schedule**

Class #	Date	Subject	Chapter/ Readings for Class	Assignment for Next Class
1	1/11	Introductions Syllabus Why Theatre?		Read Ch.1 & Quiz on Canvas
2	1/16	What Is Theatre?	Ch.1	Read Ch.2 & Quiz on Canvas
3	1/18	What Is a Play?	Ch.2	Read Ch.3 & Quiz on Canvas
4	1/23	The Ancients: Ritual & Storytelling	Ch.3	
5	1/25	The Greeks	Ch.3	Read Ch.4 & Quiz on Canvas
6	1/30	The Middle Ages	Ch.4	
7	2/1	Mysteries, Miracles & Moralities The Critic - Theatre Reviews & Criticism	Ch.4	Read Ch.5 & Quiz on Canvas
8	2/6	The Renaissance Commedia dell' Arte	Ch.5	
9	2/8	Shakespeare	Ch.5	Read Ch.7 & Quiz on Canvas
10	2/13	The Royal Era	Ch.7	Read Ch.6 & Quiz on Canvas
11	2/15	The Theatre of Asia	Ch.6	Read Ch.8 & Quiz on Canvas
12	2/20	The Modern Theatre: Realism	Ch.8	Read Ch.9 & Quiz on Canvas
13	2/22	The Modern Theatre: Antirealism	Ch.9	Read Ch.10 & Quiz on Canvas
14	2/27	Musical Theatre	Ch.10	<b>Study for Midterm</b>
15	3/1	➤ <b>MIDTERM EXAM</b>		<b>Theatre Critique due 3/13</b>
<b>Spring Break</b>				
16	3/13	Intro SceneFest Project	Ch.16	
17	3/15	The Playwright	Ch.13	
18	3/20	The Director	Ch.15	
19	3/22	The Actor	Ch.12	
20	3/27	Designers & Technicians	Ch.14	
<b>Easter Break</b>				
21	4/3	SceneFest Design Workday		
22	4/5	Improvisational Theatre		
23	4/10	Incorporating Music and Movement		<b>Theatre Review due 4/12</b>
24	4/12	SceneFest Workday		
25	4/17	➤ <b>SceneFest Performances</b>		
26	4/19	➤ <b>SceneFest Performances</b>		
27	4/24	➤ <b>SceneFest Performances</b>		
28	4/26	Theatre Now		
<b>Classes End</b>				
EXAM	5/3	<b>The Final Exam for this course is schedule for Thursday May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 @ 10:30am. Final papers will be due by 1:00pm Thursday May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018. No late papers will be accepted for credit.</b>		

\*This schedule is subject to change by instructor.