

Freshman Seminar: UGS 101.001 (1 cr.—Pass-No Grade)
Fall 2010
Tuesday 4:10-5:00 p.m., AUD 144

ENGAGING THE WORLD: The Theatrical Experience I
Department of Theatre's Season of "Engaging the World"

Instructors:

Dr. George Peters, Chair (petersg@msu.edu)
Prof. Kirk Domer, Head of Design (domer@msu.edu)
Prof. Sherrie Barr, Director of Dance (barrsh@msu.edu)
Prof. Rob Roznowski, Head of Acting and Directing (roznows5@msu.edu)

Course Description:

This seminar is designed to offer students an in-depth exploration of three shows being performed by the Department of Theatre during fall semester 2009:

- *The American Clock*, by Arthur Miller
- *Evil Dead: The Musical*, Book and Lyrics by George Reinblatt
- *As You Like It*, by William Shakespeare

Team-taught by instructors and guest lecturers from the Department of Theatre with expertise in the major aspects of theatre and dance production—acting and directing, design, dance, and dramatic literature—the seminar will allow participants to gain first-hand acquaintance with the collaborative process of theatrical and dance production: from study of the script; to the conception of the production developed by the director, designers, and choreographers; the actors' and dancers' approach to learning their roles; the work of crew and stage managers in mounting the production; and critical appreciation of the final product, the performance itself. Students will have the opportunity to engage individually with directors, choreographers, designers, cast and crew. Three assignments focus on different aspects of the production process.

Course Objectives:

- To gain an understanding and appreciation of the collaborative nature of theatre and dance production.
- To learn what steps lead from the work of a playwright to the staging of a dramatic production.
- To understand the significance and meaning of three plays.
- To foster appreciation of and excitement about the experience of theatre and dance.

Requirements to Receive a "Pass":

1. Attendance at scheduled class meetings. You must notify Dr. George Peters (petersg@msu.edu) if an emergency makes it impossible for you to attend class.
Attendance will be taken.
2. Reading of three scripts.
3. Attendance at the Thursday evening performance OR Sunday matinee of each of the three shows, including the pre-show director's talk or the post-show symposium.
NOTE: If a scheduling conflict makes it impossible for you to attend the designated

Thursday night OR Sunday matinee performance you may attend a different performance. Please let your instructors know if this is the case.

4. Completion of three assignments (details on ANGEL)

The Plays (Scripts), Performances, and Tickets

- For synopses of the three spring Main Stage shows, see under *Current Season* on the Department of Theatre Homepage (www.theatre.msu.edu).
 - *All scripts will be made available on ANGEL*
- Tickets: Student tickets for the plays are available online through the Wharton Center box office (www.whartoncenter.com) or at the Wharton Center Box Office.

Prices:

- *The American Clock* (\$8)
- *Evil Dead: The Musical* (\$15)
- *As You Like It* (\$10)
- A special season ticket offer for the season of “Engaging the World” is available to MSU students: \$50 admits one to all Main Stage and Second Stage productions of the Department of Theatre 2010-11.

Note: Prices for all shows are subject to a \$2.50 Wharton Center restoration fee. Additional service fees apply to orders placed online or by phone.

Class Schedule:

Week	Instructors	Date	Topic	Assignment
1		8/31-9/1	NO CLASS	NO CLASS
2	GP, KD, SB, RR	9/7	Introduction to the seminar; tour of Theatre space in Auditorium Building	<u>Assignment for next class:</u> Read <i>The American Clock</i>
3	GP & SB	9/14	Discussion of the content and themes of <i>The American Clock</i>	
4	GP & SB and Company	9/21	The Collaborative Process of <i>The American Clock</i>	<u>Assignment for next class:</u> Posted on Angel under Lessons
		9/22 – 10/3	Sunday 9/26: Attend performance of <i>The American Clock</i>, Arena Theatre - Pre-show director’s talk: 1:15 p.m. - Performance: 2:00 p.m. ***OR*** Thursday 9/30: Attend performance of <i>The American Clock</i>, Arena Theatre - Performance: 7:30 p.m. - Post-show symposium: immediately following the show	
5	GP & SB	9/28	Presentation of student <i>The American Clock</i> Projects	<u>Assignment for next class:</u> Read <i>Evil Dead: The Musical</i>
6	RR & AD	10/5	Discussion of the content and themes of <i>Evil Dead: The Musical</i>	
7	RR & AD and Company	10/12	The Collaborative Process of <i>Evil Dead: The Musical</i>	<u>Assignment for next class:</u> Posted on Angel under Lessons

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8		10/15 – 10/24	<p>Sunday 10/17: Attend performance of <i>Evil Dead: The Musical</i>, Pasant Theatre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pre-show designer's talk: 1:15 p.m. <p>Performance: 2:00 p.m.</p> <p>***OR***</p> <p>Thursday 10/21: Attend performance of <i>Evil Dead: The Musical</i>, Pasant Theatre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Performance: 7:30 p.m. - Post-show symposium: immediately following the performance 	
9	RR & AD	10/26	Presentation of student <i>Evil Dead: The Musical</i> Projects	<u>Assignment for next class:</u> Read <i>As You Like It</i>
10	KD & CT	11/2	Discussion of the content and themes of <i>As You Like It</i>	
11	KD & CT and Company	11/9	The Collaborative Process of <i>As You Like It</i>	
12		11/16 – 11/21	<p>Thursday 11/18: Attend performance of <i>As You Like It</i>, Pasant Theatre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Performance: 7:30 p.m. - Post-show symposium: immediately following the performance <p>***OR***</p> <p>Sunday 11/21: Attend performance of <i>As You Like It</i>, Pasant Theatre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pre-show director's talk: 1:15 p.m. - Performance: 2:00 p.m. 	
13	GP, KD, SB, RR & CT	11/23	Presentation of student <i>As You Like It</i> Projects	LAST CLASS – Course Evaluations
14		11/30	NO CLASS	NO CLASS
15		12/7	NO CLASS	NO CLASS

OTHER EXCITING DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE EVENTS FOR FALL 2010:

Second Stage and DOT Initiatives:

Haunted Aud – 2nd Annual (The Auditorium Building)

Thursday, October 28 - 8:00p.m. - 1:00a.m.

Friday, October 29 - 8:00p.m. - 1:00a.m.

Saturday, October 30 - 8:00p.m. - 1:00a.m.

Sunday, October 31 - 8:00p.m. - 11:00p.m.

- *Anyone who has walked the darkened hallways of the Auditorium knows that the building is haunted. Following last year's horrifyingly successful fundraiser, the entire maze-like building promises even more screaming, bloodsucking, and flesh-eating. Not for the faint of heart.*

Freshman Showcase: *Secret in the Wings* – 4th Annual (Arena Theatre)

Friday, December 10 - 8:00p.m.

Saturday, December 11 - 2:00p.m.

Saturday, December 11 - 8:00p.m.

Sunday, December 12 - 2:00p.m.

- *For the fourth year in a row, this event will be a chance to showcase the work of the Department's newest members. This event promises to be another exciting and endearing opportunity to welcome MSU's newest theatrical artists.*