Southeast Missouri State University

Department: Department of Theatre & Dance

Course No.: TH 485

Title of Course: Directing II

I. Catalog Descriptions and Credit Hours of Course:
   A continuation of the theories and practices developed in TH 385 along with an introduction to various styles and alternative directing techniques. (3 credit hours)

II. Prerequisite(s):
   TH 385

III. Purposes or Objectives of the Course:
   • To further enhance the student’s understanding of the practical as well as the artistic skills of directing for the theatre;
   • To improve the student’s ability to read plays and apply formalist analysis to various production styles;
   • To explore various theatrical genres (e.g. expressionism, absurdism, existentialism, etc.
   • To expose the student to alternative directing techniques (e.g. Meyerhold, Brecht, Barrault, Brook, etc.)
   • To further develop the student’s ability to communicate clearly with both actors and designers in both rehearsals and production.

IV. Expectations of Students:
   • To attend all classes and participate fully in all discussions and exercises;
   • To complete all outside assignments in a timely fashion and to the best of their ability;
   • To maintain a productive and collegial environment;
   • To remain open and respectful of new and conflicting ideas;
   • To respectfully challenge existing thought and accepted ideas;
   • To take risks with all creative and intellectual endeavors.

V. Course Outline:
   Weeks 1 – 3 Discussion/Exercises: Style
   Week 4 Discussion: Duke of Saxe-Meiningen, Antoine, Stanislavski, & Nemirovich-Danchenko
   Week 5 Theatrical Genre Reports
   Weeks 6 - 7 Workshop Scenes (Group A)
   Week 8 Discussion: Appia & Craig and Theatrical Genre Reports
   Week 9 Directing Class Production (Group A) and Theatrical Genre Reports
Week 10  Discussion: Meyerhold, Vakhtangov, Shaw, and Hopkins
Weeks 11 – 12  Workshop Scenes (Group B)
Week 13  Directing Class Production (Group B)
          Discussion: Copeau, Jouvet, Guthrie, Okhlopkov, Vilar, and Clurman
Weeks 14 – 15  Workshop Scenes (Group C)
Final  Directing Class Production (Group C) and Promptbooks Due

VI. **Textbook(s) and/or Other Required Materials or Equipment:**
- *Play Directing: Analysis, Communication, and Style*, by Francis Hodge
- *Directors On Directing*, edited by Toby Cole & Helen Krich Chinoy

VII. **Basis for Student Evaluation:**
- Participation (20%)
- Research Papers & Oral Reports of Theatrical Genres (20%)
- Written Examination on reading assignments and discussions (20%)
- Directing Class Production (30%)
- Promptbook (10%)