Meeting Times

TR 11:10 AM-12:25 PM THEATRE ARTS 00103

Contact Information

Professor: Brian LeTraunik
Office: TAR Room 215
Office Phone: 409-880-8154
E-Mail: brian.letraunik@lamar.edu
Office Hours: Tues/Thurs 10:00AM-11:00AM
Or by Appointment

E-mail is always the best way to reach me, and is the official communication means of the University. It is how I will be contacting you; you are expected to check your Lamar e-mail at least once a day. Please do not send me a message through Blackboard; make sure it is going straight to my e-mail account.

Catalog Description

An exploration of the acting styles and related social conventions in major eras throughout history. Prerequisites: THEA 1351, THEA 2351, and THEA 3351

Objectives

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. This course is a culmination of all your undergraduate acting work. It is designed to put all your abilities in voice, physicalization, and interpretation to the test with the most challenging performance material you have faced thus far. It is also designed as a chance to re-learn everything you have learned thus far in acting.
2. To challenge the student to push their limits, physically and vocally.
3. To cultivate the students’ research and contextual skills and cultivate an understanding of what Peter Brook means by “the spirit of the play.”

Outcomes

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will
1) Have expanded and challenged their abilities in physical acting and physical comedy.
2) Have expanded and challenged their vocal speaking abilities and vocal range.
3) Have learned to work with heightened and stylized language in performance.
4) Have learned to work with various styles of period dress and shoes as well as properties from various eras.
Course Materials

TEXTBOOK:
The following are required for this course:

- **Acting in High Comedy** by Maria Aitken
- **Tartuffe** by Moliere, Translated by Richard Wilbur
- **Three Plays by Noel Coward: Blithe Spirit, Hay Fever, Private Lives** by Noel Coward

Other Plays may be required that are easily obtainable online

Course Policies

REHEARSAL: Students will be expected to rehearse outside of class hours. The professor will make himself available to coach and rehearse outside of class, but these hours must be arranged with the professor a minimum of 24 hours in advance.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance for this class is mandatory. Class starts at the scheduled time and lateness will not be tolerated. You are allowed a total of two (2) absences for the semester FOR ANY REASON. THERE ARE NO EXCUSED ABSENCES! PLEASE USE THEM WISELY. Each subsequent absence after these two will result in your final grade being lowered one letter grade. Being late will be considered half an absence (i.e. late twice=one absence).

Additional Information:

- **Participation** - 10% of your grade will be based on participation. It is not enough to be physically present in the room. You must try and put forth an effort at every class. Don’t worry about right or wrong, success or failure. Most of the work we will be doing is experiential and you must put forth 100% effort to get the full extent of what the techniques have to offer. If you are half-hearted in your attempts you will not only affect the morale of your fellow students, your grade will also suffer.
- **Scenes** - All scenes must be fully memorized and ready to perform on the day specified. An assignment’s due date is its due date. No exceptions. Failure to accurately and completely memorize an assignment will affect the final grade.
- **Cell phones** must be silenced during class. If your cell phone goes off during class, it will be taken away and given back at the end of class.
- Show/rehearsal commitments are NOT acceptable excuses for not having work ready.
- Facebook is NOT an appropriate means of communication for class-related issues. I will be happy to be your Facebook friend, but please use email or phone for anything pertaining to class. Any such messages/posts on Facebook will be disregarded

Course Evaluations:

Because I value your feedback and want to be sure the class best meets your needs, I encourage you to take advantage of online end-of-semester course evaluations.

Evaluation

ASSIGNMENTS:

1- In class scene presentations (three total) worth 200 points each (600 total).
2- Group research project, worth 250 points
3- In class participation, worth 150 points.
Grades are assessed on the following scale:

- **A**  900-1000 points
- **B**  899-800 points
- **C**  799-700 points
- **D**  699-600 points
- **F**  599 points or lower

**In Class Scenes**

Students will perform a brief (2-3 minute) scene from one of each of the following genres: Restoration, Moliere, Coward. Scenes must be fully rehearsed and fully memorized, with an emphasis on the particular style of the playwright. Partners and scenes will be assigned by the professor.

**Group Research Project**

As a class, the students will present a research project to the professor on the day of the final exam. The topic may be on any subject or period, including but not limited to: period dance, period movement, social manners, music, or food. The topic must be decided upon as a group and told to the professor NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 1. A detailed assignment sheet and rubric will be distributed.

**Institutional Policies**

**Academic Honesty Policy**

Lamar University expects all students to engage in academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action.

The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials.

All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include failure of the assignment and/or course up to suspension or expulsion from the university. The penalty may vary by instructor.

Additional information is available on the Academic Policy website (https://students.lamar.edu/academic-support/academic-policies.html).

**Course Drop Policy**

Students may drop a course and receive a grade of "Q" during the penalty-free period of the semester or session. For drops after this penalty-free period, grades are recorded as "Q" or "F," indicating the student was passing or failing at the time of the drop. A grade of "Q" may not be assigned unless an official drop has been processed through the Records Office. Students may drop a course online up to the census day by logging into Self-Service Banner. After the census day, courses must be dropped through the Records Office. For additional help, contact the academic advisor or the Records Office at registration@lamar.edu (mailto:registration@lamar.edu). **Students may not drop a course during the last 20 percent of the term.** Students should check the academic calendar at https://www.lamar.edu/academic-calendar (https://www.lamar.edu/academic-calendar) for specific dates.

**Students with Disability Policy**
Lamar University is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. The Disability Resource Center (DRC) is located in the Communication building, room 105. Office staff collaborate with students who have disabilities to provide and/or arrange reasonable accommodations.

If you have, or think you may have, a disability (e.g. mental health, attentional, learning, chronic health, sensory, or physical), please contact the DRC at 409-880-8347 or drc@lamar.edu to arrange a confidential appointment with the Director of the DRC to explore possible options regarding equitable access and reasonable accommodations.

If you are registered with the DRC and have a current letter requesting reasonable accommodations, we encourage you to contact your instructor early in the semester to review how the accommodations will be applied in the course.

Additional information is available at the DRC website (http://www.lamar.edu/disability-resource-center/).

**Academic Support**

Academic Support can be located at http://students.lamar.edu/academic-support/index.html.

There are many areas (i.e. Advising, Writing Center, etc.) of academic support. Each area provides their own specific contact information and days and hours of operation.

**Student Services**

Information on Student Services can be located at http://students.lamar.edu/index.html. There are many resources (i.e. Course schedules, important phone numbers, etc.) available. Each area provides their own specific contact information and days and hours of operation.

**Academic Continuity Policy**

In the event of an announced campus closure in excess of four days due to hurricane or other disaster, students are expected to check Lamar University's website and login to LU Connect for instructions about continuing courses remotely.

**Emergency Procedures**

Many types of emergencies can occur on campus; instructions for severe weather or violence/active shooter, fire, or chemical release can be found at the Office of Environmental Health/Safety and Risk Management webpage.

**Severe Weather**

Follow the directions of the instructor or emergency personnel.

Seek shelter in an interior room or hallway on the lowest floor, putting as many walls as possible between you and the outside.

If you are in a multi-story building and you cannot get to the ground floor, pick a hallway in the center of the building.

Stay in the center of the room, away from exterior walls, windows, and doors.

**Violence/Active Shooter**

CALL - 7777 from a campus phone (Text 409-241-8002 from a cell phone). Note: Calling 911 from either a campus or cell phone will contact the City of Beaumont dispatch rather than the LU police.

AVOID - If possible, self-evacuate to a safe area outside the building. Follow directions of police officers.

DENY - Barricade the door with desks, chairs, bookcases or any other items. Move to a place inside the room where you are not visible. Turn off the lights and remain quiet. Remain there until told by police it is safe.

DEFEND - Use chairs, desks, cell phones or whatever is immediately available to distract and/or defend yourself and others from attack.
Copyright Policy Statement

Copyright is defined as the ownership and control of the intellectual property in original works of authorship which are subject to copyright law. As an institution of higher learning that values intellectual integrity, Lamar University prohibits the distribution of published materials (print or electronic) in violation of copyright law.

Course Subject Outline

COURSE CALENDAR (subject to change- all exam dates should remain the same unless there are extenuating circumstances).

August

Tues 28-Syllabus Info

Thurs 30-DISCUSS AIKEN CHAPTER 1 & 2, Intro to Restoration

September

Tues 4-DISCUSS AIKEN CHAPTER 3 & 4, Restoration

Thurs 6-DISCUSS AIKEN CHAPTER 5 & 6, Restoration

Tues 11-Restoration

Tues 13-Restoration

Tues 18-Restoration

Thurs 20-FINAL RESTORATION SCENE

Tues 25-Intro to Moliere

Thurs 27-Moliere

October

Tues 2-Moliere

Thurs 4-Moliere
Tues 9-Moliere

Thurs 11-Moliere

Tues 16-Moliere

Thurs 18-FINAL MOLIERE SCENE

Tues 23-Intro to Wilde

Thurs 25-Wilde

Tues 30-Wilde

**November**

Thurs 1-FINAL PROJECT SUBJECT CHOSEN, Wilde

Tues 6-Wilde

Thurs 8-Wilde

Tues 13-Coward

Thurs 15-Coward

Tues 20-Coward

Thurs 22-NO CLASS, THANKSGIVING

Tues 27-Coward

Thurs 29-Coward

**December**

Tues 4-FINAL COWARD SCENE

FINAL EXAM: Thursday December 6, 11:00 am-1:30 pm
**LU CONNECT Portal**

Students are asked to obtain a Lamar Electronic Account username and password so they can log onto the LU CONNECT website. Students may get information on how to get into the LU CONNECT website from the University’s homepage (http://www.lamar.edu) by clicking on the LU CONNECT link on the left top corner of the screen. Follow the steps to secure your LU CONNECT username and password.

**LU Learn/Blackboard Learning Management System (LMS)**

Students will utilize the Lamar University’s Learning Management System (LMS), Blackboard, for online courses.

For Blackboard technical support go to https://blackboardsupport.lamar.edu.

Phone: 866-585-1738

Phone and chat are available 24/7/365

**Network Use**

**ACCEPTABLE USE**

Students must respect the integrity and security of Lamar University computer systems and network, and the privacy and preferences of other users. Responsibility for learning about and complying with Lamar University Acceptable Use Policy ultimately rests with the individual. The network may be used to download, copy, or store any software, shareware, digital media files or freeware, as long as the use complies with copyright law licensing agreements, and campus policies, such as storage space limitations and network bandwidth restrictions. The network may not be used for any activity, or to transmit any material, that violates United States or local laws.

**UNACCEPTABLE USE**

The network may not be used for commercial purposes. Advertising and sponsorships on Lamar University websites is restricted. In addition, students may not permit other persons to use their usernames, passwords, accounts or disk space, or disclose their usernames, passwords or account information to any third party. Students may not log on to someone else’s account, internet address, or other network codes, or attempt to access another user's files. Students may not create false or dummy accounts to impersonate someone else. Students may not try to gain unauthorized access (“hacking”) to the files or computer systems of any other person or organization. Students may not impersonate another person by forging e-mail, web pages or other electronic media. Students who maliciously access, alter, delete, damage or destroy any computer system, computer network, computer program, or data will be subject to disciplinary action by Lamar University, and criminal prosecution as well. Students may not disrupt or attempt to disrupt network traffic, and they may not attempt to monitor or capture network traffic in any way. Finally, students may not intentionally create, store, display, print or transmit information that violates the university’s Sexual Harassment Policy.

**Netiquette (Online Etiquette) Statement**

Please adhere to the same standards of behavior and professional respect online that you would follow in face-to-face communication with others, but most particularly when writing email and when taking part in collaborative and discussion board activities. Lamar provides access to network resources, including the Internet, in order to support learning and to prepare students for the 21st century world. Students, however, are expected to adhere to the Lamar University Acceptable Use Policies when Using Networks. More comprehensive student code of conduct can be found at https://students.lamar.edu/academic-support/code-of-conduct.html.

**GENERAL GUIDELINES TO RESPECT ALL PARTICIPANTS**

- Respect the right of each person to disagree with others.
- Treat people the same as you would face-to-face.
- Respect the time of others.

**GUIDELINES WHEN COMMUNICATING WITH OTHERS (EMAIL, DISCUSSIONS, BLOGGING, AND ETC.)**

- Always sign your names to any contribution you choose to make.
- Be constructive in your responses to others in the class.
- Do not use all caps (Doing so may be interpreted as shouting).
- Re-read your postings before sending them.
- Always think before you write.
- Respond respectably.
- Use appropriate grammar and structure.
- Spell-check your postings.
- Use short paragraphs focused on one idea.
- Use appropriate business language at all times.

**Technical Support**

Technical Support can be located at [http://students.lamar.edu/it-services-and-support/index.html](http://students.lamar.edu/it-services-and-support/index.html).

Phone: 409-880-2222
Email: servicedesk@lamar.edu (mailto:servicedesk@lamar.edu)

**Hours of Operation (CST):**
Monday - Thursday 7:30 a.m.-12:00 a.m.
Friday 7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Sunday 3:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.