

TPP 3650/Section 1755: Script Analysis

Dr. Colleen Rua (she/her/hers)
Fall 2020: M/W/F 9:35-10:25
Office Hours: virtual, by appointment

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Course Description:

You are a creator! Theatre is alive and a play script provides the seed of creation and liveness. The purpose of our textual analyses as theatre professionals - actors, directors, designers, dramaturges, playwrights and producers – is to discover all that the playwright has given us, and then to determine how best we can realize that vision clearly, powerfully and dramatically on stage.

College of the Arts Meta-Strategy 2021-2025: Systemic Resilience

The University of Florida College of the Arts intends to be a transformative community, responding to and generating paradigmatic shifts in the arts and beyond. We do so by:

- Embracing the complexity of our evolving human experience and seeking to empower our students and faculty to shape that experience fearlessly through critical study, creative practice, and provocation.
- Collaborating effectively with the forces of change.
- Preparing students to access and unsettle centers of power in a radically changing world.
- Facilitating an arts education that will position emerging artists and researchers as catalysts for equity on local and global levels.

Course Goals/Learning Objectives:

The overall objective of this course is to provide you with the analytical skills that will enable you to realize a script on stage. Upon completion of the course, you will be able to demonstrate:

- An understanding of a variety of lenses of analysis used to draw meaning from a dramatic text.
- Facility in applying analysis to production elements in order to establish concepts and reinforce meaning within the text
- Familiarity with a variety of texts, including those from playwrights who give voice to stories that are marginalized, overlooked, or appropriated.
- The ability to think, read and write critically in order to build a sound argument for production choices.

Required Texts:

David Rush, *A Student Guide to Play Analysis* (available at the bookstore and for online order)
Additional readings will be posted to Canvas, or links will be provided on Canvas

Plays:

Sarah DeLappe, *The Wolves*
Quiara Alegria Hudes *Eliot, A Soldier's Fugue*
Branden Jacobs-Jenkins, *Gloria*
Len Jenkin, *Pilgrims of the Night*
Antoinette Nwandu, *Pass Over*
Martyna Majok, *Cost of Living*
Jichae Park, *peerless*
Alvaro Saar Rios *Luchadora!*

Assignments and Course Expectations:

Participation and Attendance (20% of final grade):

Our class will meet entirely online, and the majority of our classes will meet synchronously. Occasionally, asynchronous work will be assigned in lieu of a live meeting. Our class sessions may be audio visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.

In response to COVID-19, the following policies and requirements are in place:

· If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>), please use the UF Health screening system (<https://coronavirus.ufhealth.org/screen-test-protect/covid-19-exposure-and-symptoms-who-do-i-call-if/>) and follow the instructions on whether you are able to attend class. Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work (<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>).

Barring the above circumstances, students are expected to be in attendance (either remotely or in-person, as assigned) daily and to be on time. Students are allowed 3 “unexcused” absences that do not require documentation and do not conform to the UF “acceptable reasons for absence.” Any other “unexcused” absence will result in a penalty of a full letter grade (10%) from the final grade per “unexcused” absence. To be considered “excused” an absence must be accompanied by appropriate official documentation. Religious observances do not require documentation.

Any absence from class for the following reasons must be supported by official acceptable documentation to avoid a grade penalty:

- Illness—doctor's note must be on official letterhead with address and phone number, noting the date and time of visit and diagnosis verifying that an absence from class is warranted, doctor name and signature
- Serious family emergencies
- Special curricular requirements (e.g., judging trips, field trips, professional conferences)
- Military obligation
- Severe weather conditions
- Participation in official university activities such as music performances, athletic competition or debate
- Court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena)

To help organize accommodations, students should inform the instructor by the end of the second week of classes of religious observances of their faith that will conflict with class attendance this semester.

Read & Respond (25% of final grade) Responses to a variety of readings will allow you to make connections between the material we are studying in class and its practical and/or theoretical applications and impact on our contemporary world. Specific guidelines for each Read & Respond will accompany each assignment.

Lab Day Presentations (25% of final grade) Here is your chance to get creative! In groups, you will present creative responses that *demonstrate your understanding of material we have covered and its application to a play*. Further guidelines on these creative responses and grading rubrics will be available on Canvas.

Final Paper (Draft sections and Final) (30% of final grade) For your final paper, you will submit a complete analysis of one of the plays we have studied in class. You will submit draft sections of the paper throughout the semester. Further guidelines and grading rubrics will be available on Canvas.

Grading:

A = 94-100	A- = 90-93
B+ = 87-89	B = 83-86
B- = 80-82	C+ = 77-79
C = 73-76	C- = 70-72
D+ = 67-69	D = 63-66
D- = 60-62	E = <60

Schedule of Classes

(Please note: This schedule is subject to change. Please have your syllabus available so that you can note any changes as they happen. All readings and assignments are **DUE** on the date listed)

Monday 8/31	Introduction to course
Wednesday 9/2	Storytelling Read & Respond: Aristotle Summary
Friday 9/4	How to Look at a Play Read & Respond: Rush, What is a Play (Pages 21-34)
Monday 9/7	No class – Labor Day Holiday
Wednesday 9/9	How to Look at a Play Read: <i>Eliot: A Soldier's Fugue</i> Read & Respond: Ybarra, "How to Read a Latinx Play in the Twenty-First Century"
Friday 9/11	World of the Play Read & Respond: Rush, Plot (pp. 35-67)
Monday 9/14	Postmodernism Read & Respond: Rush, Postmodernism (pp 260-27)
Wednesday 9/16	Postmodernism Read & Respond: <i>Pilgrims of the Night</i>
Friday 9/18	Lab Day #1! <i>Eliot, A Soldier's Fugue</i>

Monday 9/21	Realism Read & Respond: Rush, Realism (pp. 191-204 only)
Wednesday 9/23	Realism Read & Respond: <i>Gloria</i>
Friday 9/25	Realism Read & Respond: Article/Contribute to Google Doc
Monday 9/28	Realism
Wednesday 9/30	Lab Day #2! <i>Gloria</i> Due: Paper Part 1 – World of the Play Analysis
Friday 10/2	No class – Homecoming
Monday 10/5	Language Read & respond: <i>The Wolves</i>
Wednesday 10/7	Language Read & Respond: Rush, Language (pp. 79-93)
Friday 10/9	Language Read & Respond: Article/Contribute to Google Doc
Monday 10/12	Language
Wednesday 10/14	Lab Day #3! <i>The Wolves</i>
Friday 10/16	Character Read & Respond: Rush, Characters (pp. 68-78)
Monday 10/19	Character Read & Respond: <i>Cost of Living</i>
Wednesday 10/21	Character Due: Paper Part 2 – Language Analysis
Friday 10/23	Character Read & Respond: Article/Contribute to Google Doc
Monday 10/26	Lab Day 4! <i>Cost of Living</i> Read & Respond: <i>Luchadora!</i>
Wednesday 10/28	A visit from Alvaro Saar Rios!
Friday 10/30	Lenses of Analysis Read & Respond: Article /Contribute to Google Doc
Monday 11/2	Lenses of Analysis
Wednesday 11/4	Lab Day #5 <i>Luchadora!</i>

Friday 11/6	Lenses of Analysis
Monday 11/9	Lenses of Analysis
Wednesday 11/11	No class – Veteran’s Day
Friday 11/13	Symbolism Read & Respond: Rush, (pp 99-112) Due: Paper Part 3 – Character Analysis
Monday 11/16	Symbolism Read: <i>peerless</i>
Wednesday 11/18	Symbolism Read & Respond: Article/Contribute to Google Doc
Friday 11/20	Symbolism
Monday 11/23	Lab Day # 6! <i>peerless</i> Due: Paper Part 3 – Character Analysis
Wednesday 11/25	No class – Thanksgiving Holiday
Friday 11/27	No class – Thanksgiving Holiday
Monday 11/30	Theatre of the Absurd Read & Respond: Rush, Theatre of the Absurd (pp. 230-241)
Wednesday 12/2	Theatre of the Absurd Read & Respond: <i>Pass Over</i> Due: Paper Part 4 – Idea Analysis
Friday 12/4	Theatre of the Absurd Read & Respond: Article/Contribute to Google Doc
Monday 12/7	Theatre of the Absurd
Wednesday 12/9	Lab Day #7! <i>Pass Over</i>
Wednesday 12/16	Final Papers Due (submit by 5:00pm)

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Accommodations:

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Online Course Evaluation Process:

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluer.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/publicresults/>."

UF Honesty Policy:

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code." On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honorcode/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Campus Resources:**Health and Wellness:**

U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out.

Counseling and Wellness Center: <https://counseling.ufl.edu/>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS) Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department, 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies). <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>

Academic Resources:

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learningsupport@ufl.edu. <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.

Career Connections Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. <https://career.ufl.edu/>

Library Support, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>.

Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. <http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>

Student Complaints On-Campus: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honorcode-studentconduct-code/>

On-Line Student Complaints: <http://distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process/>