

“Art serves us best precisely at that point where it can shift our sense of what is possible, when we know more than we knew before, when we feel we have – by some manner of a leap – encountered the truth.”

– T.S. Eliot

DRAMA 426-01: INDEPENDENT STUDY**FALL 2013****MW 11am -12:50 pm****Room: 105/Rose McCoy Auditorium****Professor:** Dr. Nadia Bodie-Smith**E-mail:** nadia.c.bodie@jsums.edu**Number:** (601) 979-4309**Dept. E-mail:** www.jsums.edu/speechandtheatre**Office:** Room 105 Rose E. McCoy Auditorium**Office Hours:** TR 9am - 12pm or by Appt.**Main Office:** (601) 979-2426**Required Textbook/Materials:**

Articles provided by Professor. A notebook: includes class lectures, handouts, and research material.

Prerequisite: Require Coordinator approval and Departmental approval necessary.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed as a weekly seminar designed to prepare students for graduate programs and the professional arena. Primary to class success is directed research or project work.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this course the students will be able to:

1. Use guided research/project work to further their knowledge in their prospective field of discipline.
2. Speak critically about their prospective fields of discipline based on articles/class discussions.
3. Effectively prepare to prepare for graduate entrance exams.

METHOD OF STUDENT EVALUATION & GRADING SCALE

<u>Assignments</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Grading Scale</u>
Daily Participation	100	A = 900-1000
Article Discussion Leader w/Questions	100	B = 800-889
Production Report I (<i>One Monkey</i>)	50	C = 700-799
Production Report II (Ruined)	50	D = 600-699
Production Report III (Off Campus Production)	50	
In class Research (Grad. School/Internship)	100	
MIDTERM – Guided Project Report	150	
Theatre Workshops (25pts each) (Portfolio/Interview, Headshot Workshop, Student Directing Workshop, Stage Reading Workshop)	100	
FINAL – Guided Project Final Presentation	200	
Total	1000	

Method of Course Evaluation: Jackson State University Student Instructional Rating System (SIRS) and Instructor evaluations.

Caveat: The professor may make additional assignments throughout the course.

DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENTS

MIDTERM – Guided Project Report	
	Report based on experiences and accomplishments made during the Guided Project. Guided project will be discussed between faculty and students.
Play Discussion Leader	
	Students are required to lead <u>1</u> article based on the play reading for that week. Play discussion should be at least 30 minutes complete with outline or note cards with questions for class. Discussion evaluation handout will be provided.
Production Reports	
	Students are required to attend <u>two</u> productions, 2 on campus and 1 off campus. Production play report will be provided.
Department Workshops	
	Students are required to attend <u>four</u> department activities that serve to mature them as informed students and theatre advocates. No written work is required, and students will receive points for attendance. If students attend an off-campus workshop with approval from professor, written work will be required as evidence.
Daily Participation	
	Students will be expected to participate with a positive attitude. A perfect and punctual attendance in itself will result in a B+ grade for participation; to receive an A requires <i>active</i> participation (i.e. comments and questions that reveal thoughtfulness and preparation). If you are shy about speaking in class, <i>please</i> let me know by seeing me during my office hours.
FINAL – Project	
	Students are expected to present their assigned projects at the end of the semester. Presentation should be 15 mins. long. Written portion of presentation should be Times Roman font, double-spaced, 2 pages. Avoid plagiarizing, or student will receive a grade of 'F'. Assignment guidelines provided by Professor.

COURSE POLICIES

PARTICIPATION - This course will be taught with a seminar focus, involving a combination of presentations and discussion-centered sessions. Students are expected to come to class prepared, to read all assigned readings, to vigorously participate in all in-

class discussions, and to contribute a positive demeanor, one conducive to promoting an environment wherein all members are free to express ideas and thoughts.

Perfect and punctual attendance in itself will only result in a B+ grade for participation; to receive an A requires *active* participation (i.e. comments and questions that reveal thoughtfulness and preparation). If you are shy about speaking in class, *please* let me know by seeing me during my office hours. The choice not to actively participate in discussions will have a negative impact on your final grade.

ATTENDANCE - Attendance is important to achieving your best work in this class. A student's final grade will be reduced by one letter grade after three absences; the student will receive a grade of F after seven absences. This means that you have been absent too many times to maintain continuity in improvement.

Please arrive to class on time. Tardiness is unprofessional and is not fair to me or to your classmates. You will have missed class if you are not present for the entire class period. This is, staying for only half the class, coming in 5-10 minutes before the end of class, or consistently coming in 5-10 minutes late does not mean that you attended. There will be a quiz at the beginning of each presentation day, so tardiness will affect your quiz grades. Additionally, three tardies equal one absence. If you come in after roll has been called, it is your responsibility to alert your professor at the end of that particular class, so that your absent mark on attendance may be changed to a tardy.

If you have to be absent or arrive late (on days you are not presenting), Arrange for one of your classmates to take notes for you. You are responsible for any material covered or announcements made on days you are absent. In general, I do not forward or post my class notes, nor do I arrange private sessions to explain missed coursework.

LATE WORK POLICY – All work is due as indicated on the course schedule. Because of the seminar style in which this course is taught, no late work will be accepted. If you are scheduled to present or lead a play discussion, but must miss a class due to illness or emergency, notify me *in advance* if at all possible. Plan ahead.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT

Jackson State University is committed to creating a community that affirms and welcomes persons from diverse backgrounds and experiences and supports the realization of their human potential. We recognize that there are differences among groups of people and individuals based on ethnicity, race, socioeconomic status, gender, exceptionalities, language, religion, sexual orientation, and geographic area. All persons are encouraged to respect the individual differences of others.

SPECIAL NEEDS LEARNERS

If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and the Office of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator and Compliance Officer, P.O. Box 17999, Jackson, MS 39217, telephone (601) 979-3704 as early as possible in the term.

GREVIANCES

Any student who has a grievance and/or complaint must first discuss the grievance and/or complaint with the professor. If there is no resolution at the student/professor level, the student can then address his/her complaints through the appropriate channels of administration:

Coordinator of Theatre Studies: Dr. Nadia Bodie-Smith (Rose McCoy Building)

Department Chair: Dr. Mark G. Henderson (Rose McCoy Building)

Dean of College of Liberal Arts Dr. Lawrence T. Potter (Liberal Arts Building)

NOTE: Documentation of a meeting at each level is required before the student may request a meeting at the next level.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

All acts of academic dishonesty (e.g., cheating on exams, plagiarizing or presenting another person's work as one's own, having another person write one's paper, fabricating research data, presenting excuses which are untrue for failing to meet academic and professional standards) are a violation of University Policy, which will entail appropriate penalties.