



Broward Community College

Course Outline

STATUS: A

COMMON COURSE NUMBER: TPP 2300C

COURSE TITLE: Directing

CREDIT HOURS: 3

CONTACT HOURS BREAKDOWN:

Lecture/Discussion 32

Lab 32

Other

Contact Hours/Week 4

CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Prerequisite: TPP 2111

Corequisite: TPP 2500C, TPP 2700C, TPA 2200 (Co or Pre-req)

An academic study and practical application of the art and craft of directing a play. An investigation of the components of the theatre experience as they relate to the work of the director.

General Education Requirements - Associate of Arts Degree, meets Area(s):

General Education Requirements - Associate in Science Degree, meets Area(s):

UNIT TITLES:

1. History and Role of the Director
2. Script Analysis
3. The Ground Plan
4. Composition
5. Stage Properties
6. Picturization
7. Movement
8. Voice
9. Auditions and Casting
10. Rehearsals and Performances

LAST REVIEW Academic Year 2004-2005 NEXT REVIEW Academic Year 2009-2010

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I. Course Overview:

Upon successful completion of this course, the students will learn how to choose and analyze scripts, cast actors, rehearse a play, and coordinate the technical and design aspects of a one-act play production. Students will learn how the director brings all of the various elements of the theatre experience together into a unified whole. Students will determine how the director conveys point of view, directorial concept, style and the spine of the play to the actors and designers who then express these ideas to an audience.

II. Units:

Unit 1. History and Role of the Director

General Outcome:

- 1.0 Determine how the function of the stage director plays a vital part in play production from an historical point of view.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 1.1 Chart the evolution of the role of the director.
- 1.2 Explore the training, education, and function of a director.
- 1.3 Research, organize and perform a presentation on a prominent stage director.



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Unit 2. Analyzing a Script

General Outcome:

- 2.0 The students should be able to analyze a script **from a** directorial point of view.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 2.1 Determine the given circumstances of a play script.
- 2.2 Distinguish present action from previous action.
- 2.3 Determine the polar attitudes of the main characters.
- 2.4 Analyze dialogue in regard to word choice, phrasing, sentence structure, imagery and any other particular characteristics.
- 2.5 Determine the dramatic action within the dialogue.
 - 2.5.1 Divide a play into beats or units.
 - 2.5.2 Determine tactics.
 - 2.5.3 Discover subtext.
 - 2.5.4 Determine tempo-rhythms.
- 2.6 Analyze the characters
 - 2.6.1 Determine character goals or objectives in each beat.
 - 2.6.2 Determine the strength, moral stance and decorum of each character.
- 2.7 Discover the main ideas of a play.
 - 2.7.1 Discover the meaning of the title of a play.
 - 2.7.2 Analyze the philosophical statements of a play.
 - 2.7.3 Determine the message or theme of a play.
- 2.8 Determine a spine for a play.
- 2.9 Learn how to apply a directorial concept to a play.



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Unit 3. Auditions and Casting

General Outcome:

- 3.0 The students should be able to **hold auditions and cast a production.**

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 3.1 **Advertise and promote auditions within the theatre student population.**
- 3.2 **Manage group auditions**
- 3.3 Assume an objective point of view when assessing the performance of the auditioning students.
- 3.4 Evaluate the potential of the auditioning students.
- 3.5 Weigh the variables in order to select the best person for each role.



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Unit 4. The Ground Plan

General Outcome:

4.0 The students should be able to create an effective and workable ground plan for a play.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 4.1 Create a ground plan that can act as an obstacle course for the dramatic action of a play.
- 4.2 Block scenes using tension arrangements with diagonals, obstacles, and furniture placement.
- 4.3 Create multiple acting areas.
- 4.4 Block a play with awareness of sightlines.



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Unit 5. Stage Composition

General Outcome:

5.0 The students should be able to determine the physical arrangement of characters in a ground plan in order to clearly illustrate the dramatic action of a play.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 5.1 Communicate character relationships in a play through effective composition.
- 5.2 Employ composition techniques using diverse body positions and levels.
- 5.3 Employ composition techniques using diverse stage planes.
- 5.4 Employ composition techniques using diverse focus.
- 5.5 Employ composition techniques using repetition and support when required.
- 5.6 Understand how the concepts of space and mass pertain to composition.
- 5.7 Create a master blocking plan for a play.



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Unit 6. Properties

General Outcomes:

6.0 The students should be able to direct actors how to effectively use stage properties to illustrate dramatic action and character.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 6.1 Direct actors to animate various body parts as integrated with the use of properties.
- 6.2 Direct actors to emphasize ideas or feelings through the effective use of properties.
- 6.3 Direct actors to use properties as a tool for symbolic expression.
- 6.4 Direct actors to be selective and judicious in the use of properties.



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Unit 7. Picturization

General Outcome:

7.0 The students should be able to discover picturization through the use of an effective ground plan, composition, obstacles, properties, movement, and gestures for the purpose of animating the dramatic action.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 7.1 Create picturization that moves over and around objects.
- 7.2 Create picturization that uses different stage planes, levels and body positions.
- 7.3 Discover climactic or intimate moments through the use of picturization.
- 7.4 Explore gesture through improvisation.
- 7.5 Explore the use of triangulation.
- 7.6 Encourage actors to effectively use properties.
- 7.7 Explore the three dimension stage cube.



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Unit 8. Movement

General Outcome:

8.0 The students should be able to discover the dynamics of movement within the context of blocking a play.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 8.1 Discover that movement is derived from the dramatic action of a play.
- 8.2 Discover that movement takes place in time with a specific tempo-rhythm.
- 8.3 Discover that gesture animates movement.
- 8.4 Determine that all movement must be motivated.
- 8.5 Discover the mood values in movement.
 - 8.5.1 Determine that all movement has a finite length.
 - 8.5.2 Discover that all movement occupies a specific amount of space.
 - 8.5.3 Determine that all movement has a specific size.
 - 8.5.4 Discover that all movement has a particular dynamic of its own.
 - 8.5.5 Determine that all movement has rate or speed.
 - 8.5.6 Discover that all movement has a peculiar quality of its own.



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Unit 9. The Director as Designer

General Outcome:

9.0 The students should be able to supervise all artistic aspects of the play's production.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 9.1 Insure that all artistic aspects of a production are unified.
 - 9.1.1 Costumes and makeup
 - 9.1.2 Set and furniture
 - 9.1.3 Properties
 - 9.1.4 Lighting
 - 9.1.5 Sound
- 9.2 Insure that all artistic aspects of a production are connected to the spine of the play.
- 9.3 Understand how the use of a directorial concept must be in harmony with all of the artistic elements of a play.



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Unit 10. Rehearsals and Performances

General Outcome:

10.0 The students should be able to conduct rehearsals, tech rehearsals, and performances in an efficient and effective manner.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 10.1 Create a well-organized rehearsal schedule.
- 10.2 Block a play.
- 10.3 Motivate actors.
- 10.4 Maintain discipline.
- 10.5 Adapt and modify when necessary.
- 10.6 Communicate effectively with actors.
- 10.7 Create an emotionally safe environment for actors.
- 10.8 Prepare for technical and dress rehearsals.
- 10.9 Organize all the diverse elements of a production for the final performance.