**UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS**

**ENG 2390/Introduction to Drama**

**Jeremy Kennedy**

**Fall**

**T/6:00-8:30**

“Without knowing the force of words, it is impossible to know man” (Confucius)

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

**Name:** Jeremy Kennedy

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**Office Hours:** phone: 501-472-2567

by appointment-email me for an appointment

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

Satisfies the humanities requirement in the general education program. Students will learn to read plays carefully and analytically and be encouraged to see the ways drama both reflects and enhances our understanding of life. Lecture, discussion, writing. Prerequisite: None.

**REQUIRED TEXT**

**The Norton Anthology of Drama, ed. J. Ellen Gainor et al, 2 vols (Norton, 2009)**

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

1. Regular attendance is crucial.

2. Students are expected to read the assigned readings carefully and on time.

3. As we are all adults here, and this is a university campus, it should be understood that respect for the instructor,

fellow students, and the material itself is required. This means,

A) **DO NOT COME TO CLASS LATE-Make every effort to arrive on time so we can make the most of our precious class time together..**

B) **DO NOT LEAVE CLASS EARLY. I understand there are occasional emergencies, but please endeavor to stay with us the entire class time.**

C) **TURN ALL CELL PHONES, OR ANY OTHER GADGETS THAT MAKE NOISE “OFF” AT THE**

**DOOR. THIS MEANS NO EARPHONES IN YOUR HEAD DURING CLASS & NO TEXTING DURING**

**CLASS. ALSO, NO ELECTRONIC GADGETS ARE ALLOWED DURING EXAM TIME-THIS INCLUDES I-PHONES, IPODS, ELECTRONIC DICTIONARIES, ETC. IF CAUGHT WITH ONE OF THESE DEVICES DURING EXAM TIME, YOU WILL BE CHARGED WITH ACADEMIC DISHONESTY AND WILL AUTOMATICALLY RECEIVE A GRADE OF ZERO ON THE EXAMINATION.**

D) **Do not work on other assignments for other classes.**

E) **Do not converse with others randomly during the lecture. I will endeavor to keep things as interesting as possible to make a lot of side chat unnecessary because what I am doing will be so interesting you will be afraid to miss it.**

F) **Do not sleep (this is not nap-time). Again, I will be as interesting as possible if you can just make an effort to remain conscious.**

G) **Although I don’t mind you bringing a drink and a snack to class, please do not bring entire meals to class. A bowl of cereal and a gallon of milk, for example, would be inappropriate.**

H) **Do not bring children or “visitors” to class. However, I understand that emergencies occur and I would rather have you in class as not, but let’s keep this to an absolute minimum. This goes for me, as well.**

I) **Do not cheat on exams.**

J) **Do not start packing up because you think class should end. I will be sure to dismiss you on time.**

K) **Since this is an extended class session, I will usually stop somewhere during the middle to allow for a**

**bathroom break. If you should not return after said break, I will count you absent for that day.**

**ANY BEHAVIOR that inhibits the ability of students to learn WILL NOT BE TOLERATED and could**

**result in BEING DISMISSED FROM THE CLASS-PERMANENTLY.**

**WE RESPECT EACH OTHER HERE-PERIOD.**

4. As we go through the works of literature this session, discussion is helpful in order to promote understanding of

the works we study. Questions and discussion are encouraged.

5. **Major Assignments**: There will be two major examinations during the session and a comprehensive final

examination-making 3 exams. The exams will be a mixture of short answer and essays.

There will also be periodic reading quizzes. These quizzes will be at random and cannot be made up.

6. **Grading Policies**: All examinations will be carefully evaluated by the instructor. Evaluations will be based on the

instructor’s professional assessment of the student’s ability to show an adequate and thoughtful understanding of the

literature studied and its historical and cultural contexts. I usually give exam grades within a couple of days of your

taking the exam. It will take considerably longer in order for me to return graded essays, so please be patient.

Exams 1 and 2 are worth 100 points each which comes to a total of 200 points.

The comprehensive final examination will be worth 200 points.

This totals 400 points for the course plus 100 points earned on quizzes which may or may not be announced at my

discretion. Any missed quizzes cannot be made up. There may also be in-class writing assignments throughout the

semester. THOSE MAY NOT BE MADE UP & THEY ARE NOT EXTRA CREDIT-THEY COUNT.

**\*\*I DON’T GIVE “BONUS POINTS” or “EXTRA CREDIT”, SO PLEASE DON’T BOTHER ASKING\*\***.

**Graded Assignments – 500 total points possible**

Exam #1 100 points Tentative Date: Oct. 2

Exam #2 100 points Tentative Date: Nov. 6

Quizzes 100 points

Final Exam 200 points

**Grading Scale**

Excellent A (90-100)

Good B (80-89)

Average C (70-79)

Below Average D (60-69)

Failing F (59 & below)

**\*\*It is YOUR responsibility to keep up with your grade for the course. Simply add up the points you have**

**earned and divide the total by the total points possible at that time in the semester to get your average.\*\***

7. **Attendance and Drop Policy**: As I stated earlier, attendance is crucial for this class. There are no “excused”

absences. Students with more than 3-5 non-consecutive absences will be asked to drop the class or may be dropped

with a “WF”. You are responsible for any notes or handouts you missed. Ask a classmate for the missed notes. Ask

me for handouts.

8. **Academic Dishonesty Policy:** Any form of academic dishonesty on an assignment will result in an automatic

grade of 0 ZERO on that assignment and possible expulsion from the course with a grade of “WF”. DO NOT

CHEAT!! It makes you look bad, and it irritates me. By this I mean cheating on exams, quizzes, and plagiarism on

assignments. Plagiarism can be defined as the intentional or unintentional:

use of any source without proper citations or a Work(s) Cited page,

“recycling” papers used for other classes

use of a classmate’s work as your own

paraphrasing (using someone else’s idea put into your own words) without proper citations or a Work(s) Cited page

use of introductory material from our texts without proper documentation

copying and pasting from online sources

giving definitions taken from a source without proper documentation (use the Oxford English Dictionary for

definitions for this course)

UNIVERSITY POLICY CONCERNING ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

The University of Central Arkansas affirms its commitment to academic integrity and

expects all members of the university community to accept shared responsibility for

maintaining academic integrity. Students in this course are subject to the provisions of the university's Academic

Integrity Policy, approved by the Board of Trustees as Board Policy No. 709 on February 10, 2010, and published in

the Student Handbook. Penalties for academic misconduct in this course may include a failing grade on an

assignment, a failing grade in the course, or any other course-related sanction the instructor determines to be appropriate. Continued enrollment in this course affirms a student's acceptance of this university policy.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY POLICY

FOR THIS COURSE

If you plagiarize and get caught, in the interest of time, DO NOT bother asking for the opportunity to compose a

rewrite.

The first offense will result in a grade of zero for that assignment and possibly being dropped from the course with a

“WF”. The second offense will result in being dropped from the course with a grade of “WF”.

9. **University Policies on Disabilities and Sexual Harassment**. The University of Central Arkansas adheres to the

requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need accommodation under this act due to a disability,

contact the Office of Disability Support Services at 450-3135. For the university’s policies concerning Sexual

Harassment, see the current Student Handbook.

**Course Outline**

I hesitate to give exact dates on when each work will be covered because pacing depends on the depth of our discussions. Also, I intentionally make the reading list a bit too ambitious, so I reserve the right to add or delete from this list as I see fit. We will discuss the reading assignment for the next class before the end of the previous class.

August 27

Course introduction/Syllabus

A short history of theater

Susan Glaspell, *Trifles* p. 475

September 3

Sophocles, *Oedipus the King* p. 139

September 10

Anonymous, *Everyman* p. 509

September 17

William Shakespeare, *Twelfth Night* p.831

September 24 First Exam due

Moliere, *Tartuffe* p.1233

October 1

Oscar Wilde, *The Importance of Being Earnest* p. 255

October 8

Anton Chekhov, *The Cherry Orchard* p.341

October 15

George Bernard Shaw, *Pygmalion* p. 403

Oct. 22-no class

Oct. 29 –second exam due

Luigi Pirandello, *Six Characters in Search of an Author* p. 487

Nov. 5-

Arthur Miller, *Death of a Salesman* p. 753

Nov. 12

Samuel Beckett, *Waiting for Godot* p. 843

Nov. 19

Sam Shepard, *Buried Child* p. 1097

Nov. 26

August Wilson, *Fences* p. 1353

Dec. 3

Review

Dec. 10

Final Exam