

THE – 600 SENIOR SEMINAR

Fall - 2016

Meeting Days/Times/Room: TR 2:00 – 3:20, Dows Greenroom or arranged

Professor Wolverton

Contact Information: swolvert@coe.edu

Dows, 109, x8624 Cell: 319-693-3881

Course Objectives:

Senior Seminar is designed to serve as a “capstone” experience for all senior theatre majors. We will consider the function of theatre in contemporary society and your place in that art form. What kind of contribution will/can you make? Since collaboration and effective communication are essential to the process of creating theatre, and to functioning successfully with others, much of the focus of the course will utilize methods of devised theatre to create a work-in-progress focused on the topic of what it means to be a refugee. This project will commence with collective meetings between two other seminars, one on Space and Place taught by Professor Fairbanks in Sociology and the other by Professor St. Clair in Chemistry on the topic of Environmental Studies. Using dramaturgical materials generated from collaboration with students in these seminars, we will devise an original piece to be presented to a public audience as a final project.

Finally, since experiencing live theatre is one of the best ways to learn how to analyze, to appreciate and to apply various aspects of the art form in practice, we will strive to see as many local and live broadcast productions as possible over the course of the semester.

Learning Outcomes:

(as outlined by Roznowski and Domer)

- Define a successful collaboration between directors and designers.
- Improve cooperation and communication skills as they relate to the collaborative process.
- Improve analytical skills in the form of script analysis and response to realized theatre productions.
- Improve research methods through exploration with regard to direct research into the time period /place/ issues surrounding the text as well as evocative imagery that aids in the communication of your ideas.
- Develop an understanding of presentation styles and standards.
- Advance critical assessment skills principally as they relate to the evaluation of your process as well as that of your fellow collaborators.

- Explore and utilize methods of Devised Theatre to develop a work-in-progress around the topic of Refugees in collaboration with members of the environmental studies and space and place classes.
- Explore opportunities for collaboration with the Wellington Heights neighborhood as a means of implementing tactics learned from study of Devised Theatre.

Required Texts and Course Materials:

Selected chapters from: *Collaboration in Theatre* by Rob Roznowski and Kirk Domer

Readings from: *Staging Asylum* edited by Emma Cox

Devised and Practical Theatre by Tina Bicat and Chris Baldwin

Refugees, Theatre and Crisis by Alison Jeffers

The Frantic Assembly Book of Devising Theatre by Scott Graham and Steven Hoggett

Film: *Red Lines* documentary on the Syrian conflict

Articles on MOODLE for collaborative unit on Jordan

Course Policies:

Academic Integrity

- o At Coe College, we expect academic integrity of all members of our community. Academic integrity assumes honesty about the nature of one's work in all situations. Such honesty is at the heart of the educational enterprise and is a pre-condition for intellectual growth. Academic dishonesty is the willful attempt to misrepresent one's work, cheat, plagiarize, or impede other students' academic progress. Academic dishonesty interferes with the mission of the College and will be treated with the utmost seriousness as a violation of community standards.
- o Please refer to the Coe College Academic Catalog for complete information regarding Academic Integrity:
<http://www.coe.edu/academics/dean/academicintegrity>

FERPA

- o Students should be aware of their rights regarding the privacy of their educational records. Detailed information about your rights can be found under the FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974) section in the Academic Catalog and online here:
<http://www.coe.edu/academics/registrar/ferpa>.
- o In line with FERPA restrictions, students should be aware that your instructor cannot publicly post grades by student name, institutional student identification

number, or social security number without first having obtained students' written permission.

The Definition of a Course Credit & Expected Workload:

- One course credit at Coe College constitutes 150 hours' worth of student work over the course of the term. This figure includes both the time spent in class and the time spent out of class completing course work. In other words, students are expected to devote a considerable amount of time outside of class to this course. For courses that meet in a standard M-W-F or T-Th slot, students should be expected to work seven hours a week outside of the three hours in class.

Students with Disabilities:

- Coe College will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. If you have a disability which may have some impact on your work in this course, please contact the Learning Commons' Academic Coach and ADA Coordinator (Kim Pierson, x8844).
- Please note that all arrangements for accommodations must be handled through the Learning Commons. Faculty must give the opportunity of an accommodation to every student in the course or only to those students for which it is determined as a need by the Academic Coach and ADA Coordinator (Kim Pierson, x8844).

Reporting of Sexual assault or misconduct

As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment on our campus. I also have a mandatory reporting responsibility related to my role as a faculty member. It is my goal that you feel able to share information related to your life experiences in classroom discussions, in your written work, and in any one-on-one meetings. I will seek to keep information you share with me private to the greatest extent possible. However, I am required to share information regarding sexual misconduct or students who may be in danger to themselves or to others. Students may speak to someone confidentially by contacting Student Development at 319-399-8843 or Safety and Security at 319-399-8888.

Attendance policy

- It is expected that students will attend class regularly and on time. Unless you are considered contagious or excused from class due to college related business, such as a conference, sports event or special class trip, any absences beyond two will have an impact on your final grade.
- Since we will be working as collaborators in a seminar setting, it is important for your work and the work of the group that you come to class ready to work to your full potential for the entire class period.
- Each absence after two = a drop in grade point

Late work policy:

- Late work will not be accepted past the due date unless an extension is granted.
*Extensions are only granted for special circumstances and must be arranged in advance.
Procrastination or workload in other courses is not grounds for an extension.*

Acceptable methods for submitting work:

- Most work will be accepted electronically on or before the due date. Design work may need to be submitted in hard copy form.

Participation expectations:

- As seniors you will be expected to be the active participants of discussions and group work. 25% of your grade will be based on class participation.

Method for Determining Final Grade:

[Instructors must explain to students how final grades will be determined. This is often accomplished by listing the major assignments and evaluations with weighting in the determination of the final course grade.]

Final Exam Date & Time:

December 14, 2:00

Prerequisites:

Senior status