



Course Syllabus: Playwrights & Scientists

Fain College of Fine Arts

THEA 2103 Section 101

Fall 2020

Contact Information

Instructor: Elizabeth Lewandowski

Office: Fain Fine Arts Center B204

Office hours: M & F 1:30 – 4:00 pm, TR 9:00 am – noon. To book an appointment, go to Elizabeth.lewandowski@youcanbook.me and make a reservation.

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Course Description

In this course, students will:

- Learn about a series of sciences/scientists from a range of fields (biology, psychology, medicine, etc.) and a number of historical eras.
- Learn about playwrights who wrote specific dramatic works (playscripts) about said scientists
- Read and critically analyze a number of dramatic works (playscripts) with special attention to the commentary on the scientist, the science, the period of the origin of the script and the period in which the scientist lived.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

All the playscripts will be provided on D2L.

Student MUST have access to D2L on a daily basis.

Course Skills

This course will teach students to:

- Understand and apply various methods of play analysis
- Explore and appreciate playwriting as a means of commentary on the contemporary world
- Study and explore a wide range of important scientists throughout history
- Read and analyze representative plays dealing with science and scientists throughout history

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook-2018-19](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

[Office of Student Conduct](#)

Office Hours

Office hours are listed above in the contact information section of the syllabus. Office hours will be held online, unless absolutely necessary. Students can book an appointment using Lewandowski-8@youcanbook.me. When booking the appointment, be sure to include your Skype name. At the appointment time, the professor will initiate a Skype meeting with the student. Students are also welcome to call or text the professor after 8:00 am and before 10:00 pm on weekdays.

Grading

Table 1: Grading

Assignments	Points
Quizzes (5 at 20 pts each)	100
TV dramatic analysis	25
Dramatic analyses (5 at 50 pts each)	250
Presentations (5 at 100 pts each)	400
Midterm Exam	100
Final Exam	125
Total Points	1000

Table 2: Total points for final grade.

Grade	Points
A	900
B	800 to 899
C	700 to 799
D	600 to 699
F	Less than 600

Dramatic Analyses

Each dramatic analysis will be completed by filling out the form provided on D2L. A slightly different form will be provided for each play, so students should be sure to download the correct form. Dramatic analyses will be turned in using the dropbox for the play about which the form is written. Deadlines are on the Class Schedule.

Quizzes

This class will include five (5) scheduled quizzes. Each quiz will open on Monday of the week the play is being discussed and will close at noon on the following Friday. There is a 10 minute time limit on each quiz. Students may attempt the quiz as many times as desired to achieve the best possible grade. Second, third etc. attempts at the quiz may have different questions as the question pool will be larger than the number of questions on any given quiz.

Tests

Tests given in this class will include the following: short essay, true/false, multiple guess and matching. The essay questions (subjective) will be assigned one week before the test. D2L will contain a dropbox for the essay questions into which students will deposit their essays. The due dates for these essay questions is the same as the time by which the test must be completed. Objective portions of the test will be taken on D2L. The tests have a designated time limit.

D2L will require a video of your phone placed at greater than arms length from you and a picture of you working at the computer taking the test (to verify that it is you). The right click will on the mouse/touch pad will be disabled during the test/quiz. You will be unable to access other web pages/documents during the test/quiz.

Objective portions of the test/quiz will be auto-graded immediately after submitting the test/quiz on D2L. The subjective portions of exams will be graded in a timely manner.

Students are required to take each test/quiz in one sitting.

Extra Credit

The professor does not accept extra credit. Period.

Late Work

Work is due when it is due. Period.

Make Up Work/Tests

Assignments, tests and quizzes are due when they are due. Period.

Important Dates

Last day for term schedule changes: **August 26, 2020**

Deadline to file for graduation: September 28, 2020 for December graduates.

October 5, 2020 for May graduates.

Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" December 4, 2020 4:00 pm

Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Attendance

You are expected to attend all classes for which you are responsible. Since lectures expand on assignments, missing class means missing important information. This class is, by its nature, participatory. Missing class means missing the chance to participate in your own education and the education of others in the class.

If you are ill, notify the professor before class begins and you will receive an excused absence. If you test positive for Covid-19, you will be required to self-quarantine for two weeks. If this happens, please notify the professor immediately so that a conversation can be held regarding work due during that period.

If you need to miss class due to a religious holiday, please see the professor as far in advance as possible. If you need to miss class due to university-sponsored events such as field trips and sports, please see the professor as far in advance as possible. You will be required to complete the assigned work on or before the due date, and you will be required to submit an official form from the university before your absence. Please note that work, non-emergency medical and dental appointments, hangovers, intramural games, visitors from out of town, fixing your roommate's computer, fraternity/sorority events, arguments with boyfriends/girlfriends and studying for other classes do **NOT** constitute excused absences.

Online Computer Requirements

Taking an online or hybrid class requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload your assignments. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working computer in this class.

Assignments and tests are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests, or discussion postings. Computers are available on campus in various areas of the buildings as well as the Academic Success Center. **Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline!!** There are many places to access your class! Our online classes can be accessed from any computer in the world which is connected to the internet. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble. If you have technical difficulties in the course, there is also a student helpdesk available to you. The college cannot work directly on student

computers due to both liability and resource limitations however they are able to help you get connected to our online services. For help, log into [D2L](#). Additionally, the professor reminds the student to check in on D2L for the class Monday through Friday. On the day the student attends class, the professor recommends that the student check D2L prior to class, as the professor will post any changes for that day prior to the start of class.

Instructor Class Policies - Covid-19 Mitigation

As part of the mitigation of Covid-19, MSU Texas has instituted the following guidelines:

- Masks are required at all times on campus unless a) the student is in their residential room and b) the professor/staff member is alone in their office.
- Wash hands frequently with soapy water (soap and water) for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based sanitizer.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover mouth with tissues whenever sneezing, and discard used tissues in the trash. If a tissue is not available, sneeze or cough into elbow or upper sleeve, not into hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Refrain from shaking hands.
- Employees and students should avoid gathering in groups of more than 30 individuals; group size limits are subject to change in accordance with state and local guidelines. Group meetings and conferences should be conducted virtually.
- Maintain social distancing, to the greatest extent possible, of 6 feet between individuals.

In addition, this class will:

- Ensure the desks and seats are safe. In order to do this, when each student arrives and at the end of class, the professor will spray down the surfaces using the cleaning product provided and the student will wipe down the desk surface and chair. To allow time at the end of class, the professor will end class five minutes early. Students are encouraged to provide their own disposable/washable gloves if concerned about contact with the cleaning fluid.
- Use assigned seats. The university has asked that all professors use assigned seating and take attendance each day in order to allow contact tracing if/when a student becomes ill with Covid-19.
- Be divided into groups. Every student will attend one day a week, as assigned by the professor. These class meetings will cover student questions, discussions, student presentations, etc. The lectures and PowerPoints will be available on D2L at least one week prior to the day the student is required to have read/watched the material. The professor recommends that students use the class time on days not in attendance to read/watch the material on D2L.
- Not touch the door handle to the classroom. In order to assist with proper air circulation, the door will remain open as much as outside noise allows.

- Not move the desks from their current position! The desks are currently spaced at 6 feet apart and should not under any circumstances be moved.
- Enter the classroom one person at a time. During this time, the short hallway outside the classroom is designated as a space for one person at a time. Please line up in the Bea Wood Studio and enter the classroom one at a time.

The professor further recommends:

- Student use the restroom prior to coming to campus. While hand sanitizer, masks and hand washing will help us be safe, restrooms are going to easily become a transmission vector.
- Using the provided hand sanitizer on arriving in and departing from the classroom.
- Download the app Pulse. Pulse allows D2L to send you reminders about upcoming deadlines, etc. You really want this app!
- Do not hang out around the classroom or doors (either inside or out). Sitting around with friends, classmates, etc. in a small space gives Covid-19 the opportunity to spread easily.

Social justice is one of MSU's stated core values, and the professor considers the classroom to be a place where students will be treated with respect as human beings, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, political beliefs, age or ability. It is the professor's expectation that ALL students be able to consider the classroom a safe environment. Be civil at all times and focus on understanding the material being discussed.

Cell phone use in class is prohibited. If your cell phone goes off during a class you may be asked to leave the classroom and receive an absence for the day. No texting. Again, you may be asked to leave the classroom. Please don't make this an issue, just turn off the phone during our class. If other commitments are so pressing that they cannot wait until the end of the class session, it may be in the student's best interests to reconsider the priority placed on being this class.

Federal privacy law prohibits the professor from releasing information about students to certain parties outside of the university without the signed consent of the student. Thus, in almost all cases the professor will not discuss students' academic progress or other matters with their parents. Please do not have them call. Regardless of these important legal considerations, the professor's general policy is to communicate with the students, not their parents, even when a student has signed a consent form. College students are adults and are expected to behave accordingly.

In short: **Be on time. Be awake. Be prepared. Be engaged. Ask questions. Study. Come ready to become a scholar or stay home!**

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exist in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Grade Appeal Process

Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [Undergraduate Catalog](#)

Notice

Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.