



[Department of Art, Communication and Theatre](#)

*We give expression to the human experience.*

**SPRING 2019**

**THTR 4430.1 - CHORVETTES**

**MWF | 2:00 – 2:50 | VPAC 136**

Instructor: [Aaron Adair, Ph.D., Professor of Theatre](#)

Email: [aadair@se.edu](mailto:aadair@se.edu)

Office Hours: MWF 10:00a-11:00a; 1:00p-2:00p; TTR online; also by appointment

Office Location: [VPAC 131](#)

Required Materials –

- Rehearsal clothing and footwear
- Performance Shoes
- Three-ring binder
- Internet Access to [Dropbox](#) and [GroupMe](#)

**COURSE CONTENT** - This course is a performance ensemble affiliated with (but not limited to) the Musical Theatre degree option. Admittance to the ensemble is by audition only. Cast members selected for this ensemble must enroll in Chorvettes for at least one hour of course credit. Scheduled appearances will vary in nature but will be limited in number to not more than 12 (twelve) public or institutional performances during the course of any one semester. Course work will include (but not be limited to) the study, memorization and performance of musical theatre repertoire in book, script, vocal selection, score and video form.

**CONTENT STATEMENT** - The course content listing reflects the minimum work required of all students in this course. Some assignments may be deleted and additional assignments may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- Develop a working knowledge of ensemble performance in musical theatre
- Study various performance techniques and skills proven successful in professional theatre
- Improve performance skills through pedagogy and practice
- Present performances that will serve the student as he/she enters professional theatre

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

- Continual and effective class participation and attendance
- Constructive critical thinking of performances for musical theatre productions
- Performances for Southeastern Oklahoma State University and surrounding community



## **COURSE PROCEDURES**

- Class discussion will be used as a forum for students to share ideas and insights into the nature of their exploration of musical theatre and performance
- Rehearsals will supplement student knowledge of the practices of musical theatre and performance
- Discussions, rehearsals, performances, participation, and attendance will be measures of student progress
- Students are expected to attend every class meeting on time. Much of what will be discussed each week cannot be learned (or “made up”) by any other means except during each class
- Tardies and early dismissal without prior approval are not acceptable

## **EXPECTED LEARNER OUTCOMES**

- Demonstrate knowledge of content learned during the semester
- Describe and analyze various musical theatre topics pertaining to the performance process
- Present show pieces that demonstrates content explored on the performances process

## **METHODS FOR ASSESSING EXPECTED LEARNER OUTCOMES -**

- Oral discussions of musical selections and applications to real world theatre topics
- Subjective critical thinking in theatre and other arts
- Summative comprehensive analysis of ideas learned during course through performative means
- Evidence of leadership and teamwork in rehearsal and performance

## **CRITERIA FOR GRADE DETERMINATION**

- Participation - Student performers will be expected to come prepared to work during regular class meetings AND to meet and rehearse outside of class meetings with an approved rehearsal schedule. Students will be required to complete assignments when assigned
- Presentations - Students will perform as scheduled during the course of the semester

## **ASSESSMENTS**

- Participation in class meetings (50 meetings during the semester @ 1 point each) = 50 points (33.4%)
  - Honor Show Choir = 50 points (33.3%)
  - Red River Revue = 50 points (33%)
- Total Points Possible = 150 (100%)  
Grades may be accessed at any time via [Blackboard](#)

## **CLASS POLICIES**

**ACT OF DISCOVERY STATEMENT** - The Department of Art, Communication, and Theatre strives to provide enrichment opportunities in all its classes through the Act of Discovery Series. Therefore your instructor may assign additional work that can include, but is not limited to: gallery, lecture, or performance attendance; reading, writing, or presentation assignments; group discussions or journaling exercises. We understand that students have commitments outside of the university, and to that end your instructor will make every effort to give students 30 days notice prior to an Act of Discovery Series assignment.



**CONTENT DISCLOSURE** - Courses within the Department usually deal with works of dramatic literature, both on the page and on the stage. Sometimes the situations, actions, and language of these works can be off-putting or offensive to some students, who might be offended on such grounds as sexual explicitness, violence, or blasphemy. As the Department is devoted to the principle of free expression, artistic and otherwise, and it is not the Department's practice to censor these works on any of these grounds, students who might feel unduly distressed or made uncomfortable by such expressions should withdraw at the start of the term and seek another course.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY** - Since timelines and presence are crucial to excellence in the performing arts, please adhere to the following attendance policy:

Each student is allowed one week of excused absences before your final grade is affected: for a Tues/Thurs class, that is two absences; for a MWF class, that is three absences. For each absence beyond these allotted absences, the student's grade will be reduced by ½ letter grade with each subsequent absence.

In addition to unexcused absences, three tardies or early exits will equal one absence. Participation in official university business must be documented by a written notice from the sponsoring faculty or staff member. A student who is absent from classes for official university business day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled within a reasonable time.

The only university-recognized excused absences are for participation in official university business that must be documented appropriately prior to the event or for bona fide religious holy days. Participation in official university business must be documented by a written notice from the sponsoring faculty or staff member, and cleared through the Office for Student Services.

**COUNSELING CENTER** - Any student experiencing mental or emotional issues who desires free, confidential, clinical counseling is encouraged to contact the SE Counseling Center at (580) 745-2988 to schedule an appointment during normal working hours Monday-Friday, 8:00AM to 5:00PM. For after-hours mental health emergencies, please call SE Campus Police at (580) 745-2911 or the Mental Health Crisis Hotline at (800) 522-1090.

**EQUITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT** - Southeastern Oklahoma State University, in compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or status as a veteran in any of its policies, practices, procedures, or programs. This includes, but is not limited to: admissions, employment, financial aid, and educational services. Inquiries regarding non-discrimination and equity policies may be directed to: Michael Davis, Director of Compliance and Safety & Title IX Coordinator, (580) 745-3090, or mdavis@se.edu.

**DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS:** Any student needing special accommodations due to a disability should contact the Office of Compliance and Safety, Administration Building, Suite 311 or call (580) 745-3090 (TDD# 745-2704). It is the responsibility of each student who anticipates or experiences barriers to their academic experience to make an official request for disability related accommodations in a timely manner.

**DISORDERLY CONDUCT:** (from [SOSU Student Handbook](#))

Behavior that is disorderly, lewd, indecent or obnoxious. This includes non consensual photography, video or audio recording of another person without consent. This also includes classroom disruption, and engaging in behavior a reasonable person would view as substantial or repeated interference with the instructor's ability to teach the class or the ability of other students to benefit from the instructional program. Faculty members are authorized to dismiss



students from classes pending other action, and it shall be a further 5 offense for any student not to leave a classroom when told to do so by a faculty member. (Note: If a student is dismissed from class due to classroom misconduct, the student must seek permission from the conduct officer before returning to that class. Faculty reserve the right to include in their syllabi statements of expectation and penalties for academic dishonesty and classroom misconduct.)

**WEAPONS:** (from [SOSU Student Handbook](#))

The possession or firing of firearms, fireworks, explosives or weapons or imitations of weapons including but not limited to bows, knives, or guns by students is prohibited on campus, in any student residence, sorority, fraternity, approved private housing or university operated facility, except as they are used in officially approved university programs. University regulations and 21 O.S., Section 1277 prohibits the possession of concealed weapons on university property except in a vehicle and prohibits the removal of the weapon from the vehicle while on campus.

**ACTS OF DISHONESTY:** (from [SOSU Student Handbook](#))

No student shall commit acts of dishonesty, including but not limited to the following:

*Cheating:*

Unless the instructor specifies otherwise, all examinations and other assignments, including homework, are to be completed by the student alone, without inappropriate assistance of any kind. Improper collaboration is considered cheating. When an instructor syllabus permits or encourages “working together” it is expected that group study sessions may result in similar responses or answers to exam questions or other work product. When working together is not permitted, such similar responses will be considered as evidence of academic misconduct. Unless the instructor specifies otherwise, it is assumed that all work submitted for a grade will be the product of the student's own understanding, and thus expressed in the student's own words, calculations, computer code, research data, etc.

*Plagiarism:*

All writing assignments are to be composed entirely of words generated (not simply found) by the student, except where words written by someone else are specifically marked as such with proper citation. This includes copying words from the internet, a periodical, or a book without proper reference. Simply documenting the source in a footnote or bibliography isn't good enough. You must also indicate that the words themselves are quoted from someone else. For this reason, sentences that should have quotation marks but appear in the paper without quotation marks are plagiarism. It is plagiarism to copy words and then modify them slightly. Paraphrasing is fine when you cite the source and indicate the new expression is actually your own. When the expression remains substantially similar to the source as a whole or in one of its parts – it is plagiarism. Self-plagiarism or “recycled academics” occurs when a student submits the same project or paper for multiple classes and violates the crucial assumption that academic work is performed on a class-by-class basis in order to achieve learning, practice, and growth. Unless the second instructor expressly permits a project or paper from a prior class for credit, this is not permitted.

*Other academic dishonesty:*

Facilitating or aiding in the cheating, plagiarism, or dishonesty of another student.

Attempting at cheating, plagiarism or other academic dishonesty even if not successful.

Lying in order to gain academic advantage, including dishonesty about why a class was missed, dishonesty to gain an extension on a project or assignment, or dishonesty to gain admission to a program.

**MATTERS OF ACADEMIC DISHONESTY AND CLASSROOM MISCONDUCT:** (from [SOSU Student Handbook](#))

Academic dishonesty matters may first be considered by the faculty member who may recommend penalties such as withdrawal from the course, reduction or changing of a grade in the course, test, assignment, or in other academic work; denial of a degree and/or performing additional academic work not required of other students in the



course. Acceptance of the faculty member's recommended penalties by the student shall make the penalties final and constitute a waiver of further administrative procedures. If the student does not accept the decision of the faculty member, the student may have the case reviewed by the academic department chair. If the student does not accept the decision of the academic department chair, the student may have the matter referred to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Student(s) seeking to be heard about a grade dispute should file an appeal with the Academic Appeals Committee. The Academic Appeals Committee will serve as an appeals board upon receipt of written requests from faculty or students who seek to have grades or records altered. The Committee will also act on appeals of students who are on academic probation or who have been suspended for academic reasons. The decision of the Academic Appeals Committee will be final.

If a student is dismissed from class due to classroom misconduct, the student must seek permission from the conduct officer before returning to that class. Faculty reserve the right to include in their syllabi statements of expectation and penalties for academic dishonesty and classroom misconduct. (Note: Faculty members are authorized to dismiss students from classes pending other action, and it shall be a further offense for any student not to leave a classroom when told to do so by a faculty member.)

**SUBMISSION OF ASSIGNMENTS:** Due dates for all assignments will be announced. Work is due at the beginning of class on the designated date, unless otherwise stated by the instructor. Grades on late work will be reduced by one letter grade per late class meeting. Presentations/reports must be ready on the assigned day, or grades will be reduced significantly. Students shall arrange to send work in if they are absent on a date that an assignment is due.

**PARTICIPATION:** Students are expected to participate in class. This includes students asking the instructor questions, students answering the instructor's questions, students responding to other students' questions, and students initiating discussion. It is also important not to monopolize the limited class time and to allow fellow students the opportunity to participate. Sleeping in class is not tolerated!

**LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW FROM A SPRING 2019 16 WEEK CLASS – April 12, 2019**

*Professor reserves the right to amend or revise this syllabus as it becomes necessary.*