



Savannah State University
New Programs and Curriculum Committee
Summary Page – Form I

1. **Submitting College:** CLASS
2. **Department(s) Generating The Proposal:** Liberal Arts
Choose an item. (if needed)
3. **Proposal Title:** Introduction to Playwriting
4. **Course Number(s):** ENGL/THEA 3105
5. **Course Title(s):** Introduction to Playwriting
6. **Effective Date:** Fall Year: 2013
7. **Brief Summary of Proposal:** Our department would like to create an Introduction to Playwriting course as ENGL/THEA 3105 to allow both Theatre majors and English majors to receive course credit for this course. The course will be followed by an advanced level playwriting ENGL/THEA 4105: Advanced Playwriting. The creation of a sequence brings playwriting into line with the department's offerings in other advanced writing fields – such as the introduction and seminar in creative nonfiction. This course will also support the envisioned writing concentration in English.
8. **Type of Proposal:** New Course If other, please describe: Click here to enter text.
9. **Impact on Library Holdings**
Existing: None
Additional: None
Deletions: None
10. **Impact on Existing Programs:** This change will allow students to take both an introductory level playwriting course and a advanced playwriting seminar.

11. Additional Resources Required

Personnel: None
 Non-personnel: None

12. Approvals:

- Department Curriculum Committee Signature  Date 4/20/13
- Department Chair Signature  Date 4/26/13
- College Curriculum Committee Signature _____ Date _____
- College Dean Signature  Date 4-17-13
- Vice President of Academic Affairs Signature _____ Date _____
 (Chair of the New Programs and Curriculum Committee)

- Faculty Senate

Signature _____ Date _____



Savannah State University
New Programs and Curriculum Committee
Course Addition Page – Form II

1. **Course Number:** ENGL/THEA 3105
2. **Course Title:** Introduction to Playwriting
3. **Catalogue Description:** This course explores dramatic writing including study and practice in writing for the modern stage. Students will gain a greater understanding through reading plays, analyzing dramatic structure, and evaluation of writing assignments.
4. **Rationale:** Our department would like to create an Introduction to Playwriting course as ENGL/THEA 3105 to allow both Theatre majors and English majors to receive course credit for this course. The course will be followed by an advanced level playwriting ENGL/THEA 4105: Advanced Playwriting. This sequencing of Playwriting brings this course in line with our offerings in other advanced fields – such as introduction and seminar in creative nonfiction. This course will also support the envisioned writing concentration in English.
5. **Credit Hours:** 3
6. **Pre-requisites:** ENGL 1102
7. **Syllabus:** Attached
8. **Similarity to or duplication of Existing Courses:** [Click here to enter text.](#)
9. **Textbook selection:** The Playwright's Workshop by Jean-Claude van Itallie, 1997
10. **Grading:** Writings 40%, Class Participation 20%, Midterm 20%, Final 20%, 90-100 A, 80-89 B, 70-79 C, 60-69 D, 0-59 F

Savannah State University
College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences
Dept. of Visual and Performing Arts

THEA 3105 Section 1 Introduction to Playwriting

Instructor:
Office:
Office Hours:
Phone:
Email:

Course Description: This course explores dramatic writing including study and practice in writing for the modern stage. Students will gain a greater understanding through reading plays, analyzing dramatic structure, and evaluation of writing assignments.

Prerequisites: ENGL 1102

Student Learning Outcomes:

The student will:

- A. Discuss the significance of listed plays and playwrights.
- B. Articulate the challenges of writing for the stage.
- C. Be able to describe the given circumstances of the play.
- D. Have an understanding of the dramatic character.
- E. Write a cohesive one act play.

Course Objectives:

The purpose of this class is to provide the student with practical knowledge of the practice of playwriting for the modern stage. The student will write a total of at least four monologues, six scenes, and a one act play.

Textbook:

Required: The Playwright's Workshop, Jean-Claude van Itallie, 1997

Instructional Units:

Dialogue and the Spoken Word	Building Blocks: Who, Where, and What
Plot: Playwright as Guide on the Journey	Story
Dialogue and Monologues	Breaking Ground
Terror and Vulnerability	Dreams and Ceremonies
Counting on Your Own	Moving Toward Production

Readings:

<i>The Cherry Orchard</i>	<i>A Doll's House</i>	<i>Death of a Salesman</i>
<i>Street Car Named Desire</i>	<i>Raisin in the Sun</i>	<i>Long Time Since Yesterday</i>
<i>The Laramie Project</i>	<i>Top Dog/Underdog</i>	<i>Freak</i>

Savannah State University's QEP (Quality Enhancement Plan): In support of the Savannah State University's Quality Enhancement Plan, "The Write Attitude," and the outcomes of this course, students will produce a minimum of 20 pages of writing during the semester in a variety of forms.

"The Write Attitude"

At Savannah State University, we are creating a campus culture that cultivates a positive attitude towards the practice of writing, which will, in turn, help you become a better writer. "The Write Attitude" is the name of the University's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), a campus-wide initiative to enhance student learning by improving attitudes about writing.

***For the best grade, follow these guidelines..**

1. Please be aware that a collegiate level of work is expected. Challenge yourself. Bypass easy, clichéd statements and solutions in all assignments. Do not use texting abbreviations.
2. Use theatrical terms in all writing assignments.
3. LATE WORK WILL RESULT IN A 30 POINT DEDUCTION FOR EACH DAY LATE.
4. Students are expected to complete assigned reading and writing assignments before class in order to participate in class exercises and discussions.
5. The student must have a savannahstate.edu email. Do not e-mail work unless I specifically request it.
6. Exams and quizzes will cover instructor's notes and chapter readings. The lecture will not cover everything in the chapters. **YOU MUST READ THE CHAPTERS ON YOUR OWN TIME.**
7. You may receive extra credit at my discretion. You may do this up to two times. If you have 4 or more absences, you will not be permitted extra credit.
8. **Plagiarism, cheating, or missing eight class periods for any reason (excused or unexcused) will result in a failure (F) for this class.**

ATTENDANCE

Attendance will be taken every class period. Students are permitted four (4) absences. The fifth absence results in your final grade being lowered by one letter grade, the sixth absence equals a two letter grade deduction, and the seventh absence equals a three letter grade deduction.

Any student with eight absences – excused or unexcused – will receive an F for this class.

NOTE: Students who are absent because of participation in approved University activities will be permitted to make up work missed during their absences, provided that no more than 15% (6) of class hours per course per term are missed and that work is assigned for completion *prior* to the University sanctioned activity. I will take into consideration religious holidays, summons, jury duty, or emergency situations with the proper documentation. I do not accept sickness without a doctor's excuse, court dates, arrests, doctor's appointments, or babysitter issues.

Any student who has more than 4 unexcused absences will NOT be allowed any make up any class work.

You will not be allowed to make up quizzes for any reason.

Please be on time...the door will close 5 to 10 minutes after class starts.

Disability Statement:

Savannah State University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities, as required under federal law. The purpose of disability accommodation is to provide equal access to the academic material and equal access to demonstrate mastery of the material. Students with disabilities must meet all the academic requirements and standards of the class, including the attendance policy. If you have a disability and need accommodations, please contact Amelia Castilian-Moore, Coordinator of Disability Services at (912) 358 3115 or moorea@savannahstate.edu. The Office of Counseling and Disability Services is located in King Frazier 233. You will need to meet with Ms. Castilian-Moore, who can help you gather documentation of your disability or refer you to an appropriate resource for assessment. Once documentation of the disability is gathered and approved, Ms. Castilian-Moore will provide you with an Accommodation Letter, detailing the appropriate, approved accommodations, which you should present to me so we can discuss and implement your accommodations.

Grading:

Writings 40%,
Class Participation 20%,
Midterm 20%,
Final 20%,

Grading Scale

90-100 A,
80-89 B
70-79 C,
60-69 D,
0-59 F

**Your continued attendance in this class is your acceptance of this syllabus,
and you agree to abide by its requirements.**