

Theatre 1013 (online sections 90, 91) Fall 2024
Exploring Theatre

Jane England faculty bio: <https://www.theatre.utah.edu/about/people/general-faculty/england-jane>

Please communicate through system email. If unable to do so, my email is jane.England@utah.edu Office: 219 TAB--Theatre Arts Building (#73).

Regardless of which section of Theatre 1013 you're enrolled in, this is your course page.

Office Hours: Tue/Thur 2-3:30 pm or by appointment (Please message me via Canvas and we can email/message or set up a Zoom meeting, if you prefer)

Welcome to class! To understand the logistics of this online course, please read all class details below via the linked PDFs, and scroll down to bottom of page to see calendar for weekly/daily schedule of assignments and due dates.

CHECK ANNOUNCEMENTS for any updates on assignments and follow the SYLLABUS PAGE (scroll down page to reach weekly course calendar titled "Course Summary") and be sure to check your email each time you log onto the system. **The easiest way to follow the course flow and know when assignments are due is to follow the chronological syllabus calendar dates listed below the course description (scroll down).**

Theatre cannot die before the last dream has been dreamt

--Declan Donnellan, *The Actor and the Target*

In the theatre, we're all charlatans and liars and scavengers and fly-by-nights.—Simon McBurney

COURSE PHILOSOPHY: We will become acquainted with the world of theatre by examining significant primary readings, looking at how theatrical space has been used over the centuries, focusing on two important dramatic ages, and discussing historical and modern plays (including written texts, filmed productions and live performances). I agree with Aristotle that “to learn gives the liveliest pleasure,” and with great theatre, learning is pure joy!

- **Course Description:** This course provides both an understanding of the elements of drama and an in-depth analysis of play scripts and performance, ancient and modern. This course is 3 credit hours, and fulfills the Fine Arts (FF) gen ed. There are no prerequisites for this course.
- **Content Overview:** In this class we'll read or watch plays and discuss their themes and historical contexts, starting with the Greeks and concluding with various sorts of contemporary drama. Along the way, we'll discover important currents in theatrical literature and, just possibly, life.
- **Course Objectives:** By studying significant plays (both the written texts and in performance) and participating in online lecture-discussions, you will learn to identify elements common to most dramatic literature and learn about theatre as the liveliest of art forms. You will also learn to understand the plays, themselves. At the end of the course a student will:
 1. Be able to discuss the ancient roots of theatre and complete an assignment applying the teachings of Aristotle to a specific theatre experience.
 2. Have increased their knowledge of various historical theatre movements and be able to relate them to present day theatre.
 3. Be able to discuss the social implications that theatre brings.

4. Discuss and critically respond to visual art from a (virtual/online) museum visit, and apply that critical thinking to various response papers.
5. Be able to develop and use critical thinking skills in writing responses to theatre, whether a live performance or a filmed "live" performance.

Click here for [Teaching and Learning Methods](#)

- Online Technical Help: helpdesk@utah.edu or U IT Help Desk (801) 581-4000

Click here for [Internet Items](#)

Please download the Canvas app on your phone, to stay on top of announcements and to have full access to streaming films. If you are using an ipad or tablet, it functions as a phone (IOS) and you need to use the app to access all materials, especially streaming video. This course is much easier to follow on a computer screen than an iphone screen.

- Click here for how the **Class Assignments** work, and the grading process: [Assessment](#)
- Click here for [Required Texts](#)

Class Schedule (scroll down page to access Course Summary with assignments and due dates): In most cases, the due date for each assignment and test will be one week from the day it becomes available (I open all regular assignments at the beginning of the term, so you can work your way through at your pace). You may work ahead if you would like; however, avoid getting behind in the assignments. I do accept late work with a penalty. You cannot take the tests outside of the time assigned for them. For the 2 tests there are no make-ups allowed under any circumstances.

Click here for [Evaluation Methods and Criteria](#)

Click Here for [Grading Scale](#)

Additional Information: It is important to understand that I may not visit the site on a daily basis. I treat the site as I would a three hour course where I "teach" three times a week. Please use Umail or the Canvas system to communicate. While I do not mind students working together on the assignments, working together on the tests is forbidden. Please do your work alone.

- **The Fine Print:** Check the calendar posted on Canvas for most updated due dates and class plans. Changes to the schedule will be announced and posted to Canvas. It is your responsibility to keep up with the changes. Check the schedule carefully before making holiday plans! There will be no make-up exams or quizzes except for those students who are engaged in University-sanctioned activities and provide me with proper documentation *in advance*.

Note: The syllabus is not a binding legal contract. It may be modified by the instructor when the student is given reasonable notice of the modification and when the changes will best serve the educational experience of the students.

- Campus safety/support: <https://safeu.utah.edu/> Links to an external site.