

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS  
COURSE APPROVAL FORM  
NEW COURSE



College: CAHS Prefix/Subject Code: TH Course Number: 465

Banner Title: Directing Credit Hours: 3 First Offered: Fall 2017  
(32 Characters)

Full Course Name: Directing

Instructional Method:  Online  Hybrid  Classroom

Prerequisites: TH 150, TH 322/323, or permission by the instructor

Min. Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Co-requisites: \_\_\_\_\_

Prerequisites with Concurrency: \_\_\_\_\_

Restrictions: junior/senior  
*Class, Level, Department, Program, College, etc.*

Grading System:  A-F  S-U

Cross-listed: \_\_\_\_\_

*Cross-listed courses must provide both graduate and undergraduate syllabi.*

Catalog Description: (300 Characters)

In this course, students will develop their skills in theatrical directing and production using script analysis, visual composition, design, and communication. Students will complete hands-on directing scene projects, supplemented with written analysis, dramaturgical research, and design images.

Does this course involve multiple academic units in the originating college? Yes  No   
*If so, the chair of each academic unit must sign this form.*

Is this course to be added to Charger Foundations? Yes  No   
*If so, the Charger Foundations committee must review this form.*

Does this course involve academic units external to the originating college? Yes  No   
*If so, deans of all colleges involved must sign this form.*

Is this a Laboratory course (stand alone or combined)? Yes  No   
*If yes, indicate the number of credit hours for the lab and the number of contact hours.*

Lab Hours: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Hours: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Credit Hours: \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate the type of course and hours.

<input type="checkbox"/> Studio Course	Studio Hours: _____	Contact Hours: _____	Total Credit Hours: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Clinical Course	Clinical Hours: _____	Contact Hours: _____	Total Credit Hours: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Internship	Internship Hours: _____	Contact Hours: _____	Total Credit Hours: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Study Abroad	Abroad Hours: _____	Contact Hours: _____	Total Credit Hours: _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lecture	Lecture Hours: <u>3</u>	Contact Hours: <u>3</u>	Total Credit Hours: <u>3</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Research	Research Hours: _____	Contact Hours: _____	Total Credit Hours: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Topics	Special Topics Hrs: _____	Contact Hours: _____	Total Credit Hours: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Dissertation	Dissertation Hrs: _____	Contact Hours: _____	Total Credit Hours: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Thesis	Thesis Hours: _____	Contact Hours: _____	Total Credit Hours: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Co-Op	Co-Op Hours: _____	Contact Hours: _____	Total Credit Hours: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Ensemble	Ensemble Hours: _____	Contact Hours: _____	Total Credit Hours: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Validation	Validation Hours: _____	Contact Hours: _____	Total Credit Hours: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Recitation	Recitation Hours: _____	Contact Hours: _____	Total Credit Hours: _____

Compare with existing catalog offerings, with justification if apparent overlap:

Directing is a new course, and helps students build their skills in theatrical direction and producing, and developing their eye for visual aesthetics and composition.

Discuss demonstrated value of course. Please justify why this new course is needed.

Being able to successfully direct a theatre production is an interlocking set of skills that students will need out in the field as entertainment industry professionals or as secondary school teachers.

Will this course be required? Explain.

It is required for those in the performance track, as it leads directly to performance.

Is this course part of a program core? Explain.

No, it is not a part of the core for all theatre majors, but only for performance majors.

Is this course part of a new major or minor? Explain.

It is a part of the new theatre major, now in its second year.

Textbooks: A Director Prepares; Tips for Directors; An Actor's Thesaurus

Intended Instructors: Amy Guerin

Implications for faculty workload: This course is a part of a regular workload, not additional

Implications for facilities: No special facilities are needed.

*A detailed syllabus must be attached giving an overview of topics covered, course goals and structure, grading system, and policies.*

Department Chair: *Clarke Rowntree* Grad. Council: \_\_\_\_\_

College Dean: *[Signature]* Graduate Dean: \_\_\_\_\_

College Curriculum Committee: *[Signature]* Undergrad Curriculum Cmte: \_\_\_\_\_

Charger Foundations: \_\_\_\_\_ Provost: \_\_\_\_\_

*Acknowledgements from other units:*

Department Chair: \_\_\_\_\_ College Dean: \_\_\_\_\_

## TH 465 Directing

Professor Amy Guerin

### **Course Description and Prerequisites:**

Theatre forms and styles; director's function and responsibility in producing plays; script analysis; directing laboratory scenes; participation in departmental productions. The prerequisites for this class include completing TH 150, TH 322/323, junior or senior standing, or permission by the instructor.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

In this class students will learn multiple theoretical approaches to directing, via reading/discussion and experiential work, a variety of works in a variety of spaces, both traditional and non-traditional. Students will expand their theoretical and practical theatre knowledge, present effectively, write critically and analyze thoughtfully. Students show mastery of these skills through a combination of moderated discussions, writing assignments and scene presentations.

### **Required Texts:**

*A Director Prepares: Seven Essays on Art and Theatre* by Anne Bogart

*Tips: Ideas for Directors* by Jon Jory

### **Recommended Texts:**

American Theatre subscription

*100 Essays About Theatre* by Sarah Ruhl

*The Empty Space* by Peter Brook

*The Director's Voice, Vol 2:* edited by Jason Loewith

*And Then You Act* and *What's The Story*, both by Anne Bogart

### **Course Assignments:**

**Production Response** (100 Points Each/200 Points Total) You will write performance responses on both of the UAH Theatre MainStage production this semester. The responses will be 750-900 words, and turned in via the class Canvas page. Focus on your experience and response to the play in performance, focusing on theme, acting, directing and design elements (lighting, costume, sound, projections.)

**Moderated Discussion** (150 Points) – During the semester you will moderate one 10- 20 minute discussion. You will write 5-7 open-ended discussion questions to turn in.

**Discussion Participation** (150 Points) -- During the moderated discussions, your participation in the discussion will be noted by number and quality of comments. There are 17 discussions. Aim for approximately 6 quality comments per discussion to receive the maximum number of points.

**Director's Notebook** (200 points) – At the end of the semester, you will turn in a complete director's notebook,

outlining all of the analytical, conceptual and logistical work done for your final scene presentation. Your points will come from the level of complexity and creativity presented in your notebook.

**Final Scene** (300 Points) – At the end of the semester, you will direct one 10 minute scene featuring between 2 and 3 actors. The scene must come from a published play written after 2000 that you have not worked on before in any capacity.

**Grading Scale:**

**1000-900 A 899-800 B 799-700 C 699-600 D 599-0 F**

**Policies:**

**Class Materials:** Please come to every class dressed appropriately for the day, with your copies of the text reading that is due that day and the proper note-taking materials. Phones are not allowed as a note-taking device.

**Attendance:** Is taken every day at the start of class. Lateness will not be tolerated. You are to be on time to class. If the door to the classroom is closed, assume that you are docked an unexcused absence. Two unexcused absences equals a full drop in your letter grade in the class. More than four unexcused absences will result in your being dropped from the class.

**Work missed due to unexcused absences cannot be made up.**

University Policies regarding absence: The university views class attendance as an individual student responsibility. Students are expected to attend class and to complete all assignments. Instructors are expected to give adequate notice of the dates on which major tests will be given and assignments will be due.

<http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07>

If needed, the student must provide additional documentation substantiating the reason for the absence, that is satisfactory to the instructor, within one week of the last date of the absence.

**Academic Integrity:** Students who engage in scholastic dishonesty (i.e. plagiarism or "cheating") are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course.

**Course Calendar**

Week 1	Course Introduction/Ruhl Essay Discussion	Class Discussion: Jory text "Vocab" and "The Play" chapters
Week 2	Museum Visit. Meet at the classroom and walk together to Wilson Hall.	Composition Work: Color/Line/Feeling

Week 3	Class Discussion: Jory text "Casting"	Exercise: Typing Headshots
Week 4	Class Discussion: Jory text "Director Homework" and "Beginning"	Exercise: Group Action Analysis
Week 5	Class Discussion: Jory text "Blocking"	Composition Work: Proscenium
Week 6	Composition Work: Thrust	Composition Work: Arena
Week 7	Composition Work: Found <b>Performance Response Due Online</b>	Class Discussion Jory text "Working With Actors"
Week 8	Class Discussion: Jory text "Table Work" and "Rehearsal Process"	Composition Work: 1 person scenes
Week 9	Composition Work: 1 person scenes	Composition Work: 1 person scenes
Week 10	Class Discussion: Sex and Violence	Composition Work: Sex and Violence
Week 11	Class Discussion: Bogart Essay 1 and 2	Composition Work: Flash Mob
Week 12	Class Discussion: Bogart Essay 3 and 4	Composition Work: Devised Performance
Week 13	Class Discussion: Bogart Essay 5, 6 & 7 <b>Performance Response Due Online</b>	Composition Work: Immersive Theatre
Week 14	Directing Work: Final Scene Drafts	Directing Work: Final Scene Drafts
Week 15	Class Discussion: Last Day Debrief <b>Evening: Final Scenes Performed Time TBD. Director's Notebook Due.</b>	

THIS SYLLABUS MAY CHANGE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE INSTRUCTOR IF UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES ARISE. YOU WILL BE INFORMED IN ADVANCE OF ANY CHANGES.