

Theatre Department

THA 2010G -- Experiencing the Arts: An Exploration of the Visual and Performing Arts.

1. Catalog Description

- a. Course level: THA 2010G
- b. Title: Experiencing the Arts: An Exploration of the Visual and Performing Arts.
- c. Meeting times/Credit: 2-2-3
- d. Term offered: F
- e. Short title: Experiencing the Arts.
- f. Course description: An experiential overview of the performing & visual arts, their inter-relatedness and their importance to enhancing the quality of life. Outside viewing assignments required.
- g. Prerequisites: None
- h. Writing Active

2. Student learning objectives

A grid will be developed to ensure that a significant number of the following concerns are addressed in each major experience and that all will be addressed in the course of the semester. This will provide the structure for the meeting of course objectives using a variety of available and appropriate arts experiences.

-Perceiving the arts as important enhancers to “quality of life.” (**responsible citizens**)

-Perceiving the arts as indexes of cultural diversity and expressions of the human spirit which transcend cultural differences. (**responsible citizens & ability to think critically**)

-Perceiving the rationale for an interdisciplinary approach to a heightened and dynamic aesthetic awareness (**ability to think critically**)

-Sharing ideas and perceptions regarding the creative process in the arts, (art, music, theatre, and dance etc.). Seeing perceptual, circumstantial, historical, environmental, and technical influences motivating the creators of art and determining specific modes of expression. (**ability to think critically & ability to write and speak effectively**)

-Experiencing fundamentals of each art as illustrated by artistic works and through rudimentary formal definition of concepts -- a working vocabulary for discussion of artistic concerns. (**ability to write and speak effectively & ability to think critically**)

- Art: Line, color, texture, value, volume, shape, perspective etc.
- Music: Rhythm, tempo, variety, pace, contrast, harmony, timbre, etc.
- Theatre: Rhythm, tempo, blocking, pace, design elements etc.
- All arts: genre, function, subject, mood, etc.

-Sampling Western historical modes of artistic expression -- A summary of the major historical periods in various subject areas and an introduction to some well-known and widely revered works of art and their creators. Surveying reference materials, arts organizations and institutions, and a basic bibliography/discography for building personal libraries. Practical information for the consumer/collector. (**ability to think critically**)

-Observing form and structure in the arts as illustrated by actual artistic works including some architecture. Technical considerations of form as well as style and genre will be considered. Representative works and structures will be examined. (**ability to write and**

speak effectively & ability to think critically)

-Exploring issues and ideas in the arts (i.e. race, gender, religion, politics, economics, elitism, cultural imperialism, nationalism, “high” arts vs. folk arts, commercialism, public support vs. private funding, censorship, expressionism, talent, taste, artistic judgment, functionality, pop art, etc.). (**responsible citizen, ability to write and speak effectively & ability to think critically**)

3. Course Outline

This course will meet for 45 fifty-minute class periods, for three credits. The heart of the course is the involvement of the students in live arts performances/presentations during the semester, augmented by high quality films or videos. These experiences may be scheduled specifically for the class; or be drawn from the offering of the departments of Music, Theatre, and Art or other areas of the University during the semester. Each activity will be preceded by one or more preparatory lecture/presentations. There will be a follow-up discussion period after each activity. The professor of record will be responsible for providing questions to provide focus for the arts experience, the follow-up discussions, and the student evaluations.

Note: Arrangement of events will vary depending on art exhibits and other events covered in the course that are available in the area at the time the course is being offered.

Unit 1: Visual Arts

- a. Discuss terms that apply to the art forms being discussed.
- b. Attend various art shows.
- c. Discussion of experience.

Unit 2: Performing Arts (This may include but not limited to theatre productions and music concerts & recitals).

- a. Discuss terms that apply to the performing art segment to be viewed at that time.
- b. Attend the various shows either at the University or other designated areas.
- c. Discuss the performances.

Unit 3: Various Art Activities

This unit varies depending upon the availability of exhibits/performances/workshops/ guest lecturers in any given semester. Possible topics may include dance, film, architecture, or literature.

Unit 4: Synthesis

This unit will incorporate and draw connections between all the art forms experienced throughout the semester.

4. Evaluation of Student Learning

Grading will include the following:

Written responses to “focus” questionnaires	15%
Attendance at required arts events	25%
Discussion/In-class assignments	35%
Final Evaluations	25%

5. Rationale

- a. This course fits into the Humanities & Fine Art segment of General Education.
- b. This is a lower division course that is designed to be an introduction to the various

- art forms that exist. There are no prerequisites to this course.
- c. Credit may not be received for both THA 2010G and ART 2010G.
 - d. This course is not required for any major or minor.

6. Implementation

- a. May be taught by any member of the Theatre Arts Faculty.
- b. Handouts and reserve materials.
- c. Additional costs to the students might be the cost of tickets or entry fees to view various arts events.
- d. Fall 2000

7. Community College Transfer

A community college course may be judged equivalent to this course.

8. Date approved by the department: 4/3/00

9. Date approved by the college curriculum committee: 4/12/00

10. Date approved by CAA: 10/19/00

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