

THEA-114: READER'S THEATER

Effective Term

Fall 2026

CC Approval

02/06/2026

AS Approval

03/12/2026

BOT Approval

03/19/2026

SECTION A - Course Data Elements

CB04 Credit Status

Credit - Degree Applicable

Discipline

Minimum Qualifications	And/Or
Theater Arts (Master's Degree)	

Subject Code

THEA - Theater Arts

Course Number

114

Department

Theater Arts

Division

Arts and Humanities (ARAH)

Full Course Title

Reader's Theater

Short Title

Reader's Theater

CB03 TOP Code

1007.00 - Dramatic Arts

CIP Code

50.0512

CB08 Basic Skills Status

NBS - Not Basic Skills

CB09 SAM Code

E - Non-Occupational

Rationale

Update section G.

SECTION B - Course Description

Catalog Course Description

Reader's Theater provides instruction and participation in play readings and performance by using vocal expression as the primary means to communicate a script's story and characters while exploring principles, theories and techniques of script analysis.

SECTION C - Conditions on Enrollment

Open Entry/Open Exit

No

Repeatability

Not Repeatable

Grading Options

Letter Grade or Pass/No Pass

Allow Audit

Yes

Requisites

SECTION D - Course Standards

Is this course variable unit?

No

Units

3

Lecture Hours

54

Outside of Class Hours

108

Total Contact Hours

54

Total Student Hours

162

Distance Education Approval

Is this course offered through Distance Education?

Yes

Online Delivery Methods

DE Modalities	Permanent or Emergency Only?
Entirely Online	Permanent
Hybrid	Permanent

SECTION E - Course Content

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Analyze dramatic literature.
- Show and appreciation of theater as an art form.
- Demonstrate performance skills.

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Obtain a greater level of comprehension and satisfaction when reading a play.
- Discover the patterns common to most, if not all, dramatic storytelling. Practice applying an analytical framework to several model plays.

3. Write both personally and academically about drama.
4. Undertake individually both a creative and analytical response to a chosen play.

Course Content

- Active Analysis
- Acting, Directing and Playwriting
- Given Circumstances
- Plot
- Dialogue
- Structure
- Character
- Idea

Methods of Instruction

Methods of Instruction

Types	Examples of learning activities
Discussion	Students discuss the major conflict of a play and how things are resolved.
Visiting Lecturers	Playwrights visit class and discuss the playwriting process. Students then read the playwright's work.
Journal	Students do a journal response for each class about what they learned playing their character.
Critique	Students write a written critique of a play according to specific guidelines.

Online Adaptation

Types	Examples of learning activities
Discussion	Students discuss the major conflict of a play and how things are resolved.
Lecture	Student view or engage with a live discussion with a playwright and then read and discuss their work.
Journal	Students do a journal response for each class about what they learned playing their character.
Critique	Students write a written critique of a play according to specific guidelines.

Instructor-Initiated Online Contact Types

Announcements/Bulletin Boards
 Chat Rooms
 Discussion Boards
 E-mail Communication
 Telephone Conversations
 Video or Teleconferencing

Student-Initiated Online Contact Types

Chat Rooms
 Discussions
 Group Work

Course design is accessible

Yes

Methods of Evaluation

Methods of Evaluation

Types	Examples of classroom assessments
Class Participation	Students engage in discussion about play structure.
Homework	Students create a written analysis of a scene from a play to include beats, objectives and tactics.

Oral Presentations

Students present a biography of the character they are reading from a play.

Performances

Students perform a rehearsed reading of an entire play before a live audience.

Assignments

Reading Assignments

Selected readings from textbook, periodicals or library collection covering and expanding on lecture.

For Example:

Read Chapter 1, focusing on active analysis.

Read Chapter 3, describing the the role of conflict in plot.

Writing Assignments

Written evaluations of plays viewed in class.

For example:

1. Write a three-page, character analysis of I Am My Own Wife by Doug Wright.

2. Topical essays expanding on course material.

For example:

Write a three page paper comparing comic and tragic plays.

Outside-of-Class Assignments

Research paper or other writing projects that develop a related topic.

For example:

Students are to select a paper topic covering a critical analysis and evaluation of the artistic elements of film noir covered in the course this semester. This paper is designed as a research project and students are expected to go beyond the level of information found in the course textbook. Students must find a minimum of five sources for this paper. Of those five, no more than two may be periodical sources and no internet sources are allowed, except where students can demonstrate the academic verifiability and validity of a source. Paper will be in the MLA format using parenthetical citations. The body of the text must be a minimum of 7 pages and no more than 15. Work will be graded on a 50 point rubric that evaluates format; development of the body of the text including a thesis, relevant examples, integration of research, conclusion and merit of original premise; punctuation; grammar; bibliography; citations; and use of images.

SECTION F - Textbooks and Instructional Materials

Material Type

Textbook

Author

James Thomas

Title

Script Analysis for Actors, Directors and Designers

Edition/Version

6th

Publisher

Routledge

Year

2020

Material Type

Textbook

Author

Aaron Shepard

Title

Readers on Stage

Edition/Version

Paperback

Publisher

Shepard Publications

Year

2017

SECTION G - Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity**How does your course and/or course outline of record reflect strategies for accommodating and engaging diverse student populations, advancing equitable outcomes, and fostering inclusion for all students?**

Reader's Theater uses scripts-in-hand, multiple roles, and scaffolded, low-stakes rehearsals so students of varied backgrounds and abilities can participate fully without memorization barriers. We center diverse texts, provide accessible materials, and assess growth and collaboration to advance equitable outcomes and inclusion.

Course Codes (Admin Only)**CB10 Cooperative Work Experience Status**

N - Is Not Part of a Cooperative Work Experience Education Program

CB11 Course Classification Status

Y - Credit Course

CB13 Special Class Status

N - The Course is Not an Approved Special Class

CB23 Funding Agency Category

Y - Not Applicable (Funding Not Used)

CB24 Program Course Status

Program Applicable

Allow Pass/No Pass

Yes

Only Pass/No Pass

No