

**Marshall University
Syllabus**

Course Title/Number	CMM 330 Performance Theory
Semester/Year	Spring 2015
Days/Time	MW 2:00 – 3:15
Location	SH 263
Instructor	Danny Ray
Office	SH 270
Phone	304-696-5293
E-Mail	ray102@marshall.edu
Office/Hours	MW1:00 – 2:00, 3:15 – 4:00. Other times available by appointment
University Policies	By enrolling in this course, you agree to the University Policies listed below. Please read the full text of each policy by going to www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs and clicking on “Marshall University Policies.” Or, you can access the policies directly by going to http://www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs/?page_id=802 Academic Dishonesty/ Excused Absence Policy for Undergraduates/ Computing Services Acceptable Use/ Inclement Weather/ Dead Week/ Students with Disabilities/ Academic Forgiveness/ Academic Probation and Suspension/ Academic Rights and Responsibilities of Students/ Affirmative Action/ Sexual Harassment

Course Description: From Catalog

This course will focus on the study of performance practices that function as enactments of cultural identity. General topics will include performance as a cultural process, performance in social roles, and performance as power. The subject matter will draw upon historical and contemporary art forms, public rituals and celebrations, ethnographic studies, and film/video documentaries.

The table below shows the following relationships: How each student learning outcomes will be practiced and assessed in the course.

Course Student Learning Outcomes	How students will practice each outcome in this Course	How student achievement of each outcome will be assessed in this Course
Students will develop an informed understanding of performance theory and the way it plays out in our culture and cultures that differ from our own	Assigned readings Group discussions Film and video clips Guest lecturers / performances	Reflection papers Article summaries Performance experience Exams Performance analysis
Students will improve skills in the interpretive analysis of cultural texts.	Assigned readings Group discussions Film and video clips Guest lecturers / performances	Reflection papers Article summaries Performance experience Exams Performance analysis
Students will develop awareness and understanding of beliefs, rituals, and performance practices of everyday life which differ from mainstream middle-class America.	Assigned readings Group discussions Film and video clips Guest lecturers / performances	Reflection papers Article summaries Performance experience Exams Performance analysis

MC Studies Content Requirements	How does the course content address the MC content requirements? Name and briefly describe, for example, readings, lectures, videos, interactions, discussions.	How do instructors assess the MC content requirements? Name and briefly describe, for example, evaluation standards for exams, papers, projects, presentations.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students explain and examine multiple cultures other than their own. • Students evaluate their own culture by recognizing, distinguishing, comparing, and assessing other cultures. 	<p>Theories of performance reflect the cumulative knowledge, experience, beliefs, values, attitudes, and meanings of a culture. In this course, students will identify, examine, and evaluate theories of performance and use their knowledge of those theories to understand and evaluate various elements of their own culture in part by comparing and contrasting their own culture with other cultures through an examination of cultural rituals, celebrations and art forms. This will be achieved through class discussions on assigned readings, written assignments such as article summaries and reflection papers that deal specifically with cultural differences and a performance of an intercultural text that guide students' reflection on the similarities and differences across cultures. One discussion will center on a film about social drama and how it affected change by increased awareness of cultural differences.</p>	<p>Students will demonstrate awareness of intercultural differences and increases in knowledge, comprehension, and ability to apply and analyze cultural differences through a group performance of a text based on some ritual or celebration of a culture other than their own.</p>

Required Texts, Additional Reading, and Other Materials

1. Bell, E. (2008). *Theories of performance*. Los Angeles: SAGE Publications.
2. Turner, V. (1982). *From ritual to theatre: The human seriousness of play*. New York: PAJ Publications
3. Selected readings which will be posted on MU Blackboard Learning System

Course Requirements / Due Dates

- February 4, Reflection Essay 25 points
- February 25, Reflection essay 25 points
- March 23, Reflection Essay 25 points
- April 15, Reflection Essay 25 points
- April 27, Final presentation 50 points
- May 4, Final Exam 100 points

Grading Policy

A = 90 – 100%	225 – 250
B = 80 – 89%	200 – 224
C = 70 – 79%	175 – 199
D = 60 – 69%	150 – 174
F = 59% or lower	0 – 149

Attendance Policy

Roll will be taken every day and you are expected to be in class and on time. If you have any unforeseen circumstances that prevent you from attending then it is your responsibility to inform me *ahead of time* if at all possible. Tardiness will not be tolerated. A student is considered tardy if they enter the classroom after roll has been taken. Every two tardies will count towards an unexcused absence.

Class Participation and Punctuality:

In order to meet the objectives of the course, you will need to arrive at each class on time, having completed the assigned reading and writing and prepared yourself to participate intelligently in the discussion. Please arrive fully prepared to make presentations or submit accompanying documents when you are scheduled. Participation also includes providing grounded, actionable feedback to classmates following their presentations. In order for you to demonstrate the skills necessary for this course, you will be required to participate in group activities.

Make-up Work

It is expected that you will turn in all work by the due date. If for some unforeseen reason you need extra time then ask. Exceptions will be made on an individual basis. Exams and speeches/ presentations must be taken / delivered on the date that they are scheduled. Only a University Excused Absence will be considered in order for these items to be made up. Any assignments turned in late will be cut the amount of points equal to one letter grade, per class late. (Since we meet every other day tardiness will only count on class days). No email copies of assignments will be accepted unless a prior arrangement has been made and accepted by me.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Readings	Assignment
Week 1	January 12	Chapter 1 - Bell	Introduction to course
	January 14		Group discussion
Week 2	January 19	<i>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</i>	<i>No Class</i>
	January 21	Chapter 2 – Bell Introduction - Turner	Group discussion
Week 3	January 26	Chapter 3 - Bell	Lady Gaga
	January 28		Group discussion
Week 4	February 2	Chapter 4 – Bell	Music Videos
	February 4		Reflection Essay
Week 5	February 9	Chapter 5 – Bell	Group discussion
	February 11		
Week 6	February 16	<i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>	Group discussion
	February 18		
Week 7	February 23	Social Drama -Turner	Group discussion
	February 25		Reflection Essay <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>
Week 8	March 2	Dramatic Ritual – Turner	Group discussion
	March 4	Chapter 6 – Bell	
Week 9	March 9	<i>The Children's Hour</i>	Group discussion
	March 11		
Week 10	March 16	<i>Spring Break</i>	
	March 18		
Week 11	March 23	Chapter 7 – Bell	Reflection Essay <i>The Children's Hour</i>
	March 25		Group discussion
Week 12	March 30	Chapter 8 – Bell	Group discussion
	April 1		
Week 13	April 6	<i>Perks of Being a Wallflower</i>	Group discussion
	April 8		
Week 14	April 13	Everyday Life – Turner	Group discussion
	April 15	Chapter 9 – Bell	Reflection Essay <i>Perks of Being a Wallflower</i> Group discussion
Week 15	April 20	<i>NFA Nationals no class</i>	
	April 22	Chapter 10 - Bell	Group discussion
Week 16	April 27	Presentations	
	April 29	Final Exam Review	
Week 17	May 4	Final Exam	Final Exam 12:45 – 2:45 PM