

University of Arkansas – Fort Smith  
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**General Syllabus**

**THTR 42173 Theatre History I**

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Prerequisite: THTR 10003 Introduction to Theatre or consent of

instructor Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

**I. Course Information**

**A. Catalog Description**

A study of theatre from its origins up to circa 1800 with a focus on both history and the literature of each time period.

**B. Additional Course Information**

This course is required for students receiving a Bachelor's degree in Theatre (Design/Tech) or Theatre (Acting/Directing) and is an optional requirement in a theatre minor. It may be taken by students in other disciplines as an elective, if prerequisites are met.

**II. Student Learning Outcomes**

**A. Subject Matter**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Discuss the major theatrical eras of antiquity, from Greek to Renaissance.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of works from each period.
3. Chart the developments of story, acting, writing, and design over time.
4. Explain the differences in performance venues in each period.
5. Elucidate upon the origins of theatre and its original functions.
6. Compare the development of theatre to the development of ideas in other disciplines at the time.
7. Understand theatre's multicultural importance and how each culture developed its own theatrical tradition.

## **B. University Learning Outcomes (ULOs)**

This course enhances student abilities in the following area:

### **Global and Cultural Perspectives**

Students will have to delve deeply into the choices made by other cultures relating to theatre and life. Study will continue into how theatre crosses boundaries of culture.

### **Analytical Skills**

#### **Critical Thinking**

Continued emphasis on critical analysis of scripts in order to make proper dramatic choices. Also, analyzing scripts for cultural and historical data.

## **III. MAJOR COURSE TOPICS**

- A. Theatrical Origins
- B. Greek Theatre
- C. Roman Theatre
- D. Italian Theatre
- E. French Movements
- F. British Theatre
- G. Church Drama
- H. Middle Age Theatre
- I. Renaissance Theatre