INTRODUCTION TO THE PERFORMING ARTS
THEATRE 106
MWF: 9:00

INSTRUCTOR: Jane Cox
2226 Pearson 294-9766
Office Hours: MWF 10:00-11:30 TR 9:30-11:00
jfcox@iastate.edu

TEXT: The Performing Arts: An Audience's Perspective by David P. Hirvella

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1) Introduce the student to the main genres of each of the performing arts including important artists in each area and some of the characteristics that makes each unique.

2) Increase student understanding of the creativity and commitment that goes into a quality performance.

3) Provide an opportunity for each student to attend performing arts events on campus and in the Ames community (There are events that are free of charge).

4) Increase student understanding in terms of a critical response to performing arts events that will be demonstrated in written form.

SCHEDULE:
Jan. 12-Feb 13 Art, Audience, and Dance
EXAM 1 Monday, Feb. 16
Feb 18-March 27 Music and Theatre
EXAM 2 Monday, March 30
April 1-May 1 Film, Television, Radio
FINAL Monday, May 4 at 7:30 a.m.

ASSIGNMENTS:
Jan. 12-Feb 13 Introduction, Part I, Chapter 1 (Pages 1-30) Part III Chapter 6
Feb. 18-March 27 Chapter 5 Chapter 4
April 1-May 1 Chapter 7
GRADING:  
Exam #1     50 points  
Exam #2     50 points  
Final Exam:  100 points  
Reaction Cards:  50 points  

Total points:  250 points  

EXAMS:  
All the examinations are composed of multiple choice questions. The questions for the exams are approximately 20% from the text and 80% from lectures. All guest lectures, videos and performances seen in class may also be included on exams. The content for Exam 2 will include only material from the weeks between exams The final exam is comprehensive. 

REACTION PAPERS:  
You are asked to attend three performances and write a reaction paper giving your view on the event and supporting that opinion with specifics. The first two papers are graded on a 1-15 point scale; the third paper on a 1-20 points scale. Questions to be answered are on page 13 of the text. Extra credit can be earned by doing a fourth paper worth up to 20 additional points. Two live events are required. Reaction papers will be accepted up to two Theatre 106 class days after you have seen the performance; proof of attendance must be attached (ticket, program, signed statement from someone in charge at the event). Papers must be typed. Approved performances will be on a list distributed on Mondays. Performances NOT on the list should be approved by the instructor. Stand-up or improv comedy and lip sync are not accepted. Movies must be seen in a movie theatre. Performances should be University level or higher. 
Papers should be a minimum of a page and a half. Completed reaction papers are returned in class. The first paper must be submitted by the day of the FIRST exam. The second paper must be submitted by the day of the SECOND exam. The third paper and extra credit paper are due on Wednesday of the last week of class (April 29, 2015)) at 5:00 p.m.
A paper will not be accepted after its due date.

GRADING:

Grades will be calculated according to the number of points you have earned. The perfect score will be 250 points. By dividing the total number of points you have earned by 250, you can at any time find the percentage of points you have earned.

At the end of the semester, course letter grades will be determined using this scale:

100%-94% = A  
93%-90% = A-  
89%-86% = B+  
85%-83% = B  
82%-80% = B-  
79%-76% = C+  
75%-73% = C  
69%-66% = D+  
65%-63% = D  
62%-60% = D-  
59%-0% = F