

## **All In: Universal Design and Accessibility in Performing Arts**

Spring 2019 | 3 Credit Hours | THEA/DS 3355-001 | room TH 110 | T/R 2:00 pm - 3:20 pm

Instructor           Laurel Whitsett, MA, SAG-AFTRA  
 Office and hours    FA 268A | office hours TBD  
 Email                 whitsett@uta.edu  
 Appointments       Email name/course in the subject line, suggest a time and date that works for you  
 Ticket purchases    [UTATICKETS.COM](http://UTATICKETS.COM) – keep the email they send as proof of purchase

Degree	Major	Institution	Year
MA, with honors	Drama Text & Performance	University of London King's College + Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (RADA)	2005
BA, with honors	Theatre Arts – Acting Emphasis	University of California San Diego	1990
N/A (coursework complete)	Sign Language Interpreting	Collin College + Tarrant County College	2013
MA candidate	Linguistics	University of Texas at Arlington	in prog.

**FACULTY PROFILE**   <https://mentis.uta.edu/explore/profile/laurel-whitsett>

**IMDb ENTRY**       <http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0926375/>

**ADDITIONAL INFO**   Texas Board for the Evaluation of Interpreters (BEI) certified American Sign Language/English interpreter and transliterator, Educational Interpreters Performance Assessment (EIPA) assessed, Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf National Interpreters Certification (RID-NIC) candidate

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Explores the principles of Universal Design using the performing arts as a case study: creating environments, events, buildings, and products to accommodate the broadest spectrum of human ability, size, age, and other characteristics. Investigates how to put into practice the accessibility guidelines of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Performing is not required. Offered as THEA 3355 and DS 3355; credit will only be granted in one department.

### **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:**

1. summarize accommodations and adaptations related to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
2. recognize potential accessibility challenges when creating theatre productions
3. identify tangible and intangible benefits and challenges of working toward universal accessibility
4. operate effectively in a collaborative environment
5. demonstrate observational, verbal, and written skills necessary to analyze a work of theatre for form and content and identify ways in which it might be related to both theatre arts studies and disability studies

### **HIGHER-ORDER OUTCOMES** (application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation) are assessed by completing the following:

1. attend 1 performance of 1 production presented this semester by UTA's Maverick Theatre Company
2. attend another performing arts event of student's choice (art exhibit, film screening, play, dance production, etc.) with the goal of discussing accessibility observations in class
3. complete 4 open-note, untimed quizzes
4. demonstrate ability to work collaboratively to make accessibility decisions in theatre by creating a universally-accessible presentation. The project is completed through collaboration with classmates and serves as the final exam.

### **REQUIRED TEXT & MATERIALS**

- *Keywords for Disability Studies* by Reiss, Serlin, & Adams (Editor)– bring to each class meeting
- some way to take notes; recording devices as specified in official documentation from UTA OSD are welcome
- access to syllabus/calendar
- ability and commitment to check Blackboard (Bb) and UTA student email at least once per day

### **REQUIRED ATTENDANCE AT 1 PERFORMANCE OF 1 PLAY PRODUCED BY THE UTA MAVERICK THEATRE COMPANY THIS SEMESTER**

Tickets are available [online](http://utatickets.com/) at <http://utatickets.com/>. If you or someone you know would like to usher in exchange for a free ticket, inform the instructor by email. Each student is required to attend 1 performance of 1 production offered this semester by the UTA Theatre Arts Department's company, Maverick Theatre Company. **IMPORTANT:** Only the plays listed on the last page of this document will satisfy the requirement. Exact dates and times for each are provided in several places, including the last page, on the [department website](http://www.uta.edu/theatre/) at <http://www.uta.edu/theatre/> and on posters and brochures in and near the Theatre Arts department office FA144. Practicum students are not exempt from this requirement but modifications can be made for scheduling. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

**GRADING**

Play attendance + Observations	25 points (weighted at 20%)
Individual observations covering outside event of choice	15 points (weighted at 10%)
Quizzes covering reading and class activities – 5 @ 10 points each	50 points (weighted at 60%)
Final group project	<u>40 points</u> (weighted at 10%)
	130 points total

**GRADING SCALE, GRADE GRIEVANCES**

Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current undergraduate graduate catalog. Grades will be determined on the basis of the percentage of points earned to points possible: 100-90% = A, 89-80% = B, 79-70% = C, 69-60% = D, 59-0% = F. Students' final grades will be determined in the same fashion but taking into account the weightings described above.

**ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY**

Students may use electronic devices unless/until the use disrupts class or is distracting to other students or the professor. Texting to let someone know you're in class and can't talk is encouraged. Long conversations are not permitted. Thank you.

**POLICY: ATTENDANCE - STRICT**

At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. Rather, each faculty member is free to develop their own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. I, as the instructor of this course and section, have established following attendance policy. Attendance will be taken in the traditional manner, i.e., there will be a sign-in sheet. For meetings in which graded/scored work is due or planned, students who wish to earn the points must be in the room within the first 10 minutes of class with their work, if applicable. **THEATRE ARTS MAJORS:** please read the note at the end of this document regarding conferences and absences.

**POLICY: LATE WORK – STRICT**

Late work may be accepted but is not graded/scored.

1. *Late* is defined as *after the due date and time specified*. For example, if a quiz is due to Bb by 5:00pm on 8/22/19, the submission must be uploaded to the folder by 4:59 pm. The folder will turn into a pumpkin and disappear at 5:00pm on 8/22.
2. Emailed work does not substitute for work due to Blackboard.
3. If a student is ill, a note verifying the reason for the absence must be presented upon the request to make up the work.
4. Students whose official letters of accommodations from UTA OSD should make an appointment with the instructor to discuss their accommodations as they relate to make up work.

## Other policies and practices

- 1) Emergency Phone Numbers: In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at 817-272-3003 (from a non-campus phone), 2-3003 (from a campus phone). You may also dial or text 911.
- 2) **IMPORTANT!** Please review the [following](#) information about how to address an active shooter: <https://police.uta.edu/crime-prevention/active-shooter-resources.php>
- 3) Attendance: See above on this page (page 2). Theatre majors, please read the conference attendance policy located at the end of this section.
- 4) Tardiness: It is expected that students will be on time for class and remain for the entire session. Late arrivals and early departures impact the ability to receive the information and is distracting to all of us, including the instructor.
- 5) Illness: If a student misses class because of illness or another acceptable reason and provides documentation for the absence, the student may be allowed to make up missed work.
- 6) Blackboard and email: Check MyMav email and Blackboard at least once per day.
- 7) Departmental requirements: Students who fail to meet class attendance requirements may be removed from acting, directing, design, and/or stage management positions for the current semester's productions at the discretion of the department chair.
- 8) Assignments: Format will be specified for each assignment (hard copy, via Blackboard, etc.).
- 9) Extra credit: Extra credit may or may not be offered. See course calendar for information.
- 10) Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, [contact](#) the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).
- 11) Title IX Policy: The University of Texas at Arlington ("University") is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. For information regarding Title IX, visit [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX) or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or [jmhood@uta.edu](mailto:jmhood@uta.edu).

12) Americans with Disabilities Act: The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364 or by clicking [here](#).

13) Academic Integrity: Students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the [UT Arlington Honor Code](#), outlined below. Faculty are encouraged to discuss the Honor Code and the consequences of cheating, including plagiarism with their students. UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code in their courses by having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System Regents' Rule 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University. Additional information is available at <https://www.uta.edu/conduct/>. Students are encouraged to review [these guides](#) on plagiarism <http://libguides.uta.edu/researchprocess/plagiarism>

- I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.
- I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System Regents' Rule 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

14) Electronic Communication: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. [Information](#) about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

15) Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as "lecture," "seminar," or "laboratory" shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

16) Final Review Week: A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week unless specified in the class syllabus. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

17) Emergency Exit Procedures: Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located [find the nearest exits please!]. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist handicapped individuals.

18) Writing Center: The Writing Center, 411 Central Library, offers individual 40-minute sessions to review assignments, Quick Hits (5-10 minute quick answers to questions), and workshops on grammar and specific writing projects. Visit <https://uta.mywconline.com/> to register and make appointments. For hours, information about the writing workshops we offer, scheduling a classroom visit, and descriptions of the services we offer undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty members, please visit our website at <http://www.uta.edu/owl/>.

19) Behavior Intervention Team: If the instructor feels a student is displaying unusually hostile or potentially dangerous behavior on a regular basis, I will contact the BIT and they will address the situation. This procedure does not take the place of my calling 911 or campus police if danger is imminent, and you are always encouraged to do the same. For more information please visit <http://www.uta.edu/bit/>. You might consider putting the campus police contact number in your phone since campus police are more familiar with the UTA campus than are the 911 responders. That number is 817-272-3003.

20) Campus Carry: Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit

<http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>

21) UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources). Student Support Services: The IDEAS Center (2nd Floor of Central Library) offers free tutoring to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. To schedule an appointment with a peer tutor or mentor email [IDEAS@uta.edu](mailto:IDEAS@uta.edu) or call (817) 272-6593.

22) The English Writing Center (411LIBR): The Writing Center Offers free tutoring in 20-, 40-, or 60-minute face-to-face and online sessions to all UTA students on any phase of their UTA coursework. Our hours are 9 am to 8 pm Mon.-Thurs., 9 am-3 pm Fri. and Noon-6 pm Sat. and Sun. Register and make appointments [online](http://uta.mywconline.com) at <http://uta.mywconline.com>. Classroom Visits, workshops, and specialized services for graduate students are also available. Please see [www.uta.edu/owl](http://www.uta.edu/owl) for detailed information on all our programs and services. The Library's 2nd floor Academic [Plaza](#) offers students a central hub of support services, including IDEAS Center, University Advising Services, Transfer UTA and various college/school advising hours. Services are available during the library's hours of operation.

23) Research or General Library Help

[Library Home Page](#)

[Subject Guides](#)

[Subject Librarians](#)

[Database List](#)

[Course Reserves](#)

[Library Tutorials](#)

[Connecting from Off-Campus](#)

[Ask A Librarian](#)

[Academic Plaza Consultation Services](#)

[Ask Us](#)

[Library Tutorials](#)

[Subject and Course Research Guides](#)

[Librarians by Subject](#)

[Research Coaches](#)

[A to Z List of Library Databases](#)

[Course Reserves](#)

[FabLab](#)

[Scholarly Communications](#) (info about digital humanities, data management, data visualization, copyright, open educational resources, open access publishing, and more)

[Special Collections](#)

[Study Room Reservations](#)

24) CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE POLICIES: Department of Theatre Arts majors are encouraged to participate in theatre conferences and graduate school auditions. However, Theatre Arts majors are required to submit an excused absence request to the instructor no less than two full weeks prior to the conference/audition in order for the instructor to consider granting an excused absence. Such notification must be in writing and support documentation will be required to verify the Theatre Arts major's attendance, completion and/or successful (or professionally worthwhile) participation in said conference or audition. All students are expected to complete all coursework (as stipulated in the syllabus) and all course requirements (as stipulated by the syllabus) in a timely manner (the term "timely manner" will be defined/specified by the instructor at the time the Theatre Arts major submits their excused absence request to the instructor for initial consideration). At the discretion of the instructor, class participation grades may be affected; therefore, Theatre Arts majors are advised to fully consult with the instructor prior to engaging in such activities. Department of Theatre Arts Attendance/Production Duty Policy: Students who fail to meet class attendance requirements may be removed from acting, directing, design, stage management, and/or other major production positions for the current semester's productions at the discretion of the department chair. (Refer to the Theatre Arts Student Handbook for all updated policies.)

### **Emergency Phone Numbers:**

**UTA Police Department 817-272-3003 or**

**2-3003 from a campus phone.**

**You may also text/dial 911.**

## Spring 2019 | THEA/DS 3355-001 | COURSE SCHEDULE/CALENDAR\*

\*As the instructor for the course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course. – Laurel Whitsett

DATES & WK #	IN CLASS	Remarks
1/15 & 17 WEEK 1 foundations	Welcome and introductions What this class is, what isn't Handouts examined on 1/17 We need a weekly stage manager...	AUDITION INFO <a href="#">HERE</a> (tonight and tomorrow!) HW for 1/17: access for next class handouts (Course Materials>Handouts) HW for 1/22: Fine Arts Bldg. Scavenger Hunt FYI: Oscars 2/24 @ 7pm on ABC
1/22 & 1/24 WEEK 2	Intersectionality Chat: outside events + sign-up sheet Scavenger Hunt responses UTA theaters and Laurel's office	HW for 1/29: bring an item from home you believe is Universally Designed Read for 1/29 Adams, Reiss, & Serlin (ARS) <i>Introduction</i> , Ch.1, 2, 3, 5, 30
1/29 & 1/31 WEEK 3	Discuss reading Game: <i>Painting with Words</i> Given Circ's, Magic If, theatre spaces	Read for 2/5 ARS Ch. 13, 15, 18, 20, 36, 41, 42, 44, 45 Quiz 1 opens in Bb Friday 2/8 by 2p, due to Bb by 11:59 pm 2/12 HW: How's the Superbowl like theatre? How's it different? [SUPER BOWL LIII (53) 2/3 on CBS]
2/5 & 2/7 WEEK 4	Discuss and apply reading Discuss Superbowl observations	Read for 2/12 ARS Ch. 7, 25, 31, 33, 34, 35
2/12 & 2/14 WEEK 5	DUE: QUIZ 1 to Bb in PDF by 11:59 pm Review for Quiz #1 Discuss and apply reading	Read for 2/19 ARS 16, 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29
2/19 & 2/21 WEEK 6	Discuss and apply reading QUIZ # 1 discussion Ted Talk TBD	Read for 2/26 ARS Ch. 4, 7, 9, 10, 22, 32
2/26 & 2/28 WEEK 7	Discuss and apply reading <i>Life, Animated</i> film screening (requires 2 class meetings) Review for Quiz 2	Quiz 2 opens 3/1 by 2pm, closes 11:59pm 3/5 Read for 3/19 ARS Ch. 6, 8, 17, 37
3/5 & 3/7 WEEK 8	DUE: QUIZ 2 due 3/5 by 11:59pm FabLab introduction Quiz 2 discussion	TBD
3/12 & 3/14 WEEK 9	<b>SPRING BREAK - NO CLASSES</b>	<b>SPRING BREAK- NO CLASSES</b>
3/19 & 3/21 WEEK 10	1 of 3 play discussions – <i>THE MUSIC MAN</i> Quiz #2 discussion Discuss and apply reading	Read for 3/26 ARS Ch. 43, 48, 51, 52, 54, 56 Extra credit opportunity: <i>Heal the Divide</i> on 3/30 from 1-3pm, location TBA (on campus), free
3/26 & 3/28 WEEK 11	Nina Simone Discuss and apply reading Review for Quiz 3	Read for 4/2 ARS Ch. 46, 47, 49, 53, 55, 57, 58 Quiz 3 opens 3/29 by 2p, closes 11:59pm 4/2
4/2 & 4/4 WEEK 12	Quiz 3 DUE 4/2 by 11:59pm Discuss and apply reading Quiz #3 discussion	Read for 4/9 ARS Ch. 11, 12, 14, 60, 61, 62
4/9 & 4/11 WEEK 13	Introduce Design Thinking Final project stuff Revisit FabLab	Read for 4/16 ARS Ch. 19, 38, 39, 50, 59
4/16 & 4/18 WEEK 14	Discuss reading TED talk Quiz 4 review 2 of 3 play discussions – <i>EURYDICE</i>	Reading assigned? Quiz 4 opens by 2p 4/19 closes 4/23 11:59pm
4/23 & 4/25 WEEK 15	QUIZ 4 DUE 4/23 by 11:59pm Discuss and apply reading?	
4/30 & 5/2 WEEK 16	In-class Final Project work time 3 of 3 play discussions – <i>PRINCESS MIA</i>	HW TBD based upon class needs
TUES. 5/7/19	FINAL PROJECTS 2:00 - 4:30pm	Final projects presented at exam time

## EXPLANATION OF MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS

### **Quizzes – 5 @ 10 points each = 50 points total (weighted at 60%)**

Quizzes are listed on the calendar. They are open-note and open book, but not open-internet nor are they a group activity. Quizzes are designed to assess understanding of concepts derived from the reading and from class activities. The goal is to apply knowledge and reflect. During the quiz, use of outside resources other than one's book and notes are prohibited. **Plagiarism checks are in effect, so students may be required to cite sources used.** Students have unlimited attempts up to the due date and time, and the last attempt posted by the due date and time is graded. Expect multiple choice, multiple answer, short answer, longer answer, and true/false questions. Point values are always provided on the quiz itself

### **Observations + proof of attendance at 1 UTA Maverick Theatre Company play – 25 points (weighted at 20%)**

The objective of this critique is to communicate to people who have not seen the same play why it is accessible and why it isn't, using specific evidence from the performance and focusing on specific aesthetic qualities of the play. Additionally, students who've not seen the play being discussed are responsible for asking questions that challenge the speakers presenting that day. Students must also bring and show proof of attendance. **RUBRIC:** below

	Unacceptable	Proficient	Advanced
Explanation of Issues/Ideas and Evidence	0-1 points: Most or all of the required content elements are missing or incomplete. The issues/components of the play are not clearly stated or evaluated.	2-3 points: Most of the required content elements are present and mostly addressed. The issues/components of the play are developed coherently though not clearly.	4-5 points: All elements of content are included and thoroughly addressed and the issues/components of the play are considered critically and comprehensively and described clearly.
Influence of Context and Assumptions	0-1 points: Shows little to no awareness of personal assumptions and/or evaluation of the relevant context, especially the context of being a film/screen-favoring society seeing a live performance (perhaps for the first time).	2-3 points: Shows an emerging awareness of personal assumptions. Some awareness of context when presenting a position, especially the context of being a film/screen-favoring society seeing a live performance (perhaps for the first time).	4-5 points: Thoroughly analyzes and carefully evaluates the relevance of contexts when presenting a position, especially the context of being a film/screen-favoring society seeing a live performance (perhaps for the first time).
Student's Position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis) and Evidence	0-1 points: Disorganized & unfocused; serious problems with coherence and progression of ideas. No viable point of view; weak critical thinking, providing inappropriate or insufficient examples, reasons, or evidence of support.	2-3 points: Generally organized & focused, demonstrating coherence & progression of ideas Develops point of view & demonstrates competent critical thinking; enough supporting detail to accomplish the purpose of the assignment.	4-5 points: Thesis presented or implied with noticeable coherence; provides specific & accurate support from play. Insightfully develops a point of view & demonstrates outstanding critical thinking. Ideas are fresh, mature & supported
Conclusions and Related Outcomes	0-1 points: Conclusion is inconsistently tied to some of the information discussed; related outcomes (consequences and implications) are oversimplified. Star rating is unsubstantiated and does not correlate to the critique.	2-3 points: Conclusion is logically tied to a range of information, including opposing viewpoints; related outcomes (consequences and implications) are identified clearly. Star rating is somewhat substantiated and correlates to critique.	4-5 points: Conclusions and related outcomes are logical and reflect student's informed evaluation and ability to place evidence and perspectives discussed in priority order. Star rating is fully and critically substantiated and noticeably correlates to the critique.
Conventions: Language, Volume, Presence	0-1 points: Displays frequent & fundamental errors that interfere with student's ability to consistently communicate.	2-3 points: Competent use of language; generally focused. Occasional errors do not interfere with student's ability to communicate purpose. Generally able to communicate ideas.	4-5 points: Choice of language is precise and purposeful. Volume is loud enough to communicate ideas. Presence indicates preparation.

### **Student's Choice of performing arts event – 15 points (weighted at 10%)**

This assignment is a presentation of a student's experience attending a performing arts event. Students will attend a performing arts-oriented event of their choice with the goal of discussing accessibility observations. What kinds of events qualify? Any artistic endeavor in which an audience is present for the performance, e.g. music event, a play, a dance production, comedy improvisation, etc. is eligible. **Movie-going is not an eligible event for this assignment.** Observations will be discussed with the instructor in a small-group setting. Sign-up sheet provided.

### **Final project (serves as final exam) — 40 points per team member (weighted at 10%)**

We use a specific format called "Design Thinking" from IDEO.com. The format will be posted on Blackboard and we will have practiced in class. The format is designed to generate ideas based upon consumer-driven information. The goal of this process is to ensure we are incorporating consumer input in universal design decisions. We will present our consumer-driven ideas to the class and the people for whom they are designed. Students must (aka "get to") create a solution using the UTA FabLab. Training provided, tours provided.

**RECOMMENDED READING:**

- *Disability Studies Reader* by Lennard Davis, Edition 4
- *Points of Contact, Disability, Art and Culture* Susan Crutchfield and Marcy Epstein, Eds.
- *Theatre as Human Action: An Introduction to Theatre Arts* by Thomas S. Hischak
- *Universal Principles of Design, Revised and Updated: 125 Ways to Enhance Usability, Influence Perception, Increase Appeal, Make Better Design Decisions, and Teach through Design* by William Lidwell, Kristina Holden, Jill Butler, Edition 2
- *Disability and Institutional Change: A Human Variation Perspective on Overcoming Oppression* *Journal of Disability Policy Studies*
- *Disability Theory* by Tobin Siebers
- *A Journey into the Deaf-World* by Harlan Lane and Robert Hoffmeister
- *Seeing Voices* by Oliver Sacks, reprint edition

**FOR THEATRE ARTS MAJORS, CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE POLICY:** Department of Theatre Arts majors are encouraged to participate in theatre conferences and graduate school auditions. However, Theatre Arts majors are required to submit an excused absence request to the instructor no less than two full weeks prior to the conference/audition in order for the instructor to consider granting an excused absence. Such notification must be in writing and support documentation will be required to verify the Theatre Arts major's attendance, completion and/or successful (or professionally worthwhile) participation in said conference or audition. All students are expected to complete all coursework (as stipulated in the syllabus) and all course requirements (as stipulated by the syllabus) in a timely manner (the term "timely manner" will be defined/specified by the instructor at the time the Theatre Arts major submits their excused absence request to the instructor for initial consideration). At the discretion of the instructor, class participation grades may be affected; therefore, Theatre Arts majors are advised to fully consult with the instructor prior to engaging in such activities. **Department of Theatre Arts Attendance/Production Duty Policy:** Students who fail to meet class attendance requirements may be removed from acting, directing, design, stage management, and/or other major production positions for the current semester's productions at the discretion of the department chair. (Refer to the Theatre Arts Student Handbook for all updated policies.)

To satisfy the requirement of attending a play this semester, choose 1 performance from 1 of the following 3 productions. The tickets are available at [UTATICKETS.COM](http://UTATICKETS.COM) . If you'd like to usher in exchange for a ticket, let the instructor know.

**THE MUSIC MAN**

Music, Lyrics, & Book by Meredith Willson  
 Directed by [Dr. Anne Healy](#)  
 Feb. 27th, 28th, March 1st, & March 2nd at 8:00 pm  
 March 3rd at 2:30 pm (ASL interpreted performance)  
 Mainstage

**EURYDICE**

by Sarah Ruhl  
 Directed by [Felicia Bertch](#)  
 April 10th, 12th, 15th, & 17th at 8:00 pm  
 April 13th at 2:30 pm  
 location: Studio

**PRINCESS MIA – world premiere!**

by Mary Rohde Scudday  
 Directed by [Andrew Christopher Gaupp](#)  
 April 11th, 13th, 16th, & 18th at 8:00 pm  
 April 14th at 2:30 pm (ASL interpreted performance)  
 location: Mainstage