

Performance/Stage/Theatre Review:

DUE: Wednesday, May 9th- or Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018 (at the Final Exam)

100 pts possible, 10% of overall grade (see syllabus for assignment breakdowns)

Assignment:

In essay form analyze the way in which **three** elements (from among: acting, directing, performing, writing, scenery, lighting, costumes, and sound) contribute to or detract from the overall production that you attend. Analyze what the production “does” or attempts to do (successfully or not); express yourself with clarity, style, and effectiveness; and develop and use good standards of performance criticism.

Form & Style Instructions:

Form:

- Must be typewritten, double-spaced with 1" margins all around.
- Must be stapled in the upper left-hand corner.

Style: Use MLA (Modern Language Association) formatting.

See: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

- Your name, the date, and the title of both the review and the play or event should appear at the top of the first page.
- The paper must be free of spelling and grammatical errors.
- Papers that do not adhere to this assigned form will be penalized.

Length: A minimum of two (3) full pages, maximum of three (4) full pages.

Content:

Argument: Your essay should include a clear thesis statement (an argument) and a clear organizational strategy for supporting or proving your argument about what the production “does”. The body of the essay should address the **three** elements of your review and the essay should conclude with final thoughts or discovery about the performance as related to your analysis.

A successful essay will address the following questions and points through argument & evidence (your essay doesn't have to address all of these items- this is a guide):

Describe what was attempted? Describe the theatre space, the audience in attendance, other elements specific to the mounting of the production.

How fully was it accomplished?

Who was the playwright or who created the event?

What background information on the playwright or performance is necessary in understanding the show/event?

Who was involved in the production that you wish to note? The actors? The performers? The director? The designers? (using thick description- be specific in describing the production and what it “does” )

What were the apparent goals of the script and/or the production?

How effectively did the director achieve these goals? The actors? The designers?

If you have questions about the critique, please contact me:

[sheila.malone@chaffey.edu](mailto:sheila.malone@chaffey.edu)

If you would like to email me your opening paragraph at least 1 week prior to the deadline, I will give you feedback.