THE 621: Capstone I (Honors)
Spring 2018

Instructors:
Karen M. Dabney, MFA, Ph.D. Christopher A. Strangfeld, M.H.Ed.
Visiting Assistant Professor of Theatre Visiting Instructor
dabneykm@westminster.edu strangca@westminster.edu
Office Phone: 724-946-6238 724-946-7273
Office: PH 312 PH 310 / Design Lab
Office Hours: by appointment by appointment

**Subject to Change**

Course Description: Theatre Capstone I focuses on the scholarly research required to prepare for the performance/practical element of the capstone experience. THE 601 usually culminates in an advanced research paper that explores and explains a specific topic in theatre studies chosen by the student in conjunction with his or her capstone adviser.

THE 601 is a research oriented course that requires the development of a research question and culminates in a capstone style research paper. The paper should provide a basis for THE 602, Capstone II, in which you will produce an evening of theatre consisting of scenes, monologues and possibly musical performances found in the plays explored in your THE 601 research.

THE 621 is the culmination of Theatre capstone and Honors capstone research, projects, & presentations.

Westminster Student Outcomes
1) To reason logically and evaluate critically
2) To communicate effectively
3) To think creatively, and appreciate aesthetic expressions
4) To demonstrate intellectual curiosity
5) To acquire knowledge of self, society, human culture, the natural world, and human relationships to God
6) To apply our knowledge to contemporary issues
7) To demonstrate moral and ethical commitments to neighbor, society, and the natural world
8) To demonstrate commitment to lifelong learning and the acquisition of skills for careers and responsible service as world citizens

Course Objectives
1) Conceptually and critically analyze text, performance, and production.
2) Distinguish the elements of playwriting and production processes, aesthetic properties of style, and the way they shape and are shaped by artistic and cultural forces
3) Identify a wide selection of theatre repertory including the principal eras, genres, and cultural sources.
4) Develop and defend informed judgments about theatre.
5) Demonstrate ability in areas of performance and production appropriate to individual needs and interests.
6) Develop procedures and approaches for realizing a variety of theatrical styles.
7) Collaborate and contribute effectively in the public performances of theatre.
8) Demonstrate intermediate to advanced competence in one or more theatre specializations in creation, performance, and scholarship.
**Evaluation and Grading:** Evaluation and grading is based upon how you contribute your talents at a level appropriate to your experience. Your grade is determined by your faculty supervisor’s assessment of your learning and his/her evaluation of your work ethic, achievement, collaboration, and critical engagement. Participation during **strike** is mandatory and failure to do so is an automatic drop one letter grade. As a general rule you can expect the following:

- **A**= excellent work, an outstanding contribution to the company though diligent and consistent application of talent at whatever level is appropriate to your experience and evidence of collaborative effort
- **B**= good work, positive contribution to the company through applying your talents at whatever level is appropriate to your experience
- **C**= fair work, contributed to the production with some minor shortcomings which indicate performance below a level appropriate to your experience
- **D**= poor work, contribution was seriously flawed by absences, carelessness, or other detractions which are under your control
- **F**= unacceptable work

**Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)** If you have a condition that qualifies you for reasonable accommodation under the ADA, you must have ADA documentation on file with the Student Affairs Office to receive that accommodation.

**Academic Dishonesty:** Plagiarism is the use of another’s ideas, words, or creations as your own. Academic dishonesty (plagiarism, cheating on tests, etc.) can result in failure of the assignment, class, and, in the worst case, expulsion.

**Dress:** Theatre Capstone requires physical participation, often working with paint and construction materials, floor work in rehearsals and performance. Please dress appropriately