

Mark A. Williams – mwill209@yahoo.com
Third Years and Theater Seniors
Room 120

The Literary Media and Communications Department's (LMC) goal is singular, to train its student in the different strands of communication (written, verbal and new media), considering how this translates to the marketplace. This department necessitates interdisciplinarity, including, but not limited to LMC, Theater, Museum Studies, Visual Arts, and TDP (recording studio). Our aim is to dismantle the sometimes self-indulgent and strictly cathartic workshop model of writing and leave in its place a department that imparts to its students the notion that they are writing to work, rather than just writing to write.

Playwriting/Play Analysis

Students will be expected to consider the form, content, style, analysis, construct, and construction of a play. The arrival point of this class is for students to write, and mount a staged reading of a full-length, one act play. Students will also be expected to submit work from class to at least one of LMA's, "Coffeeshouses" The class is broken down into the following, primary areas:

- First Advisory** – Character/Character Development, Six Elements of Aristotle, as well as Aristotle's, "Poetics", Compelling Characters, and Primacy of Plot/Action vs. Character
- Second Advisory** – Monologue/Dialogue, Voice, Tone, Mood Setting, Action, Language, and Rhythm
- Third Advisory** – Ten Minute, and Twenty Minutes
- Fourth Advisory** – One act, and Staged Reading

*Students will screen several plays including "Raisin in the Sun", "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf", "Sarafina", "Streetcar Named Desire", "River Niger", "Hamlet", "Romeo and Juliet", among others

Standards

- Discussion
- Questioning, Listening, and Contributing
- Oral Presentation
- Vocabulary Development
- Text – Expository, Document and Procedural Text, Argument and Persuasive Text
- Connections
- Genre, Theme
- Fiction, Literary Nonfiction
- Poetry

- Drama
- Style and Literature
- Traditional Narrative
- Imaginative/Narrative Writing
- Revision

Requirements:

- Students must have a current e-mail address, which will be put on list serve for the class
- Students are expected to commit a number of hours to the editorial processes of this class as it pertains to both their own work, and the work of their fellow students
- Access to a computer outside Duke Ellington to dialogue with instructor regarding revision of work, and access to a printer to bring in copies of text for instructor and fellow students
- Respect for the work of others and the ability to give and receive critique

Grading:

Students will be graded in five primary areas:

- Character/Character Development –10%
- Monologue/Dialogue – 10%
- Play Analysis – 10%
- Ten Minute and Twenty Minute pieces – 20%
- Final (One-Act Play) – 50%