



**Gifted LearningLinks Program  
Course Syllabus**

**Instructor name: C. Mehler  
E-mail address: xxx@xxx.xxx**

**Course Title: World Theatre Honors**

**Course Description:**

This course provides a broad overview of theatre history and performance from the ancient Greeks to the present, including a discussion of non-Western theatre. Topics include art and entertainment, comparing the stage to other media, considerations of cultural diversity and audience, critique and free speech, ensemble, playwriting, acting, directing and design. In addition, this course is designed to give the student a broad background in the best-written plays in the annals of theatre history, stressing pieces that demonstrate quality and typicality in structure, characterization and style. As a special exploration, this course will delve into the history of the American Musical Theatre, from the mid-1800's through the present.

**Outcomes:**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- a) discuss the theatre from historical, social, and production standpoints.
- b) analyze plays as literature.
- c) understand the broad swath created by American musical theatre.
- d) attend a play and react to it critically.

**Resources and Materials:**

- William Missouri Downs et al., *The Art of Theatre: Then and Now*
- George Bernard Shaw, *Major Barbara*
- Euripides, *Medea*
- Arthur Miller, *Death of a Salesman*
- William Shakespeare, *The Comedy of Errors*
- Richard Kislán, *The Musical: A look at the American musical theatre*

**Student Evaluation and Grading Policies for Credit Courses Only:**

CTD Grading scale

<b>A+</b> 97-100	<b>B+</b> 87-89	<b>C+</b> 77-79	<b>D+</b> 67-69	<b>F</b> Below 60
<b>A</b> 93-96	<b>B</b> 83-86	<b>C</b> 73-76	<b>D</b> 63-66	
<b>A-</b> 90-92	<b>B-</b> 80-82	<b>C-</b> 70-72	<b>D-</b> 60-62	

Each of 16 Downs-text tests (proctored as described in Assignment #0), 4 performance evaluations, 4 literature assignments, and 6 Kislán/musical theatre assignments is worth 10 points each. A penalty of 2 points on any of these assignments may be assessed for unexcused lateness. In the event that you know in advance that you are going to be late with an assignment,

please have a parent call or e-mail the instructor. The instructor's main concern is that the student maintain contact, even when there is difficulty.

**IMPORTANT:** Most of the work for this class is sent to the instructor directly by the student via e-mail attachment or fax. In contrast, the student in this class will be required to find a proctor to administer the sixteen chapter tests based on the material from the Downs text. The proctor may not be an immediate relative or close family friend. Otherwise, any responsible adult (18+ years old) with a working e-mail address will suffice. In the past, students often have used school personnel, clergy, neighbors, arts/sports coaches, and human relations personnel at a parent's place of business.

### **Instructor Biography:**

Charlie Mehler has worked for the Center for Talent Development in various capacities (online, Saturday Enrichment Program, Summer Program) for ten years. He has taught math, computer operations, and theatre for nearly a quarter century. Currently, Charlie is at work on a PhD in theatre at Louisiana State University (Geaux Tigers!).



### **Contact Information:**

E-mail address: xxx@xxx.xxx  
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Please do not hesitate to contact the instructor if you have any questions or concerns.

### **Schedule:**

Please see Course Operation and Timelines.