Theater 503:  
The New Play Workshop (Fall Semester)

THEA 503 The New Play Workshop  Class: M 6:30 – 9pm, Comm 2042  
Jacob Juntunen  Office Hours:  
(c) 773-647-4336  T/R 2-3:30pm; M 5-6pm; by appointment  
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Course Description and Objectives:  
This class is meant to prepare students for a professional life in the theatre. It is broken into three parts: 
professional development activities, development of full-length plays, and writing/producing short plays.

Required Texts:  
None

DoT Goals:  
Goal #1- Demonstrate an understanding of the individual artist’s place in the role of theater as a collaborative art.  
Goal #2- Understand and appreciate the process of production.  
Goal #3- Demonstrate the relationship of theater to world history, societies and cultures.  
Goal #4- Master skills, vocabulary and concepts necessary in today’s theater to understand and practice the art of theater.

THEA 511 in the Fall is for variable credit. Each of the bulleted items is worth one credit:  
• Develop a new, full-length play either as playwright, director, designer, dramaturg, etc.  
• Take part in all exercises designated “professional development,” such as writing CVs, artistic statements, teaching philosophies, submitting to professional opportunities, etc.  
• Writing (or otherwise developing/producing) short plays to be discussed in class and participating in Big Muddy Shorts. This will be done in conjunction with writing partners assigned by the instructor.

Assignments:  
A statement of goals due the second week of class.

Taking part in developing a new full-length play either as playwright, director, designer, dramaturg, etc.  
100 possible points based on collaborative efforts with classmates.

Take part in all exercises designated “professional development”  
100 possible points

Writing Short Plays/Participating in Big Muddy Shorts  
100 possible points

Final  
A self-evaluation and report about your collaboration is due via e-mail during our scheduled final time.

Final Grades:  
• A is demonstrating significant creativity and intelligence  
• B is fulfilling all requirements with some original thought  
• C is average and fulfilling all requirements  
• D is less than satisfactory work that nearly fulfills the requirements  
• F fails to meet the minimum requirements.
Participation/Professionalism
Participation means coming to class prepared, actively contributing to production. Professionalism means punctuality, attendance, and, most of all, respecting one’s colleagues.

Plagiarism
If you use someone else’s ideas as your own an F for the assignment is automatic.

Desire to Learn: This course uses Desire to Learn (DTL); you must check your SIU e-mail. Check that for announcements, copies of handouts, and your scores.

Course Schedule
(Subject to change. Since the class is variable credit, not all assignments may apply to you. You need not be in class during assignments not associated with your customization of the course):
Week 1 – Intro/begin to assign tasks/assign semester goals
Week 2 – Professional Development/ Bring in new Short Play
Week 3 – Labor Day (No Class)
Week 4 – Actors read Full-length Play in class; discussion after
Week 5 – Actors read Full-length Play in class; discussion after
Week 6 – Discuss Big Muddy Shorts / Professional Development
Week 7 – Professional Development: / Bring in Short Play
Week 8 – Professional Development / Bring in Short Play
Week 9 – Fall Break (no class)
Week 10 – Discuss Big Muddy Shorts / Professional Development/
Week 11 – Actors Read Full-length Play In class
Week 12 – Actors Read Full-length Play In class
Week 13 – Discuss Big Muddy Shorts / Professional Development/
Week 14— Professional Development/ Bring in Short Play
Week 15 – Professional Development/ Bring in Short Play
Week 16 – Big Muddy Shorts; Discuss afterwards

Finals Week: Self Evaluation and Collaboration Report due via e-mail during final period; if you worked on a full-length play, final draft (if playwright) or final report (if director, dramaturg, designer, etc)