

Student Evaluations & Comments
Colorado State University
Dr. Megan Lewis

TH242 Theatre History I • Fall 2020

From student evaluations:

“When class started, I knew just about the same as every other middle class, white, American teenager who went through the American education system. I didn't know hardly anything to put it simply. Now, I know so much about theatre around the world and while I may not have been able to retain a lot of specific facts, more importantly, I have a passion to explore the world and all of the arts that it offers, and as a result, I now also tell others about how colorful the world can be!”

“I didn't know anything about the rest of the world besides Europe. I know about Asia and their puppet theatre. I know about Africa and their rituals that entitle call and response from the audience. I absolutely love African playwright's adaptations of Shakespeare or Greek works. My whole perception of the world theatre has changed tremendously from only thinking of it as Broadway [sic] and Shakespeare to rituals, puppets, empowerment, and more.”

“Professor Lewis made the class engaging and made me feel welcome, even though we were online. This really worked for me as it made me feel more engaged in the class and simulated what an in-person class would have been like. As a result, this really helped me learn throughout the course because I was able to see the passion and joy that Professor Lewis possesses for the material that she presented to the class.”

“your teaching style is just so phenomenal! It's conversation-based and we don't have to worry about learning facts or numbers to write down on a test, it's all about education in its truest form and exposing us to more information than what we previously learned...to have a professor who, despite being one of the busiest women on campus, always makes it clear that she is available to talk about school or not school-related stuff and makes it clear that she wants to help in any way possible, it's mind blowing. Thank you so much for caring, Dr. Lewis. It means the world to us!”

“Professor Lewisssss!!! You have the most honest and loving and precious and caring souls ever. You made your lectures fun yet informative and you made me actually love theatre history. I've been in such a funk with theatre as I felt this massive disconnect for not knowing anything. So thank you because you really showed me what types of theatre are all across the world and I can't wait to explore it all!!!”

TH243 Theatre History II • Spring 2021

From student email:

“This is one of the few classes I've taken in college that I feel was worth the out of state tuition. I am grateful that our paths crossed and we both ended up at this University and I got the pleasure of being one of your students. As you know I've had a very rough time in this department [as a woman of color]. This class and your presence in this department has given me the reassurance that I can be successful. Even in an environment where I feel like no one sees my true worth. My first three years at this university dimmed my light. I am so much more than who they told me I am. I intend on shining brighter than ever in my last semester. Thank you for replenishing my confidence.”

This class is the first class, across theatre and other fine arts, where we've studied Africa and they didn't play that same old tired youtube video of African tribal dances. They can't even tell you where in Africa this takes place...Your class actually critically analyzed South African theatre and it was an experience I never thought I'd get in a theatre classroom. I appreciate that teaching is your activism. You are exposing

these theatre students to so many new perspectives in the world, this is the work that needs to be done. You are also a great lecturer, and that's coming from someone with ADHD who normally can't sit through lectures without spacing off. Everything you say is intentional and I really appreciate that. Honestly, I don't have any critiques for this class. By far the best theatre class I've ever taken.”

TH343 Contemporary Plays and Alternative Theatre • Spring 2021

From student evaluations:

“This class taught me to be more open-minded, to hold multiple truths, and to not be afraid to speak truth to powers. I was most inspired by how brave the artists we studied in class were by their standing up to the patriarchal white supremacist [sic] homophobic powers that be.”

“Dr. Lewis was a fireball of support, love, and information when it came to teaching this course. With her leadership we created and formed a brave space for people to absorb the experiences of people who have dealt with issues some of us have had the privilege of not experiencing, as well as a space for people to face manifestations of issues and inequalities they have experienced or have loved ones who have experienced these things. It was also a pleasure and honor to have someone who has dedicated a part of their life to the art of dissent and the studies and knowledge that are the catalysts for these incredible art pieces. Someone who is unafraid to call out whiteness not only in herself but in the world around her. I cannot imagine taking this amazing course from anyone else.”

TH242 Theatre History I Fall 2021

From final concept mapping activity:

“I learned more about the history of the world than I ever had during any other world history class. Specifically from the viewpoint of Africa and Southeast Asia, from which I may have heard some small amounts of culture and history but never to this extent.”

“My knowledge consisted mostly of Shakespeare, Greek theatre, and a little bit of Commedia del Arte. I can now confidently say that I have a much wider understanding of the history of theatre.”

“This course has taught me so much and I have a greater understanding and appreciation of other cultures and theatrical techniques used around the globe. My view on the world is less Eurocentric and westernized as I now understand and enjoy furthering my knowledge about different people, cultures and techniques.”

“The most shocking lessons to me was when we moved on to Asia, as someone who was born and raised in a tiny country in Southeast Asia, I’ve always loved acting since I was very little and thought that I knew a lot about it but it turned out that what I know was probably one of a thousandth.”

TH242 World Theatre History I • Fall 2022

From student evaluations:

“I love Megan Lewis! Considering she runs a department, she is a great instructor. I am always inspired by her upbeat energy, makes learning about theater history fun. My eyes have been opened through her classes like never before. :)”

“I love having class with you. You are a very gracious teacher and I love that about you. You see the human in us. Thank you”

“She sometimes jumps on people's sentences before they're done talking but otherwise I did enjoy my experience. It was a fascinating class to be in and I thought she was quite entertaining to listen to.”

TH344 Global Dramaturgies • Spring 2023

Coming soon...