

## Theatre History Concept Paper

### Dr. Larsen

You may choose any play that we have previously read in class.

Format:

- 3-5 pages
- typed
- MLA style

Content:

Start with a general introduction that includes your opinion about the play (which you will explain as you continue the paper). *You might want to try a play that you don't particularly like, but shape it to say what you want it to???? If the play is in public domain, you can alter and cut.*

- Organize the body of the paper so that you answer the questions:
  - What do you want this production to communicate? Why is that important to you? How does the play support your choice?
  - What is your “concept” (theoretical **AND** visual concepts to tie the entire production together?) Why? How does the visual reflect your theoretical?
  - What is the historical period the play is set in? Does this play work well for a contemporary audience? How and Why? Will you change the time period? Why? What are the themes? Are they timeless? Cite research.
  - How will the various elements (acting, design, directing) work together? Generally, what are your pre-designer expectations(don't design it) for the design and acting style of the show – ALWAYS in line with your theoretical and visual concept (defend your choices)? Talk about tone and style of the production.
  - Conclude by stating your opinion about whether the play is worth doing (for the theatre/art/society) and seeing (for the audience). Support your opinion.

What counts in your writing:

- Make sure you clearly answer HOW and WHY
- Make sure you prove your argument.
- Punctuation, grammar, spelling, syntax
- Having a **definite** opinion

