**THEA 245 Theatre History**

**Critical Thinking Assignment**

**SHARE ANY QUESTIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!!!**

Instructions:

1. Select a theatre practitioner from the assigned list. (This will be the same person as research paper and speaking assignment)
2. Investigate your theatre practitioner to find **differing opinions** about their impact on theatre practice either during their time, throughout history or now.
3. Research in scholarly journals (ex*. Theatre History Studies*, *Theatre Journal*), books, professional electronic publications (ex. *American Theatre Magazine*), documentaries, interviews and newspapers.
4. Select one article that expresses a specific opinion about your practitioner’s impact on theatre, ie. John Doe’s work demonstrated new ways of creating theatre or John Doe’s work only copied other theatre practitioners. This can be about the person’s work as a whole or about a specific production. You may use production reviews, but those **cannot** be your only sources. **Remember this is working toward your research paper/speaking assignment**.
5. Write an essay that answers the following questions about that ONE article (and it’s author) and follows the paragraph suggestions in parentheses:

* What is the author’s main opinion about your practitioner and why does the author believe it is an issue? **(1 paragraph)**
* How does the author include viewpoints within that one article that support or oppose their opinion about your theatre practitioner? What are those viewpoints? **(1-2 paragraphs) This means if the author quotes or references other writers or theatre practitioners.**
* What viewpoints can you find in resources other than that article that support or oppose the author’s opinion? You will need to do some research for this to find **at least two articles that support** the main article’s opinion about your theatre practitioner and **two articles that oppose** this opinion. **(2-3 paragraphs) If you cannot find any that oppose, please find four that support the opinion and tell us WHY there was no opposition.**

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* What is your point of view concerning the main issue? Explain in detail:
* **your** point of view.
* why you have that point of view. How is it due to evidence that you have found?
* your evidence for why you have that point of view and cite your sources.
* what are the specific social influences that influence **your** point of view? (i.e. cultural/social, educational, technological, political, scientific, economic, ethical, personal experience)

**(2-3 paragraphs).**

* Having researched the multiple viewpoints (both within and outside of the article),

how do these opinions about your practitioner impact theatre history today? **(2-3 paragraphs)**

NOTE: You will need to

* type your answers, double space, Times New Roman font, size 12.
* include an introduction AND conclusion. Your finished paper should be a 3-page paper.
* in addition, include a bibliography of the articles you used.

**You MUST submit this paper via blackboard. Follow MLA style for citations and bibliography.**