

THED 530- Summer 2017 Theatrical Production Lighting, Sound and Scenic Design

Class Sessions: 7/03/17 – 7/08/17 + Arranged

Prerequisites: THED 600, 670, 530, 540, 560, 680, 690

Professor : Brian Hapcic Frasier 123C brian.hapcic@unco.edu 351-2473
Office Hours: By arrangement.

Texts: Scene Design and Stage Lighting by Parker, Wolf, and Block (Recommended)
Theatrical Design and Production by Michael Gillette (Optional)
Thesis script (If Applicable)

It should be understood that the assigned texts for this class will serve as a resource for classroom discussion and timely reading is essential to success.

Course Description:

Students will gain a solid working overview in the areas of scenic design, sound design, and lighting design and implementation. The concept of Scenography will be discussed in detail and the beginning tools for achieving a desired aesthetic in an overall design concept will be explored. This course should be considered as a foundation for production and the ideals and concepts offered in THED 531. The outcome of these two classes combined should present a unified design whole. Students will explore pedagogical tools for design and technology in the high school.

Course Objectives:

- 1) To give the student the ability to read a selection of dramatic literature and discover the keys and indicators for scenery, lights and sound.
- 2) To give a thorough understanding of the research necessary for these visual and aural fields.
- 3) To give an overview of design aesthetics and scenography.
- 4) To give the students some tools to create scenic elements as well as lighting and sound effects, and the associated communication paperwork for each element.
- 5) To give the student the preliminary skills necessary to create a budget to support design ideas.
- 6) To give the student tools to present to his or her own students in the high school setting

Outline of Course Content:

- 1) Written Design "concept"
- 2) Research Assignment
- 3) Scenic ground plan(s) and scale model box
- 4) Annotated lighting cue list
- 5) Annotated sound cue list
- 6) Practical lighting and sound application assignments
- 7) Other assignments as dictated by class needs

Course Requirements:

- 1) Development of a Design "concept": Using your selected script carefully consider the world of the play; is it realistic, fantastic, stylistic, big budget, small scale, environmental, etc. Having considered all of your options, prepare a clear concise written proposal of your "concept". 1-2 pages.
- 2) Scenic ground plan(s): From your script and your theatre drawings, create the necessary space needed for the action of the play. Be sure to consider entrances and exits (if your characters leave the stage), levels for visual interest, multiple locales if necessary, and how do we get from one locale to another. Some playwrights make the movement of characters from point A to point B quite easy- others not so- which type of play have you selected? From your ground plan create a budget of materials- the essential question here is: can you afford this show?
- 3) Annotated lighting cue list: Working from your selected script create a listing of each light change describing the quality and type of lighting for that particular moment.
- 4) Annotated sound cue list: Working from your selected script create a listing of each sound change describing the quality and type of effect for that particular moment
- 5) Research Assignment. Create a research presentation of the visual elements of your show; remember all elements are essential as they inform your final decisions. For example, what types of furnishings are in this character's house? What are the environmental conditions that affect the quality of light? What is the "soundtrack" in your head as you read the play? Use as much primary resource material as possible. Include and annotated bibliography
- 6) Practical lighting and sound application assignment: Participate in a realized reading of a light plot, hanging of instruments for both sound and lights, and cueing both light and soundboards.
- 7) Written Critiques: Complete two written critiques of the technical elements of two realized productions according to the guidelines handed out in class. OR: complete one comparative critique.
- 8) Paint Lab: Students will complete a tutorial on scenic painting. This will be a critiqued and graded assignment, focusing on various techniques and application of scenic painting principles.

Method of Evaluation: letter grading

- 1) Development of the Design Concept – 10%
- 2) Scenic ground plan(s)/Model Box – 10 %
- 3) Annotated lighting cue list – 10%
- 4) Annotated sound cue list – 10%
- 5) Research Assignment – 20%
- 6) Practical lighting and sound application assignment – 10%
- 7) Two written critiques of realized productions - 10%
- 8) Paint lab exercises – 10%

Since the completion of many of these projects is dependent upon the completion of the project that precedes them, any project not handed in on the date scheduled will be grade down 10% of its maximum value for every class session that it is late.

Attendance: Attendance will be taken weekly through online communication

****Each unarranged absence: Loss of one letter grade

Materials: Will be provided by instructor.

Students with disabilities:

Any student requesting disability accommodation for this class must inform the instructor giving appropriate notice. Students are encouraged to contact Disability Support Services at (970) 351-2289 to certify documentation of disability and to ensure appropriate accommodations are implemented in a timely manner.