

FTA 1800: Theatre Practicum

Section 351: T/Th 11a-1:45p

Section 352: T/Th 2p-4:45p

Section 353: M/W/F 10a-11:50a

Section 354: M/W/F 12-1:50pm

Section 356: T/Th 11a-1:45p

Section 357: T/Th 2p-4:45p

Section 358: M/W/F 10a-11:50p

Section 359: M/W/F 12-1:50p

PAC: 118

Diane K Baas dbaas@uno.edu 504 280-6810

Office Hours: W/Th/F 9a-11a PAC rm 118

Kevin Griffith kgriffit@uno.edu 504 280-6810

Office Hours: T/Th 9a-11a, F 10a-12noon PAC rm 118

Course description: Practical experience in technical theatre production, including the running of shows. Work in the areas of management, scenery, lighting, and properties may be performed. All work will be performed on UNO Theatre productions and in UNO production shops.

Student Learning Objectives: Upon successful completion of FTA 1800, the student will be able to demonstrate basic employability skills pertaining to the professional theatre and related industries.

Statement on Student Conduct: At all times, students are expected and required to adhere to safety guidelines set forth by the faculty and supervisors. Failure to adhere to these rules is considered grounds for failure. At all class meetings the student is required to be dressed appropriately for physical work, and potentially messy environments.

I expect your attendance and participation at each class meeting. Being present and prepared to participate is the basis of your learning experience.

Do not arrive late to class; The industry standard for a work calls in the Theatre is to arrive 15 minutes before the call's official start time. Work must begin on time and time must be used effectively in order to maintain the construction schedule.

Attendance: Attendance is required. Since it is impossible to contribute to the production if you do not attend, your performance will suffer every time you miss a class. Thus, if you miss more than three class meetings you should expect a final grade of F **Please note that there are no excused absences.** Chronic tardiness is not acceptable. Thus, every 3rd time you are late will result in the recording of an absence. If you arrive more than 30 minutes late for class, you will not be given credit for attending class that day.

Grading: You will be given a grade for:

Your attendance, commitment, and participation (100pts)

Your ability to follow directions (100pts)

Your attitude toward the work and your peers (100pts)

Students are required to have the following supplies:

- Protective Eye Wear
- Ear Plugs
- Dust Masks
- Work Gloves

PLEASE NOTE: There is not a formal final examination for this class

Statement on Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is fundamental to the process of learning and evaluating academic performance. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following: cheating, plagiarism, tampering with academic records and examinations, falsifying identity, and being an accessory to acts of academic dishonesty. Refer to the Student Code of Conduct for further information.

Statement on Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

It is the University policy to provide, on a flexible and individualized basis, reasonable accommodations to students who have disabilities that may affect their ability to participate in course activities or to meet course requirements. Students with disabilities should contact the Office of Disability Services as well as their instructors to discuss their individual needs for accommodations.

FTA 2100: Intro to Stage Lighting Design

M/W 3:30-4:45pm PAC rm 121 (the Lab Theatre)

Diane K Baas dbaas@uno.edu 504 280-6030

Office Hours: T/W/Th 9a-11a PAC rm 302/ 118

Course Objectives: This course is an introduction to the materials, theory and practice of theatrical lighting design.

Student Learning Objectives: Students, upon completion, will be able to articulate specific lighting needs for various scenarios, and execute the practical application of lighting instruments and accessories in order to achieve those goals.

Structure: In-class time will be devoted primarily to discussion and critiques of homework assignments/ projects, and the discussion of any readings assigned. Some classes will take place outside, as per our assignments. Such classes will be noted ahead of time. There will be group or individual projects assigned each week, completing these assignments will require a **minimum** of 2 hours outside of class time.

Required Text:

Introduction to Stage Lighting: the Fundamentals of Theatre Lighting Design, Charles I. Swift ISBN# 978-1566080989

Prerequisite Course(s): FTA 1110 Basic Visual Design

General statements concerning classroom conduct:

-Be in class on time. Please do not come five, ten, or twenty minutes late. Distracting interruptions are inconsiderate, disrespectful, and time-wasting. There is no excuse for repeatedly arriving late. Parking is often a hassle; allow enough time for it.

-Cell phones should be turned off before class begins.

-Civility in the classroom and respect for the opinions of others is very important in an academic environment. It is likely you may not agree with everything that is said or discussed in the classroom. Courteous behavior and responses are expected.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

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Attendance:

This class is highly interactive. Your attendance at every class session is necessary to your achievement of our learning goals. Class will begin on time and attendance will be taken at every class and lab session. **Your final grade (the grade you EARN in the class) will be automatically decreased by 1 letter grade after the 3rd absence. Being late three times counts as one absence.** Please note that there are no excused absences.

Exams/Quizzes:

There will not be a comprehensive mid-term or final exam. Instead, the midterm and final will be projects, to be turned in at the scheduled exam time. In addition, there will be a number of homework assignments that will be discussed in class. The discussion of these homework assignments and final projects is part of your grade. Please note that no make-ups will be given. Any student who is absent or tardy for the mid-term or the final will receive an F.

Grading:

You will be graded on a combination of attendance, class discussions, projects, and participation. The easiest way to do well in this class is to show up, do the work, and actively participate in critique sessions.

MIDTERM AND FINAL EXAM DATES:

Midterm Project Tentative Due Date: Monday, February 22, 2016

Final Exam: Wednesday, May 4, 2016 3pm-5pm

(These assignments are not furnished to the students until the assignments are given, but this list serves as a course outline or calendar)

Lighting Class Practical Assignments

- Gray Light
- Absence of Light
- Person on a Precipice
- Person in the Mind of Another Person
- Person Under Water
- Object in Space
- Architecture
- Movement
- Sunrise/Sunset
- Person in Heaven/Hell
- Person in a Moving Vehicle
- Piece of Music
- Scene from script

- Photography (Daylight, Moonlight, 3 different artificial sources, Flame)
- Sentence Story/ Photography

FTCA 1100 Sec. 001**Methods and Materials of Stagecraft, Fall 2015**

M/W 3:30-4:45PAC 118 Instructor: Diane Baas

Office: PAC 118 Phone: Ext. 6810 e-mail: dbaas@uno.edu

Office/Advising Hours: T/W/Th: 9a-11a

Final Exam: Wednesday, December 09, 3:00- 5:00pm

Description: An introductory skills course in stage mechanics, electrics, paint, and carpentry.

Structure: The weekly sessions will consist of demonstrations, projects, and training for specific skills relating to production for film and theatre.

Expectations: I expect your attendance and participation at each class meeting. You are part of this class, so treat the course, and your peers with respect.

Learning Objectives:

After successful completion of this course the student will have the necessary skills to function as a productive member of a production crew, e.g., carpentry, electrics, paint.

Attendance:

Being in class is the most important thing you can do for your grade- if you miss more than 3 (10%) classes you should expect a final grade of C or lower. If you miss 6 (20%) or more classes you should expect a final grade of F. If you arrive more than 20 minutes late for class you will not be given credit for attending class that day. **I solely reserve the right to abrogate the attendance policy in cases of extreme emergency.**

Grades for your work are based on but not limited to these factors:

Have you demonstrated a solid grasp of problem content?

How well do you listen and follow directions?

Are your completed projects well crafted? What was the nature of your learning process?

Did you use class time effectively and come well prepared?

Helpful Reading:**Theatrical Design and Production**

J. Michael Gillette ISBN-10: 0073382221

The Backstage Handbook

Paul Carter and George Chiang ISBN-10: 0911747397

General statements concerning classroom conduct:

1. There is no excuse for repeatedly arriving late. Cell phones should be turned off before class begins. Use the restroom, and get a drink before you come to class. Leaving during the class period wastes time, and will be considered disrespectful of the subject matter, and your peers.
2. Feel free to ask questions of the instructor during class. But please do not ask other students, as talking disturbs my concentration, and the concentration of other class members.
3. Students are expected to treat faculty, and fellow students with respect. Any actions that purposely, and maliciously distract the class from the work at hand will not be allowed.
4. Civility in the classroom and respect for the opinions of others is very important in an academic environment. It is likely you may not agree with everything that is said, or discussed in the classroom. Courteous behavior and responses are expected.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is fundamental to the process of learning and evaluating academic performance. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following: cheating, plagiarism, tampering with academic records and examinations, falsifying identity, and being an accessory to acts of academic dishonesty. Refer to the Student Code of Conduct for further information. The Code is available online at <http://www.studentaffairs.uno.edu>.

Accommodations:

It is University policy to provide, on a flexible and individualized basis, reasonable accommodations to students who have disabilities that may affect their ability to participate in course activities or to meet course requirements. Students with disabilities should contact the Office of Disability Services as well as their instructors to discuss their individual needs for accommodations. For more information, please go to <http://www.ods.uno.edu>.

FTA 1100- Methods and Materials of Stagecraft

List of Lessons

Shop Tool Identification

Hand Tool Identification

Knot Craft- crown knot, back splice, eye splice, square knot, bowline, clove hitch

Using a Tape Measure/ Using a Scale Rule

Making Accurate Cuts

Changing a Saw Blade

Reading a Ground Plan/ Taping out a Ground Plan

Reading Technical Drawings

Building Your Tool Box

Building Flats

'Running' a Flat

'Floating' a Flat

Building Platforms/ Legging Platforms

Folding Curtains

West Coasting a Cyc or Drop

Identifying Lighting Instruments

Hanging a Lighting Instrument

Focusing a Lighting Instrument

Wiring a Connector

OSHA: Fire Egress, Walking/Working Surfaces, PPE, Electrical

FTA 1110-002 Basic Visual Design

T/Th 3:30-4:45p PAC rm 323

Diane K Baas dbaas@uno.edu 504 280-6810

Office Hours: W/Th/F 9a-11a PAC rm PAC 118

Course Objectives: The intention of this course is not to impart information but to stimulate and provide a structure for imagination and inventiveness in visual design. The “problem solving” approach to teaching the class is intended to provoke and engage the feeling, sensory, and thinking processes that precede and accompany creative activity.

Student Learning Objectives: After successfully completing this course the student will be able to: Demonstrate a working knowledge over the elements and principles of design; Analyze any creative work based of the evolution of form and visual order; Discuss any work based on its Form, Content, and Idea

Structure: In-class time will be devoted primarily to discussion and critiques of homework assignments/ projects, and the discussion of any readings assigned. Some classes will take place outside, as per the assignments’ requirements. Such classes will be noted ahead of time. There will be individual projects assigned each week, completing these assignments will require a **minimum** of 2 hours outside of class time.

Suggested Text:

Mary Stewart, *Launching the Imagination*, ISBN# 978-0073379302

General statements concerning classroom conduct:

-Be in class on time. Please do not come five, ten, or twenty minutes late. Distracting interruptions are inconsiderate, disrespectful, and time-wasting. There is no excuse for repeatedly arriving late. Parking is often a hassle; allow enough time for it.

-Cell phones should be turned off before class begins, and be stored in a place that they will not cause a distraction to yourself or the rest of the class.

-Civility in the classroom and respect for the opinions of others is very important in an academic environment. It is likely you may not agree with everything that is said or discussed in the classroom. Courteous behavior and responses are expected.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

It is the University policy to provide, on a flexible and individualized basis, reasonable accommodations to students who have disabilities that may affect their ability to participate in course activities or to meet course requirements. Students with disabilities should contact the Office of Disability Services as well as their instructors to discuss their individual needs for accommodations.

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Attendance:

This class is highly interactive. Your attendance at every class session is necessary to your achievement of our learning goals. Class will begin on time and attendance will be taken at every class session. **Your final grade (the grade you EARN in the class) will be automatically decreased by 1 letter grade after every 3rd absence. Being late three times counts as one absence.** Please note that there are no excused absences. I reserve the right to abrogate the attendance policy in cases of extreme emergency.

Exams/Quizzes:

There will not be a comprehensive mid-term or final exam. Instead, the midterm and final will be cumulative portfolio projects, to be turned in at the scheduled exam time. In addition, there will be a number of homework assignments that will be discussed in class. The discussion and completion of these homework assignments is part of your grade. Please note that no make-ups will be given.

Grading: Your grade will be based on:

- Your attendance, commitment, and participation in the class - This is the most important thing you can do for your grade.
- Your portfolio at mid-term and end of term. Portfolios are cumulative, not selective: You must complete all assignments.
- Final Project and Critique

MIDTERM AND FINAL EXAM DATES:

Midterm Project Tentative Due Date: Thursday, October 5, 2017

Final Exam: Thursday, December 7, 2017, 5:30-7:30pm

Weeks 1-2: What is Design?

Weeks 3-4: Hidden Art of Hollywood, Principles of Composition

Weeks 5-6: Line, Shape

Weeks 7-8: Value, MIDTERM

Weeks 9-10: Value, Texture

Weeks 11-12: Color

Weeks 13-16: Story in a Frame, Final Projects

FTCA 4125: Development of Style and Form

T/Th 2-3:15p PAC rm 323

Diane K Baas dbaas@uno.edu 504 280-6810

Office Hours: W/Th/F 9a-11a PAC rm 118

Text: *Home: a Short History of an Idea*, Witold Rybczynski · ISBN-10: 0140102310

Midterm Project Due Date: Thursday, Oct 5, 2017

Final Exam: Thursday, Dec 7, 2017 3p-5p

Course Objectives: This course is an introduction to the history and development of architecture, furniture, and decoration, from prehistory to the present.

Program Outcomes: Students, upon completion, will be able to:

1. Address the sequence of time periods frequently utilized in creating theatrical and cinematic presentations, and understand the social and artistic movements that shaped those specific periods and design choices.
2. Compile research in architectural history, placing it in an historical, social, and geographical context.
3. Utilize research in period style as a basis for conceiving the design concept for theatrical or cinematic presentations.
4. Present and justify research and concept for scenic designs based in specific times and places.
5. Create written and verbal presentations of research and conceptual work.

Structure:

In-class time will be primarily devoted to discussion of assigned reading and material presented in class.

General statements concerning classroom conduct:

-Please be on time. There is a lot of information that needs to be covered, and going back to catch up disrupts the progress of other students.

-SILENCE your cell phone, please, and keep it in a place where it will not create a distraction for you or for the rest of the class.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

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Attendance:

Your attendance at every class session is necessary to your achievement of our learning goals. Class will begin on time and attendance will be taken at every class session. **Your final grade will be automatically decreased by 1 letter grade after the 3rd unexcused absence. Being late three times counts as one absence.**

Exams/Quizzes:

There will be a number of homework assignments that will be discussed in class. The discussion and completion of these homework assignments is part of your grade. There will not be a comprehensive mid-term or final exam. Instead, the midterm and final will be projects, to be presented at the scheduled exam time. Please note that no make-ups will be given. Any student who is absent or tardy for the mid-term or the final will receive an F.

Grading:

You will be graded on a combination of attendance, projects, and participation. The easiest way to do well in this class is to show up, and complete the assignments. Please refer to the chart on the following page for project grading standards.

Effort/ Perseverance	Poor/ Unacceptable: The student failed to follow directions. The assignment was turned in. The student put minimal to no effort into their work. The work was not finished or completed correctly.	Below Average: The student followed little to none of the directions. The assignment was completed with a minimal amount of effort.	Average/ Good: The student followed some of the directions. The project was completed, but needed improvements. More effort was needed to have a more successful finished assignment.	Very Good: The student followed most of the directions. The assignment was completed well. The student worked hard and showed improvements and created a good finished assignment.	Excellent: The student followed all of the directions. The assignment was completed to the best of their ability. The student put more effort into the assignment than what was required. The student showed a tremendous amount of improvements and developed an excellent finished assignment.
Craftsmanship/ Skill	Poor/ Unacceptable: The assignment was completed, but showed no progress or understanding of the assignment. The craftsmanship and skills are poor and unacceptable.	Below Average: The assignment was turned in and showed little progress and little understanding of the assignment. The craftsmanship and skills are below average.	Average/ Good: The student turned in the assignment showing some progress and some understanding of the assignment. The craftsmanship and skills were average. The work is not as good as it could be.	Very Good: The student turned in the assignment showing good progress and understanding of the assignment. The craftsmanship and skills are good. The work improved.	Excellent: The student turned in the assignment showing outstanding progress and understanding. The craftsmanship and skills are excellent. The work shows a tremendous amount of improvement.
Creativity/ Originality	Poor/ Unacceptable: The assignment was completed. There is no evidence of creativity or originality. The student did not take the time to brainstorm ideas for this assignment.	Below Average: The assignment was completed, but there is little evidence of trying new ideas. The student took little to no time to brainstorm ideas for the assignment.	Average/ Good: The assignment was completed. There was some evidence of trying a few ideas. The student took some time to brainstorm for the assignment.	Very Good: The assignment was completed and there is evidence that the student brainstormed new ideas and showed originality in their assignment. The student used previous knowledge of past assignments for this one.	Excellent: The assignment was completed and there is evidence that the student brainstormed new ideas and used those ideas in their work. The student used their originality and creativity to create a finished assignment. The student used their knowledge from previous assignments to create this one.

FTA 4160: Lighting Crafts and Techniques

T/Th 11a-12:15p PAC 323

Diane K Baas dbaas@uno.edu 504 280-6810

Office Hours: W/Th/F 9a-11a PAC 302/ 118

Course Objectives: This course is an exploration of the materials, theory and practice of theatrical lighting design.

Student Learning Objectives: Students, upon completion, will be able to articulate specific lighting needs for various scenarios, and execute the practical application of lighting instruments and accessories in order to achieve those goals.

Structure: In-class time will be devoted primarily to discussion and critiques of homework assignments/ projects, and the discussion of any readings assigned. Some classes will take place outside, as per our assignments. Such classes will be noted ahead of time. There will be group or individual projects assigned each week, completing these assignments will require a **minimum** of 2 hours outside of the classroom.

Text: This course will utilize readings from a variety of sources, and will be provided to the class via the Moodle page. Please pay close attention to the page, as reading materials will be added throughout the semester.

General statements concerning classroom conduct:

-Be in class on time. Please do not come five, ten, or twenty minutes late. Distracting interruptions are inconsiderate, disrespectful, and time-wasting. There is no excuse for repeatedly arriving late.

-Cell phones should be turned off before class begins.

-Civility in the classroom and respect for the opinions of others is very important in an academic environment. It is likely you may not agree with everything that is said or discussed in the classroom. Courteous behavior and responses are expected.

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Attendance:

This class is highly interactive. Your attendance at every class session is necessary to your achievement of our learning goals. Class will begin on time and attendance will be taken at every class and lab session. **Your final grade (the grade you EARN in the class) will be automatically decreased by 1 letter grade after the 3rd absence. Being late three times counts as one absence.** Please note that there are no excused absences.

Exams/Quizzes:

There will not be a comprehensive mid-term or final exam. Instead, the midterm and final will be projects, to be turned in at the scheduled exam time. In addition, there will be a number of homework assignments that will be discussed in class. The discussion of these homework assignments and final projects is part of your grade. Please note that no make-ups will be given. Any student who is absent or tardy for the mid-term or the final will receive an F.

Grading:

You will be graded on a combination of attendance, class discussions, projects, and participation. The easiest way to do well in this class is to show up, do the work, and participate in critiques.

MIDTERM AND FINAL EXAM DATES:

Midterm Project Tentative Due Date: Tuesday March 7th, 2017

Final Project Due Date: Tuesday May 9th, 2017, 12:30-2:30 pm

I restructured the Practicum course (FTA 1800), with Professor Griffith, so that it fits into a specific schedule, which utilizes the University's mini-sessions and corresponds to our Production Calendar. FTA 1800 had previously been a 'TBA' class, which meant much schedule juggling and manipulation on my part, and often crowded many hours on the tail end of the semester, or tended to overwhelm the shop areas with too much or too little help over the course of the semester. Having the sections of FTA 1800 on a more specific schedule, with limited enrollment, is clearer for the students, allows for better, more consistent scheduling of the Scenic Studio, and provides a safer and more valuable learning experience for the students. (There are 8 sections available each semester, which can serve a total of 40 students)

Another course that I have redesigned at UNO is FTA 2100, Introduction to Lighting Design. This course was traditionally taught in a classroom, primarily relying on lecture to deliver the material, and providing limited opportunities for practical, hands-on application outside of production work calls. After teaching this course in this manner, and observing a lack of engagement with the material (which can, admittedly, be rather dry and technical, especially for students who are focused in other areas of theatrical production), I decided to turn the class into one that focused on practical projects and group work, held in our Lab Theatre space. I believe the student evaluations of this course show that they are more engaged with the material, and gaining confidence in their ability to participate in Electricians work calls for Department productions. This restructuring has also provided me the opportunity to work with smaller groups of students outside of class time, in more specific instruction focused on their individual understanding, ideation, and practical application of technical knowledge. This has resulted in a higher percentage of the students successfully achieving the learning outcomes of the course.

A third example of a course redesign with which I have been involved, is also related to some curricular changes. The Theatre Design Faculty decided to restructure 'Methods and Materials of Stagecraft' (FTA1100) as an introductory, required course, to serve as a prerequisite for students entering into the aforementioned Practicum (FTA1800) courses. This course had previously been a 2000-level non-required course. The decision was made based on the idea that students would be introduced to basic tools and materials that they would encounter in the scenic studio before they entered the Practicum courses, where they would then apply that knowledge to actual department productions, using current industry best practices. This change has resulted in greater student confidence and engagement, as well as increased safety and efficiency in the shops.