Course Syllabus

Department: Visual and Performing Arts

Date: June 2012

I. Course Prefix and Number: THE 100

   Course Name: Stage Craft

   Credit Hours and Contact Hours: 3 credit hours and 3 contact hours

   Catalog Description including pre- and co-requisites: A study and application of the major features of technical production in the theatre with emphasis on scenery construction, lighting, painting, properties, costuming, make-up, tools and safety. Work on technical crews throughout the semester is required. No prerequisite.

II. Course Outcomes and Objectives

   Student Learning Outcomes: Students will be able to interpret and practice the various aspects of technical theatre. Students will receive practical experience in scenery construction, lighting, scenic painting, properties, and costuming.

   The student will:
   1. Describe and analyze the various types of stage facilities and explore the history of stage architecture and technical theatre through text, lectures, videos and tours.
   2. Demonstrate the basics of stage carpentry, scenic construction, and scenic painting through lectures, practical demonstrations and hands-on experience.
   3. Survey the various backstage jobs and their role in a production through text, lectures, and practical experience.
   4. Construct and paint basic scenic structures such as platforms and flats.
   5. Demonstrate a working knowledge of stage properties, lighting, sound and costumes through practical demonstrations and hands-on experience.
   6. Apply make-up for the stage.
   7. Safely operate basic power and hand tools used in the scene shop.
   8. Be able to interpret and analyze the technical elements of a production.

   Relationship to Academic Programs and Curriculum:

Stagecraft is a first year course within the Theatre Arts advisement area. There is no pre-requisite and the course is open to any student at the college.
College Learning Outcomes Addressed by the Course:

- writing
- computer literacy
- oral communications
- ethics/values
- reading
- citizenship
- mathematics
- global concerns
- critical thinking
- information resources

III. Instructional Materials and Methods

Types of Course Materials:

Textbook

Methods of Instruction (e.g. Lecture, Lab, Seminar …):

Lectures, demonstrations, practical experience, written exams, practical exams, quizzes and written papers.

IV. Assessment Measures (Summarize how the college and student learning outcomes will be assessed):

Reading - Through quizzes and written exams, students will be tested on their ability to identify and describe the proscenium, thrust and arena stages and all their various components as well as their historical evolution.

Mathematics During the course of the semester, the students will construct scenery for the touring production. They will also complete practical exams where they determine a cut list (exact measurements and amounts of lumber needed) to construct a Hollywood flat.

Reading, Critical Thinking - Students will have written exams where they will be asked to analyze the roles of the various production positions involved in a performance. In addition, they will serve in these roles for the touring production where they demonstrate problem-solving skills as they execute their assignments.

Students will assist in obtaining and constructing stage properties, costumes and sound for the touring production.

Students will hang and focus stage lights in a performance space.

A practical exam on the application of stage make-up will also be part of the students' hands-on experience.

Critical Thinking, Writing, Information resources, and Computer Literacy - Using two different versions of the same production as a subject, students will produce a written paper
comparing and contrasting the various technical elements. They will be asked to analyze the choices made by each production and how those technical differences worked to create two distinct and unique products from the same source material. As part of the writing process students will go through a draft and revision process.

V. General Outline of Topics Covered:

1. Production Organization and management
2. Theatre Architecture and Stage Technology
3. The Stage and Its Equipment
4. Tools and materials
5. Scenic Production Techniques
6. Scene Painting
7. Stage Properties
8. Lighting Production
9. Costume Construction
10. Sound Design and Technology
11. Current Events in Theatre

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