

Date: Spring 2007

- I. Course Name:** Back Stage Practicum
Course Prefix and Number: THE 115
Credit and contact hours: 1 credit hour – 1 contact hour
Catalog Description:

Students will receive credit for working as a technician for the mainstage production. Students could serve as the stage manager, light board operator, sound technician, costume dresser, prop runner, or on the shift crew. Prerequisite THE 100 or 101 and permission of the department required.

II. Course Outcomes and Objectives

Learning Outcomes: By the end of this experience the student will have a working knowledge of the backstage operations of a live production as well as basic theatre etiquette as it applies to backstage technicians. They may also have learned to operate various pieces of sound and lighting equipment, executed shifts in scenery during a live production, as well as organized and maintained the properties for the production. Stage Managers will also learn how to call lighting and sound cues.

Relationship to Academic programs and curriculum: In order to create well rounded theatre practitioners, this backstage requirement will help the performer appreciate the work of theatre technicians as well as give students interested in a career in theatre real working experience for their resume.

College competencies addressed by the course:

Ethics and Values will be addressed as the students learn the etiquette of the theatre.

Oral Communication skills are required among the members of the production team and performers with special consideration given to the high pressures of live performance and the egos of those involved.

Skills in Problem-solving will be developed as the students figure out how best to shift scenery and props, make sound and light cues, as well as deal with covering for mistakes in live performance.

The students will develop professional competency by independently running a live theatre production that they can then include on their resumes.

III. Methods of Instruction

Types of Course materials: Play Script

Methods of instruction: Practical Experience

Assessment measures: Based on successful completion of the production while illustrating the proper ethics and attitude.

Methods of Evaluation: Attending all rehearsals and performances with the following exception. One technical rehearsal can be missed (not a dress rehearsal) if the student is enrolled in a night class.

IV. General Outline of Topics covered:

- A. Rehearsal Etiquette
- B. Equipment Instruction
- C. Pre-show Checks
- D. Performance Etiquette