

**Stagecraft- THEA 2331 001: 12096**
**SYLLABUS AND COURSE OUTLINE**

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*\*AVAILABLE DURING OFFICE HOURS OR BY APPOINTMENT ONLY*

**Text Book:** *Illustrated Theatre Production Guide: John Holloway: ISBN 0-240-80493*

*Designing with Light 5<sup>th</sup> ed.: J. Michael Gillette: ISBN 978-0-07-351415-4* (suggested, not required)

*Backstage Handbook, Paul Carter* (suggested, not required)

**Course Description and Timeline:** The study of technical problems of play production. The course will cover the principals of both scene construction and safety in the shop, tools, and rigging.

### Course Goals

To study and comprehend the technical problems of play production through the standard classroom and the SRSU Scene Shop and Theatre Spaces. Areas of focus include: tools and materials for scenery construction; construction techniques of scenery and properties; rigging and safety.

### Course Policies

#### You Must wear a mask and social distance during classtime.

1. **Attendance:** Since timelines and presence are crucial to excellence in the performing arts, each student is allowed 3 unexcused absences before their final grade is affected. Their final grade will be lowered one full letter for each absence beyond the 3 “allowed” unexcused absences. In addition to unexcused absences, three tardies or early exits will equal one absence. In accordance with university policy this course will excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day. The student shall also be excused for time necessary to travel for said holy day. An institution may not penalize the student for the absence and allows for the student to take an exam or complete an assignment from which the student is excused.

Participation in official university business must be documented by a written notice from the sponsoring faculty or staff member PRIOR to the event. Such students must present their related plans to the instructor in writing by the end of the second week of class.

#### 2. SYLLABUS/COURSE CONTENT:

The information in the syllabus, other than grade and absence policies, may be subject to change as to meet the needs of this particular class with reasonable advance notice. Course content, including lectures, are copyrighted material and students may not sell notes taken during the conduct of the course.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

#### LATE ASSIGNMENTS:

In the interest of fairness to all students, everyone shall have equal time to prepare for assignments. Projects are usually assigned several weeks before due. Students should plan their research and use time wisely to complete timely assignments. All assignments are considered late if they are not turned in on the day when due in the appropriately specified format. The department will not print any project for you.

Accepting late assignments is a courtesy. You are studying a subject in the entertainment industry, one built on meeting deadlines. That being said if you do not have your assignment on the day it is due you have until the end of the business day to turn it into the instructor's mail box in the the FAB Office. If you wait to turn it in on the next day you will receive 80% credit; if you wait for the next class day you will receive 50%. You are advised to hand in assignments, since the final grade is based on total points earned. Few points are more valuable than no points at all. All graded activities including exams must be performed on dates assigned unless there is official medical, legal or related documentation that indicates the student was incapacitated.

#### **SPECIAL COURSE NOTES:**

Some subject matter discussed in the course may be found offensive. Please note that all material covered is presented as a scholarly investigation for analysis and discussion. Should a film be presented to the class, please note that it does not reflect the views of the Instructor, Department or SRSU. Students will be provided with fair warning of the aforementioned.

#### **STUDENT CONDUCT AND ETHICS:**

It is expected that any work done for this class is originally done by the student and is for this class. Any form of plagiarism is subject to strong disciplinary action and can lead to dismissal. All students as part of their obligation to the University assume the responsibility to exhibit in their academic performance the qualities of honesty and integrity. All forms of student dishonesty, which may include but not be limited to; cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty and plagiarism are subject to disciplinary action. Students are responsible for all material, in the syllabus, notes, handouts, announcements and other information given in class, even if they are not in attendance. Do not expect the instructor to give an individualized lecture if you miss class. Further, you are responsible for getting to class on time, and for being prepared. Please give to others the courtesy of listening attentively while they are speaking.

#### **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY/INTEGRITY:**

The University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach and to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of their classroom. The University may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty, including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. <https://library.sulross.edu/research-basics/about-plagiarism/>

#### **ACADEMIC RIGOR:**

Academic rigor means a consistent expectation of excellence and aspiration to significant achievement. It should pervade the entire atmosphere of the University--teaching and learning, curriculum, evaluation of students and faculty, outreach, admissions, advising, and student life.

#### **TAPING OF CLASSROOM LECTURES:**

1. Faculty members are, by law, afforded copyright protection in their classroom lectures and, therefore, may limit the circumstances under which students may tape (both audio & video) classes, as well as photograph or use materials outside of the classroom.
2. Each faculty member shall inform his or her student within the first week of class as to his or her policy with regard to taping. Failure to do so will accord students the right to tape lectures.
3. Students with disabilities that render them unable to take adequate lecture notes are entitled to reasonable accommodation.
4. **Note Well: There is to be no audio and video recording of this class.**

#### **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT**

**ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act).** Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Mary Schwartze-Grisham, M. Ed., LPC., in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas. Telephone: 432-837-8203. E-mail: [mschwartz@sulross.edu](mailto:mschwartz@sulross.edu) .

#### **CONFIDENTIALITY AND MANDATORY REPORTING**

As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment on our campus. I also have a mandatory reporting responsibility related to my role as Faculty. I am required to share information regarding sexual misconduct with the University. Students may speak to someone confidentially by contacting the Student Counseling Services 432.837.8203; Ferguson Hall Room 112  
. Information on campus reporting obligations and other Title IX related resources are available here: <https://www.sulross.edu/sexual-misconduct-resources>

#### **STUDENT SERVICES**

Student services are designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to motivate them to become self-directed learners. Students can find support for services such as skills assessment, individual or group tutorials, subject advising, learning assistance, summer academic preparation and basic skills development. Visit: <https://www.sulross.edu/section/311/student-support-services>

#### **COURSE CALENDAR *Updates will be discussed in class***

5. **Environment:** Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment, which is conducive to learning. In order to assure that all students have an opportunity to gain from time spent in

class, unless otherwise approved by the instructor, students are prohibited from using **cellular phones or beepers**, eating or drinking, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, or engaging in any other form of distraction in the classroom. In the case of a violation of this policy, the instructor will talk with the student about the inappropriate behavior immediately and will follow-up after class or with a scheduled meeting. In the case of a second incident, the instructor will refer the student to the department chair who will schedule a meeting with the student. At this meeting or any subsequent meeting, the chairperson will inform the student that repeated deviations from expected classroom behavior will result in an immediate referral to the Office of the Dean of Students for disciplinary action

5. **Assignments:** Projects must be in on the date they are due, **no late work will be accepted.**

6. **Meetings:** Individual student conferences may be made by arrangement or during listed office hours or by appointment.

### **Course Requirements**

1. All quizzes and selected additional course material will be in class or expected as home work.

2. Reading assignments are due at the beginning of each unit.

#### 5. **LAB Requirements:**

*In addition* to the T TR class meeting you will be required to complete **40** hours of production work; 20 hours of *this work can be in the scene shop and 20 will be in the lighting shops or on a running crew* **plus 10** hours in the scene shop or lighting shop. If you are on a running crew for a particular production, you are required to attend **all work calls and strikes** for that production.

**YOU CANNOT RECEIVE CREDIT FOR RUNNING CREW FOR A PRODUCTION IN WHICH YOU ARE CAST!!**

### **PLEASE NOTE:**

⇒ The 40 hours is a minimum that must be obtained to receive a passing grade for this portion of the class.

⇒ Attitude and work ethic are factors in the scene shop portion of the grade.

*Note: FAILURE TO COMPLETE ANY SECTIONS (lab, course work, tests) will result in an "F".*

#### 7. **Mid Term Project Requirements:**

“Mid term project”– Students must construct a project (size and type to be assigned), and then graded for proper building techniques and tool usage.

#### 8. **Final Project Requirements:**

This Project is TBD based on individual advancement.

**Grading for these two projects will be based upon the student’s grasp of the material, and correct techniques. Yes, neatness is a factor!**

**Grading Breakdown:**

<b>Class Participation and Attendance</b>	<b>40 pts</b>
<b>Quizzes</b>	<b>40 pts</b>
<b>Written Responses</b>	<b>20 pts</b>
<b>Exams:</b>	<b>200 pts</b>
<b>Scene/ Lighting Shop Hours:</b>	<b>300 pts</b>
<b>Midterm Project:</b>	<b>200 pts</b>
<b>Final Project:</b>	<b>100 pts</b>

**Total Available Points: 900 pts**

<b>Breakdown:</b>	<b>810-900:</b>	<b>A</b>
	<b>720-809:</b>	<b>B</b>
	<b>630-719:</b>	<b>C</b>
	<b>540-629:</b>	<b>D</b>
	<b>000-539:</b>	<b>F</b>

*Note: FAILURE TO COMPLETE ANY SECTIONS (lab, course work, tests) will result in an "F"*