

SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY
THEA 3304 Special Topics: Advanced Audio

Summer I 2022
Kokernot Outdoor Theater

Bret Scott, Assoc. Professor
Office: FAB 208
432/837-8794
bscott@sulross.edu
Due to Covid-19, Office Hours
by appointment – EMAIL ME

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an in-depth, hands-on study of live audio production and mixing in the challenging outdoor theater environment. While every indoor venue presents a set of obstacles, those difficulties multiply in an outdoor venue, thanks to the addition of weather, lack of reflective surfaces, transient radio interference, and so on. Further, students will gain experience mixing sound for musical theater while maintaining a balanced audio product with a live band and maximizing the intelligibility of the actors' performances.

Students will become proficient in planning, installing, calibrating, operating/mixing, and striking live audio-support equipment, including computer-based SFX and music systems (QLab), and wireless lavalier microphones.

PREREQUISITES

Basic Audio Production.

THEATRE PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

This course is designed to meet one or more of the student learning outcomes applied to all Theatre majors. The graduating theatre student will demonstrate:

1. A knowledge of the eras and contributions made throughout Theatre History and Musical Theatre History.

Additionally the graduating student with a concentration in Acting/Directing will demonstrate:

2. The ability to express themselves creatively through appropriate theatrical performance.
3. The ability to analyze script.
4. The ability to work creatively with actors and technicians in mounting a laboratory theatrical production.
5. The ability to apply standard requirements to all aspects of technical production.

Additionally the graduating student with a concentration in technical/design will demonstrate:

6. The ability to apply all approaches to theatrical design and rendering of the design.
7. The ability to address all technical aspects of a theatrical production.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this class, students will:

Understand the production process of live audio for musical theater in an outdoor environment

Demonstrate good microphone technique

Articulate the principles of live mixing technique.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:

- 1) Full participation in production

Required Textbooks for this class:

None

Materials Required:

Computer with internet connection and Zoom app. Cell Phone that records audio.

CLASS DATES: Assignments and Deadlines

GRADING

Production begins Wednesday, June 1, and will be scheduled according to scene logic.

Assignments are valued as follows:

- 1) Attendance and participation discussion / critique 100%

Grading Criteria:

A = Exceptional. Demonstrates mastery of material beyond expectation. Professional quality of work. Highest level of scholarship.

B = Above average. Demonstrates mastery of material. Work is of better-than-expected quality, but not quite professional. High level of scholarship.

C = Average. Demonstrates proficiency with material. Work is of amateur quality. Ordinary level of scholarship.

D = Below Average. Less than proficient with material. Work shows errors, careless mistakes, or is just plain wrong. Poor scholarship.

F – Failure. Material incomplete. Work grossly negligent or incomplete. No evidence of scholarship present.

LATE PAPERS

Deadlines are an inescapable part of responsible, professional, adult life. Late papers will lose a letter grade for each day that the paper is late.

If you discover, *a week or more in advance*, that you have multiple deadlines converging on the same day, you may request a change in deadline. Such a change may be granted at the instructor's discretion. Once the deadline has passed, it's too late to ask for exceptions. Manage your time and deadlines wisely.

TARDINESS / ABSENCE POLICY

Attendance is 5% of your grade. That can mean the difference between an "A" and a "B" ...or an "F" and a "D."

TARDINESS

Class **BEGINS EXACTLY AT THE APPOINTED TIME**. It is your responsibility to be prepared to begin **BEFORE** the class starts.

Three instances of tardiness is equivalent to one absence. See below for the class absence policy.

THE INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO DENY ENTRY TO STUDENTS WHO ARE NOT PRESENT AT THE START OF CLASS* – ON THE HOUR. PLAN ACCORDINGLY. ON-TIME is EARLY!

*Exceptions will be made only for those with classes located in RAS whose end time makes on-time arrival impossible.

Punctuality is essential in this business. Tardiness will not be tolerated.

Absence Policy, from the Sul Ross State University 2012-2014 Course Catalogue:

CLASS ATTENDANCE

Regular class attendance is important to the attainment of the educational objectives of the University. Each instructor will keep class attendance records, and the instructor's policy on class attendance will be explained at the beginning of the semester or term.

The instructors will drop a student from a course when the student has a total of nine absences. A student will be dropped for excessive absences in remedial courses after nine absences.

An absence is defined as non-attendance in fifty minutes of class; for example, non-attendance in a one and one-half hour class will constitute one and one-half absences and non-attendance in a three hour class will constitute three absences. An absence because of participation in an official University activity is considered to be an authorized absence.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

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 Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address

is P.O. Box C-171, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8203.