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DRAM 351.01: Theatre Lighting I

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COURSE SYLLABUS
DRAM 351-FALL 2005
THEATRE LIGHTING I

CLASS SESSIONS: TUESDAY & THURSDAY- 11: 10 TO 12: 30
MCGILL 215 & PART 131

PROFESSORS:

Mark Dean	DJ Selmeyer
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Office Hours: 1:00pm to 2:30pm on Tuesday and Thursday except when work on University productions or other departmental commitments prohibits. Please feel free to make appointments or stop by at other times.

TEXT: Stage Lighting Revealed, Glen Cunningham
Photometrics Handbook, Robert C. Mumm

It should be clearly understood that the assigned text for this class will serve only as a resource. While much of the lecture material has its parallels in the text, the sequence of the class does not match the book. In addition, the terminology and approach of the professor differ from the material presented in the text. These factors make class attendance essential if the student wishes to succeed in this class.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to the art of Lighting Design. Students will be asked to analyze lighting for emotional impact, determine the qualities of light that impart these effects, and discover how these ideas can be enlarged upon and transferred to the stage.

The class will discuss the role of lighting in Theatrical Productions, how a script is to be analyzed for lighting needs, and the creation and control of light in production situations. In addition to the lecture material that will be covered, the class will undertake design and drafting projects, and critique two of the departmental productions during the semester.

The work for this class is designed to sequentially develop the student's understanding and skills. Therefore it is extremely important that all students complete the assignments according to the class schedule.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES (cont):

Students should:

- Have the ability to understand and use the course objectives of DRAMA 103, DRAMA 202, and DRAMA 231
- Have the ability to analysis a script or other works of art for emotion, highlight and shadow, focus, and time
- Start to develop an individual design process
- Have the ability to understand and use of the controllable properties of light (color, angle, intensity, distribution, and movement)
- Have the ability to understand and use photometrics, color theory, and lighting technology
- Be able to understand and construct established lighting design communication tools i.e. light plots, storyboards, hook-up schedules, instrument schedules, and magic sheets

GRADING:

This is rooted in the objectives stated above. The measurement or assessment of the students' success in meeting these objectives is determined at the end of a semester in their ability to design quality productions. And in so doing they must demonstrate:

- Student's ability to meet all deadlines and requirements for the course
- Preparation for class as evidenced by knowledge gained from previous assignments and assigned readings; organization of work; and timely execution of lighting projects
- Increased skill in lighting design: use of color, instrumentation, patterns, electricity, and script analysis
- Student's ability to approach work with increased independence, efficiency, and creative thinking.

Note: The highest level of success is based on their ability to demonstrate through process and product a significant level of understanding of all theories and an ability to utilize them effectively, appropriately, and aesthetically in their creation of lighting design projects.

GRADING (cont):

Final grades for this course will be based on the following

9/15	Group Project-Postcard I	25 points
9/27	Wash Project	50
10/4	Enlarged Plot	75
10/20	Examination #1	100
10/25	Group Project-Postcard II	75
11/8	Critique - "Proof"	50
11/17	Realized Storyboards	75
12/1	Rough Plot	100
12/8	Examination #2	150
12/12-10:10-12:10	Final Light Plot	150
	Critique - "Peter Pan"	50
	Attendance and Participation	100

Total-----1000 points

Since the completion of many of these projects is dependent upon the completion of preceding projects, **projects turned in to the professor after the due date will not be accepted for grading.**

Extra credit is possible and encouraged by the professor, but the student must receive the instructor's permission before starting a project that is to be used for extra credit.

MINIMUM REQUIRED MATERIALS:

In order to complete the projects for this class, each student must obtain a basic set of materials. These will include:

- 3 Triangles- 30-60-90 (6" suggested)
- 45-45-90 (6" suggested)
- Adjustable (10" or larger suggested)
- Architect's Scale Ruler (not an Engineer's ruler)
- Drafting paper - 24"x 36" minimum - 100% rag drafting vellum
- Drafting Compass
- Mechanical Pencils (not Drafting Pencils)- H, 2H, and 4H
- Eraser and Eraser Shield
- Drafting Dry Cleaning Pad-"Dust Bunny"
- Drafting Tape, (not masking tape)
- 1/2" scale plan view Lighting Template (to be purchased from the Box Office)
- Roscolux Gel Swatch Books (provided by the professor)

PROJECTS AND REQUIREMENTS:

Group Projects - All group projects are practical projects utilizing the facilities of the lighting laboratory. The objective of this project is for each group to create the desired effect or situation for the other members of the class. Each group will be given a 30 minute time slot. 15 minutes will be allowed for set-up and demonstration. 15 minutes will be allowed for explanation and criticism. It is expected that each group will work outside of class in preparation for each project.

Project I - Postcard I - Using a picture chosen by the group members, you will duplicate the lighting angle, distribution, and intensity in the postcard. No color media, scenery, or costumes are allowed for this project. Only the effects of light and shadow on the torso and face will be considered for the final grade. 25 pts

Project II - Wash Project - Each student will draft the solutions to create an even wash of light using given set of photometric data for three different types of lighting instruments. A handout will be given to provide details of this project 50 pts

Project III - Enlarged Lighting Plot - Each student will enlarge a lighting plot for a given theatrical production from 1/4" to 1/2" scale. The student is responsible for copying the same drafting and lettering styles used in the original drawing. Each student will also generate a Hook-up Schedule and Magic Sheet 75 pts

Project IV - Postcard II - Using a picture chosen by the group members, the group will duplicate the angle, color, intensity, and distribution of the lighting in the postcard. No scenery, or costumes are allowed for this project. Only the effects of light and shadow on the torso and face will be considered for the final grade. 75 pts

Project V - Storyboard - Each student will create a number of lighting storyboards from a series of poses created in the light lab. Students will be judged on speed, accuracy, and ability to tell a visual story using paper and pencil. 75 pts

Project V - Rough Light Plot - A roughly drafted 1/2" scale layout of the lighting equipment that the student wishes to use for the production. At this stage, neatness does not count, except as it inhibits understanding by the instructor and fellow class members. Information to be included with this project will be type and placement of equipment, color, focus, and channeling. A "Magic Sheet" showing how the channels relate to the stage is required as part of this project. The instructors will evaluate this project and their suggestion must be incorporated in the Final Light Plot.

100 pts

PROJECTS AND REQUIREMENTS (cont):

Project VII - Final Light Plot - A neatly drafted version of the Rough Lighting Plot incorporated the changes based upon the evaluation of the Rough Lighting Plot. This drawing will be accompanied by a hook-up schedule and a final version of the "Magic Sheets". 150
pts each

Two Critiques - Each student will prepare typewritten criticisms of two of the productions during the Fall 2005 semester. The plays to be critiqued are "Proof" and "Peter Pan." Each Critique should be 300 to 500 words in length and should discuss the role of the lighting in the production, and how it supported the style and mood of the production. No discussion of plot or character should be included. 50 pts each

Examination #1 - This test will cover material presented in class and will focus primarily on terms and definitions. 100 pts

Examination #2 - This test will cover all material presented during the quarter and will focus primarily on processes, relationships, and comparisons. This exam will be given during the last regular class session. 150 pts

Tentative Schedule of Classes-DRAM 351-Theatre Lighting I-Fall 2005

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CLASS TOPICS</u>	<u>STUDENT SHOULD PREPARE</u>
8/30	Introduction - Assign Project I	Set-up Groups and Choose Pictures
9/1	"Visions of Light" (Light Lab or Seminar Room)	
9/6	"McCandless", Script Analysis and Design Process	
9/8	Equipment and Electricity (Light Lab)	
9/13	Lighting Instruments, - (Montana Theatre)	
9/15	Presentation-Project I (Light Lab)	Project I - Postcard I
9/20	Presentation-Project I (Light Lab)	Project I - Postcard I
9/22	Drafting - Plans and Sectionals	
9/27	In Class Drafting (Project II) Examine Wash Project	Drafting Equipment Project II - Wash of Light
9/29	In Class Drafting (Project III)	Drafting Equipment
10/4	In Class Drafting (Project III) Examine Project III	Drafting Equipment Project III - Enlarged Plot
10/6	"Dick Tracy" - (Light Lab or Seminar Room)	
10/11	Color - (Light Lab)	
10/13	Color - (Light Lab)	
10/18	Review for Examination #1	
10/20	Examination #1	Examination #1
10/25	Presentation-Project IV- (Light Lab)	Project IV - Postcard II
10/27	Presentation-Project IV- (Light Lab)	Project IV - Postcard II
11/1	"Modified McCandless"	
11/3		
11/8	Critique of "Proof"	
11/10	Computers in Lighting	
11/15	Storyboard Project (Project V)	
11/17	Presentation-Project V - (Light Lab)	Project V - Realized Storyboards
11/22	In Class Drafting-(Project VI)	Drafting Equipment
11/24	Holiday - Thanksgiving	
11/29	In Class Drafting-(Project VI)	Drafting Equipment
12/1	Examine Project VI	Project VI - Rough Light Plot
12/6	Review for Examination #2	
12/8	Examination #2	Examination #2
12/12	Examination of Project VII - 10:10am to 12:10pm - Final Light Plot Due Critique of "Peter Pan"	