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THTR 202.01: Stagecraft I - Lighting and Sound

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THTR 202-02 Stagecraft I, Fall, 2022 – 3 Credits

Tuesday, Thursday, 9:00 – 10:20PM – Montana Theatre and other spaces

Final Exam Period – Wednesday, November 25th 10:10-12:10am

The University of Montana, School of Theatre and Dance

Mike Post

PARTV 193 - (406) 243-4481

mike.post@umontana.edu

Office Hours: 3:00-4:30 Tuesday and Thursday (Zoom or in person)

Additional Zoom hours by appointment.

Please note that I am often around the department in a shop or a theatre. I'm not hard to find...

TA: Terry Jorgensen

Lighting, Sound and now Projection are integral elements of design for live theatre. They have specific equipment, skills and procedures to execute properly. In this class you will begin to learn the equipment, and gain the skills in Lighting and Sound to work in the theatre.

Textbook:

There is no textbook required for this class. Students may find the Backstage Handbook a useful reference for this class.

Outcomes:

- Gain an understanding of electrics and sound for performance.
- Gain knowledge of the tools and procedures to work on electrics calls
- Become aware of proper safety concerns and awareness for working in a theatre

Grading and Assessment:

This course will be hybrid in nature in that most content will be covered by online presentations in Moodle supported by practical classroom exercises. It is possible to pass the class working entirely in Moodle, but to demonstrate proficiency and gain highest scores, in class participation will be necessary.

Students are graded based on participation and a final evaluation for this module of the class.

Moodle Exercises	5 pts each – 35 pts total
In class participation	5 pts/class - 40 pts total
Section Evaluation	25 pts
Total Points possible	100pts

Exercises in Moodle will be available to complete by the beginning of the next class period. There is no extension allowed for these. Participation points for the practical exercises are if you attend the class and try the exercise. The possibility for makeup work and “extra” credit is built into the grading scheme. No additional opportunities will be possible.

Class Policies:

Especially now due to COVID-19, students must adhere to policies designed to ensure their safety while in class. Classes are intended to be engaging and fun, but safety is the primary concern. Please help me to keep you safe.

From UM President Seth Bodnar:

The wide availability of safe, effective vaccines to combat COVID-19 means that we are able to continue full in-person learning again this semester. The Office of the President urges every member of the UM Family to get vaccinated (and receive a booster shot) if you haven't done so already. Vaccination provides the best means of protecting yourself – and others in our UM Family – from the risk of COVID-19.

Please visit <https://www.umt.edu/curry-health-center/corona-virus.php> for the latest health/safety information, as well as campus communications and plans about the global health pandemic.

Attendance:

Attendance is mandatory for this class. Each class period will count 5 points towards your final grade. Absences may be excused with a note from a doctor or the Curry Center. Due to the abbreviated schedule of the class, however, there will be no time to make up missed material in class and the student is responsible for that on their own.

Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at www.umt.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/default.php

Theatre & Dance Policies

All Theatre & Dance students must have an in-depth knowledge of the practices and procedures outlined in the School of Theatre & Dance Student Handbook. The Handbook is available online at <https://www.umt.edu/theatre-dance/handbook.php>.

There is inherent risk involved in many Theatre & Dance classes as they are very physical in nature. Please proceed through class, shop time, or rehearsal with caution. Always be mindful of your personal safety and the safety of others. Students participating in class/shop/rehearsal/performance do so at their own risk.

Due to safety considerations, at no point during a student's time spent in class or serving on a production (in any capacity) should non-enrolled persons be guests of that student without my consent. Presence of such unauthorized persons in a class, shop, or any backstage/off-stage area will negatively affect a student's grade.

From the EO/AA Office:

Students with disabilities may request reasonable modifications by contacting me. The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and the Office for Disability Equality (ODE). "Reasonable" means the University permits no fundamental alterations of academic standards or retroactive modifications. For more information, please consult <https://www.umt.edu/disability/default.php>.

Course Schedule:

Please note this is subject to change as the course progresses. Moodle exercises are intended to be completed by the following class period. Completing them ahead of time is perfectly acceptable.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Moodle</i>	<i>In Class</i>	<i>Notes</i>
Thursday Sep 1st	Theatre Anatomy, Safety, Personal Info	Theatre Anatomy and Safety	
Tuesday, Sep 6th	What are Electrics, Electrics People	Day to Day Electrics	
Thursday Sep 8th	Lighting Equipment Types and Parts	Lighting Equipment	
Tuesday Sep 13th	Lighting Paperwork	Hanging, Focusing and Striking	Terry
Thursday, Sep 15th		Booms and Floor Mounts	Terry
Tuesday Sep 20th	Cues, Channels, and Patch	Control Systems, Programming	Terry
Thursday, Sep 22nd	Connectors and how to wire them.	Wiring Basics	Terry
Tuesday, Sep 27th	What is Sound, Sound People	Sound Systems	
Thursday, Sep 29th		Evaluation	

NOTE: After this section is complete, you will be instructed where to go for the next section for the Stagecraft sequence..

1. Theatre Anatomy and Safety

Introduction to the section, the basics of how a theatre is put together from the electrics point of view including a tour of the Montana. Safety considerations, Calls and Responses, basic fire safety, what egress means and where egress is in our building. The Fly system and how to operate.

2. Day to Day Electrics

Who is who in Electrics, Lighting paperwork, How do you get to the positions (Catwalks vs Ladders vs Lifts). Choices in lighting and what a lighting designer actually does.

3. Lighting Equipment

Instrument types and uses, Parts of an instrument, Data cabling vs Power cabling. Cables, connectors, ganging. Proper coiling of cables.

4. Hanging, Focusing and Striking.

Reading a Light Plot. How to hang properly RIGHT SIDE UP. How to focus a light, Fresnels, Pars and Lekos. How to lock down a light. How to strike a light. Color and Gobos.

5. Vertical Positions and Floor Mounts

Building a Boom. Hanging a boom, Circuiting a Boom. Sidearms.

6. Control Systems and Programming

How modern computerized lighting consoles work. Channels versus Dimmers versus Circuits. DMX Addressing. Setting up a system with LEDs and Movers. Programming and Cues.

7. Wiring Basics

Conductors with color, Hot, Neutral, Ground. Connectors. Wire an Edison extension cable. Postcard Assignments

8. Sound Systems

Speakers, Amps, Microphones and Playback. Set up a system. QLab basics.

9. Evaluation

In teams of 3, recreate the light in an assigned "postcard." With a 10 foot trim height on the electrics, hang 3 lights to recreate that light. Patch them in the board into assigned channels and build a cue to create the right look. Take some pictures! Have your work checked and then strike everything properly. You are being evaluated on proper hanging, focusing and locking equipment down.

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