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THTR 409.01: Production Design II

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Production Design I, II

Course #: THTR 309, 409
Time: Varies on assignment
Instructor: Alessia Carpoca
PARTV Building Room 196
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Materials: None

Text: None required research materials as needed.

Course Description:

This course is designed for students working towards either their Junior or Senior project objectives through the execution of a significant piece of design or theatre technical work. Students are also required to submit one major piece of writing: a research paper that incorporates the concept and design development, research process, project execution, and self-reflection. In addition supporting paperwork created through the process is also required (i.e. Floorplan, light plots, renderings, etc.) Students should enroll in THTR 309 for Junior Project and THTR 409 for Senior Project and are required to follow both this syllabus and Moodle supplement for the class (deadlines, submission and grade will be managed on Moodle) Jr/Sr Project as noted in the departmental handbook will be approved and graded by the whole Design/Tech program. Students are free to choose their mentor (can be their advisor) and will establish responsibilities and conditions of satisfactory completion of this course together.

Course Objectives:

The objectives of this course include a demonstrated proficiency in the area of theatre production in which the assignment was undertaken, and an ability to complete assignments within production framework and schedules, and with a level of quality that is deemed acceptable by the production team (designers, directors, stage manager and faculty). Other objectives include an ability to incorporate creativity, script analysis, design concepts and direction for each production into the assignment. Students will need to take guidance from faculty but be able to be self-motivated in order to complete their project. Students will keep a working journal documenting the creative process.

The requirements and responsibilities for production work are:

- Meeting the deadlines set for the production.
- You are required to follow the schedule set up by the production manager and maintain communication with your advisor.
- Attend all production meetings through the production process.
- Keep good communication with the director and the production team.
- Maintain communication with your mentor.
- Designers will present finalized designs at the first rehearsal to the director and the cast.
- Rehearsals: Designers are encouraged to attend rehearsals as appropriate. Attendance at the designer run-throughs is required. Take notes regarding alterations/changes that may affect the designs. Discuss these notes with the Stage Manager and/or Director as appropriate.

- Please note CHANGE is part of the process. Being able to adjust/accommodate changes promptly is the key. If you experience problems, bring them up with your mentor as soon as possible.

Junior and Senior BFA Project Timeline:

Assignments are traditionally given out by midpoint of the previous semester (mid-October for Spring, mid-March for Fall) Enrollment in THTR 309 or THTR 409 is compulsory after you accept the production assignment (please also initial under your name on the production poster board) Please be aware that to complete your Junior and Senior project you need to complete both the production assignment and the paper. Timeline:

- Seventh week of the semester: initial draft/outline
- Friday before Finals: first version of final draft
- Friday of Finals: final paper **with supporting materials (ie. drafting, renderings, research, sketches)**

Suggested Style Guides:

The Chicago Manual of Style. 14th ed. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1993.

Gibaldi, J., ed. *The MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. 4th ed. New York: Modern Language Association of America, 1995.

Grading:

Grading will be based on the quality of the work on the finished assignment, the ability to work with all the members of the production and design team, adherence to established timeframes and guidelines and attitude. It is expected that students will make the best use of existing theatre knowledge as well as expand on that base of knowledge through research and interpersonal work with the mentor.

Attendance:

Each assignment will require different needs, as productions occur throughout the semester. It is imperative that each student and the instructor clearly outline the time frame and expected level of attendance at production meetings, technical and dress rehearsals and productions. In addition, a work schedule and time frame will be laid out that best applies to the needs of each assignment with regards to allowing enough time to complete the assignment and to provide consistent meeting times with the instructor.

University and School Policies

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.

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 <http://www.umt.edu/umarts/theatredance/About/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 UM President Seth Bodnar:

The wide availability of safe, effective vaccines to combat COVID-19 means that we are able to return to full in-person learning this semester. The Office of the President urges every member of the UM Family to get vaccinated 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.

For classrooms and laboratory settings, UM requires the use of masks.

All individuals on our campus – vaccinated or not – are asked to wear masks every time we are indoors. This includes public spaces in residence halls, Mansfield Library, computer labs, study lounges, University Center, Lommasson and the Food Zoo (when not eating or drinking). None of us are happy to see the resurgence of COVID-19, and we all long for a time when we can return to full normalcy on our campus with masks a distant memory. That time will come! But at this moment, we must come together as a UM Family, treating each other with compassion, kindness and respect. If we each take small steps to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, we will enable and protect the vibrant campus our students deserve and the experiences that are so vital to their development. As we've said from the start, we are in this together, and we will get through this together.

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>.