

9-2013

## THTR 356.01: Scenic Painting

Alessia Carpoca

*University of Montana - Missoula*, [alessia.carpoca@mso.umt.edu](mailto:alessia.carpoca@mso.umt.edu)

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi>

---

### Recommended Citation

Carpoca, Alessia, "THTR 356.01: Scenic Painting" (2013). *Syllabi*. 394.  
<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi/394>

This Syllabus is brought to you for free and open access by the Course Syllabi at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in Syllabi by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact [scholarworks@mso.umt.edu](mailto:scholarworks@mso.umt.edu).

## THTR 356 Scenic Painting

M-W 11:10-2:00 Fall 2013 3 credits

Prereq THTR 155 or Consent of Instr.

Instructor: Alessia Carpoca

Phone : 406 531 5836

Office Hours: by appointment or Tue-Thur 1:00-2:00 Fri 2:00-3:00 PARTV 198

e-mail: alessia.carpoca@umontana.edu

### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is a beginner studio class in the techniques and processes of scene painting encompassing skills necessary for theater and theater related painting projects. Tools, materials and painting techniques will be demonstrated by the instructor and explored and executed by the student. This class requires both homework time spent in the scene shop painting projects and research time. Painting does not arrive from your imagination alone. Research into surfaces and light will be necessary to apply the skills of painting.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This course will focus on developing your skills in prepping surfaces, color mixing, drawing, painting, perspective and gaining an understanding of the way light affects objects. You will also learn to:

- Identify and employ the various tools and techniques frequently used in scene painting
- Simulate three dimensional textures and materials with a painted finish
- Critically comment on the strengths and weaknesses of your own work as well as the work of your peers

**TOPICS & PROJECTS:** Paints and Scene Paints Painting Tools & Supplies Painting Techniques Color Theory Wood Graining, Stones and Brick Work, Marbling, Architecture details, Drapery and Landscape.

### Grade Weight:

Project 1	Stucco wall with bricks and stones	Sept 11	100
Project 2	Interior wall 19th century	Sept 25	200
Project 3	Marble cornice	Oct 9	200
Project 4	Corinthian Capital	Oct 23	200
Project 5	Drapery	Nov 6	100
Final Project	Landscape	Dec 9th	100
	Work on Productions		50
	Scene Painting Notebook		50

Each project will be critiqued in class, and a written grade will be posted on Moodle by the next class period. I grade the projects subjectively as follows: did you do it? Did you follow instructions? Do you appear to have learned something or improved your technique? Did you accurately and efficiently reproduce the sample or research? Did you do it on time? If you do a wonderful job I may give extra points. If you don't do it at all I won't give you any points. You are responsible for a Scene Painting Notebook. At the end of the term I will check your notebook and expect to see in it all handouts I will be giving to you in class and all research you have done for each project. I will also like to see a brief description of the steps you took to paint each project and how long did it take. Think of your notebook as a diary to record how to paint each project. Please make every attempt to photograph your work. You will be very glad you did for your portfolio reviews and you will have to include pictures in your Scene Painting Notebook. **The notebook is worth 50 points.**

For this class **you must also do 5 hours of paint time this term on actual productions at 10 point per hour.**

Records your hours on a timesheet (included). Name the play or project you worked on, who supervised you, tell what you did, how many hours you spent doing it. Put your timesheet in my mail box across from my office by Dec 12, 2011. You are responsible for arranging all of your production time. Sometimes there are weekend calls to paint a floor etc. You may work on these just look at the board. You may paint for any shows of The School of Theatre and Dance on campus. Options to work outside campus (like the Montana Rep in Missoula, will be evaluated as **extra credits only** and I will need to know who will be supervising you...)

Our Final Project will be worth 100 points and will be a landscape project unless something really interesting will need to be painted for a show during this semester... All projects will need to be finished by finals.

Class Policies: **Attendance is mandatory.** If you are not in class you aren't painting, you do not gain insights from your classmates work and your classmates are denied your insights. **After 4 unexcused absences you will automatically FAIL this class.**

*The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with DSS, please contact DSS in Lommasson 154. I will work with you and DSS to provide an appropriate accommodation.*

### **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 [http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student\\_conduct.php](http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.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/theatredance/about/handbook>.

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.

There is no textbook for this class but there are lectures on Moodle that you should read. If you still like to buy a book I'll suggest "The Art of Faux" by Pierre Filkestein or "Scenic Art for the Theatre" by Susan Crabtree.

### **Materials you will need:**

Architectural scale rule

Pencils (please do not come to class without a pencil)

Masking tape

Charcoal sticks a box

Few plastic containers (yogurt, cottage cheese anything with a lid.....)

Set of scenic Painting brushes available at the bookstore for around \$70

## **THE PAINT AREA**

Never open a can of paint if there is one of the same color already open. DONT POUR Flammable solvents and scrap (put into the appropriate storage container), plaster, sawdust, or other thick stuff DOWN THE SINK. Latex is ok as long as you use a strainer. The paint carts for the shows are off limits for assignments. You may take liners, extensions, etc, but return them and TOUCH NO PAINT.

**LABEL YOUR PAINT WITH YOUR NAME AND PROJECT. LABEL THE BUCKET NOT THE LID.**

**NEVER LEAVE A BRUSH TO DRY** not even for 5 minutes. Do not paint without water to put your brush in.

**CLEAN UP: Wash your brushes and tools, wash your excess buckets. Return liners, roller handles, etc.**

**DON'T LET PROJECTS INTERFERE WITH THE SHOP WORK.** Ask the Scene Shop Manager if you can lay your project out. Never put a project in front of an exit. If there is no room to work, come back later. **If you are painting during shop hours you are required to wear safety glasses at all times.** Never spray paint inside the shop unless you are instructed to do so. Spray paint outside and always lay down paper or plastic under your project. **I strongly ask you to clean up after yourself and leave no traces of your working in the shop.** Do not leave any paint, buckets, brushes etc. anywhere other than the appropriate place where they get stored.

DON'T PAINT NEAR THE TOOLS AREA.

## **THE THEATRES**

SET UP WET PAINT SIGNS

Don't fly anything unless you know how and unless you know it's safe to do so. Co-operate with carpenters and electricians regarding deck access: everybody has to get their job done. Paint in the semi dark. Paint the sawdust in as texture. Ask about their schedule and find a compromise!

Don't get paint on the black curtains. Don't get paint on the carpets. DON'T LEAVE PAINT IN THE WINGS. People fall over it in the dark, it spills. **Never spray paint** in the theatre without permission: the drift ruins the curtains and upholstery.

TAKE ALL PAINT AND TOOLS INTO THE SHOP WHEN YOU QUIT FOR THE DAY. Never leave any paint or tools onstage after you quit, Dobby the House Elf will not clean up after you...PLEASE EMPLOY COMMON SENSE AND COMMON COURTESY.

**Class sessions M-W 11:10-2:00 Fall 2011**

<b>date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Assignment / Activity</b>	<b>% points</b>
8/26	schedule, research, tour of scene shop, basics of scene paint, basics of tools equipment. Canvas prep, base coats and cartooning. Color mixing	Prepare canvas for project #1 Base your flat and draw outline. Research 3 kinds of stones and bricks. Read Lecture 1 and 2 on Moodle	
8/28	Demo: 2 color graduated wash, 2 color wet blend, 2 color graduated spatter/sponge, dry brush, wet in wet, wet over dry, blending, and wash layers. Demo Bricks. Scumble and wood wet blend.	Paint brick area grey then spatter then tape and paint red. Paint grey under stones then draw stones	
9/02	<b>LABOR DAY</b>	Finish stones base shingles then draw them	
9/4	Demo: stones and wood. Finish wood and bricks	Finish stones base shingles then draw them	
9/9	Demo shingles and finished details		
<b>9/11</b>	<b>Critique 1 starts at 12:15</b> Rebase flat Demo stencil and work on layout	Base top and bottom wood 2 color wet blend base center pink. Choose stencil 3 options bring to class	100
9/16	Draw wood panelling then Demo wood grain mix and	Finish wood grain and wash work on stencil	
9/18	Layout stencil		
9/23	Demo:stencil, and light/shadows on wood.		
<b>9/25</b>	<b>Critique 2 starts at 12:15</b>	Research 5 types of marble. Draw cornice	200
9/30	Marble exercise. Base marble	work on base	
10/2	Veins and highlights and shadows	veins	
10/07	Details		
<b>10/9</b>	<b>Critique 3 starts at 12:15</b> Base flat work on layout	draw half Capitel on brown paper with highlights and shadows	200
10/14	Demo: cartooning. <i>Lecture historical scene painting</i>	cartoon capitel	
10/16	finish shadows and highlights	work on cast shadows and secondary lights	
10/21	details		
<b>10/23</b>	<b>Critique 4 starts at 12:15</b>	research and make a drapery stencil	100
10/28	Highlights, shadows	research tassel	
10/30	Stencil on drapery then cast shadows	highlights on stencil	
11/04	details		
<b>11/06</b>	<b>Critique 5 starts at 12:15</b>	draw only in pencils or charcoal	200
11/11	<b>VETERANS DAY</b>		
11/13	sky and background colors		
11/18	worksession		
11/20	worksession		
11/25	worksession		
11/27	<b>TRAVEL DAY FOR THANKSGIVING</b>		
12/02	details		
12/04	details		
<b>12/09</b>	<b>FINAL PROJECT DUE</b> <b>Class Partecipation on Productions</b> <b>Research Binder</b>	December 9 <sup>th</sup> from 8am to 10am but we can discuss this....	100 50 50

## Timesheet

Play/project \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_

Job description \_\_\_\_\_

Hours \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_