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### THTR 560.01: Graduate Light Design

Mark Dean

*University of Montana - Missoula*, [mark.dean@umontana.edu](mailto:mark.dean@umontana.edu)

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COURSE SYLLABUS  
**THTR 560-FALL 2014**  
**GRADUATE LIGHT DESIGN -3CR.**

**CLASS SESSIONS: MONDAY & WEDNESDAY- 11:10 TO 12:30**  
**MCGILL 213, 215 & PART 131**

**PROFESSOR:**

Mark Dean	Zach Hamersley	Daniel Norton
Office- PAR/TV, Rm. 193,	PAR/TV, Rm. 131	PAR/TV, Rm. 131
Phone-243-2879	(406) 241-9629	(419) 360-1335
mark.dean@umontana.edu	zhamersley@gmail.com	daniel.norton@umontana.edu

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

**TEXTS:**

Photometrics Handbook, Robert C. Mumm-required  
Lighting and the Design Idea, Linda Essig-optional  
The Backstage Handbook, Paul Carter-optional

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 expand upon the knowledge students gained in undergraduate school about 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, students will undertake design and drafting projects, and critique two of the School 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.

Each graduate student will assist undergraduate students in THTR 360 analyze, execute, and understand basic lighting design theories and processes. Students will also engage in additional cohort interactions on their own.

## **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES (CONT):**

Students should:

- Analysis a script or other works of art for emotion, highlight and shadow, focus, and time
- Develop an individual design process
- Understand and use of the controllable properties of light (color, angle, intensity, distribution, and movement)
- Understand and use photometrics, color theory, and lighting technology
- 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

9/10	Group Project-Postcard I	25 points
9/24	Wash Project	50
10/8	Computer Project	75
10/15	Critique— "Cyrano de Bergerac"	50
10/22	Examination #1	100
10/27	Group Project-Postcard II	75
11/12	Realized Storyboards	75
11/18	Rough Plot	100
12/1	Critique— "A Christmas Carol"	50
12/3	Examination #2	150
12/9-8am	Final Light Plot	150
	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.

## REQUIRED MATERIALS:

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

Architect's Scale Ruler (not an Engineer's ruler)  
Roscolux Gel Swatch Books (provided by the professor)  
Drafting paper - 18"x 24" minimum - 100% rag drafting vellum  
Black Cansom (or equivalent) Pastel Paper for Storyboard Project

## SUGGESTED MATERIALS:

3 Triangles- 30-60-90 (6" suggested)  
45-45-90 (6" suggested)  
Adjustable (10" or larger suggested)  
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)

## **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 postcard you chose, duplicate the lighting angle, distribution, and intensity in the postcard. You are required to create a drafted lighting plot showing instrument placement, channeling and circuitry. 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. 75 pts

**Project III - Computer Project** 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. Each group member is required to create a drafted lighting plot showing instrument placement, channeling and circuitry. 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 VI - 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.

75 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

**Two Critiques** - Each student will prepare typewritten criticisms of two of the productions during the Fall 2014 semester. The plays to be critiqued are "Cyrano de Bergerac" and "A Christmas Carol." Each critique will be 600 to 800 words in length and 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

## SCHOOL OF 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 [Student Handbook](http://www.umt.edu/umarts/theatredance/About/default.php) is available online at "http://www.umt.edu/umarts/theatredance/About/default.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 affect negatively a student's grade.

## 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](http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student_conduct.php). The policy is available at the following web address "http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student\_conduct.php"

## STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

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. For more information, please consult the [Disability Services for Students](http://life.umt.edu/dss) website. "http://life.umt.edu/dss"

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF CLASSES-THTR 560-THEATRE LIGHTING I-FALL 2014**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CLASS TOPICS</u>	<u>STUDENT SHOULD PREPARE</u>
8/25	Introduction - Assign Project I	Set-up Groups and Choose Pictures
8/27	“Visions of Light” ( <b>Seminar Room</b> )	
9/1	<b>Class does not meet</b>	Labor Day
9/3	Equipment and Electricity ( <b>Light Lab</b> )	
9/8	Presentation-Project I ( <b>Light Lab</b> )	Project I - Postcard I
9/10	Presentation-Project I ( <b>Light Lab</b> )	Project I - Postcard I
9/15	Drafting - Plans and Sectionals	
9/18	Photometrics	
9/22	In Class Drafting (Project II) Examine Wash Project	Drafting Equipment Project II - Wash of Light
9/24	“McCandless”, Script Analysis and Design Process	
9/29	Vectorworks and Lightwright ( <b>McGill 213</b> )	Flash Drive
10/1	In Class Drafting ( <b>McGill 213</b> )	
10/6	Presentation - Project III ( <b>McGill 213</b> )	Project III-McCandless Plot
10/8	Color - ( <b>Light Lab</b> )	
10/13	Critique of " <i>Cyrano de Bergerac</i> "	
10/15	“McCandless”, Script Analysis and Design Process	
10/20	Review for Examination #1	Examination #1
10/22	Examination #1	
10/27	Presentation-Project IV- ( <b>Light Lab</b> )	Project IV - Postcard II
10/29	Presentation-Project IV- ( <b>Light Lab</b> )	Project IV - Postcard II
11/3	Storyboard Project (Project V) ( <b>Light Lab</b> )	Project V - Realized Storyboards
11/5	Presentation-Project V - ( <b>Light Lab</b> )	
11/10	“Modified McCandless”	Flash Drive
11/12	In Class Drafting-(Project VI)	
11/17	In Class Drafting-(Project VI)	Flash Drive
11/19	Examine Project VI	Project VI - Rough Light Plot
11/24	Review for Examination #2	Student Travel Day
11/26	<b>Class does not meet</b>	
12/1	Examination #2	Examination #2
12/3	Critique of " <i>A Christmas Carol</i> "	
12/9	Examination of Project VII – 8:00am to 10:0pm Final Light Plot, Magic Sheet, Hook-up Due	