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THTR 553.01: Graduate Technical Direction

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Grad Technical Direction

Course #: THTR 553
Time: MW 8:00-8:50, plus arrange on school productions
Credit: 3
Room: McGill 215
Instructor: Mike Monsos
PARTV Building Room 195
243-4481 Office, 240-9194 (cell, texting OK)
michael.monsos@umontana.edu
Office Hours: M-10-11, T 9-11, R 9-11
Recommended Text: Stock Scenery Construction by Bill Raoul
Materials Needed: Drafting materials (CAD or hand), personal safety gear and tools

Course Description:

This course is designed to offer students an understanding and insight into the role of a technical director for theatre productions. Students will study construction, budgeting, safety/health, materials, structural design, stage machinery, technical management, rigging, electrical, and audio as it applies to theatre through advanced work in the shops towards realized productions and on unrealized projects assigned throughout the semester.

Course Objectives:

This course will prepare students towards becoming professionals in the field of technical direction, giving them knowledge and experience towards managing and construction of theatrical designs..

Grading:

Grading will be based on total points earned on each assignment and class participation.

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
59% and lower	F

Attendance policy:

Attendance is extremely important; it is assumed students will attend all classes. If a class is going to be missed, please contact the instructor and make arrangements for making up the work. Each absence where a student makes no attempt to make up work or does not do the assigned make-up will result in the drop of one-half a letter grade.

Class Schedule:

Sept 6	Introduction and orientation to technical direction
Sept 11	Starting the job-planning and drawing
Sept 13	Construction drawings assignment
Sept 18	Class review of drawing
Sept 20	Budgeting and budget assignment
Sept 25	Class review of budget
Sept 27	Construction process
Oct 2	Construction challenge #1
Oct 4	Class discussion on construction challenge #1
Oct 9	Class review of construction challenge #1
Oct 11	Budget construction challenge #1
Oct 16	Research and problem solving
Oct 18	Research assignment #1
Oct 23	Class discussion on research #1
Oct 25	Class review of research assignment #1
Oct 30	Construction challenge #2
Nov 1	Class discussion of construction challenge #2
Nov 6	Class review of construction challenge #2
Nov 8	Traps, lifts and motorized scenery
Nov 13	More on traps, lifts and motorized scenery
Nov 15	Research assignment #2
Nov 27	Class discussion on research assignment #2
Nov 29	Class review on research assignment #2

Dec 4	Final project assigned
Dec 6	Discussion on final project
Dec 11	Discussion on Final assignment
Dec 20	8:00-10:00 Final

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 http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.php.

From the School of Theatre & Dance

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.

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 Disability Services for Students (DSS). "Reasonable" means the University permits no fundamental alterations of academic standards or retroactive modifications. For more information, please consult <http://life.umt.edu/dss/>.