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### THTR 255.01 - Drafting for Theatre

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# Drafting for the Theatre I

## School of Theatre & Dance

Course #: THTR 255  
Time: MW 11:10-1:00  
Room: McGill 215  
Instructor: Mike Monsos  
PARTV Building Room 192  
243-5138  
[michael.monsos@umontana.edu](mailto:michael.monsos@umontana.edu)  
Office Hours: M-8-10, T 11-12, R 10-11

Text: "Drafting for the Theatre I" by Mike Monsos

### Materials Needed:

- 30°-60° Triangle
  - 45° Triangle
  - 2-3 lead holders, lead (there are 18 different grades of lead, I recommend "2B", "H", and "2H" as a starting point)
  - lead pointer
  - eraser shield
  - pink eraser
  - kneaded eraser
  - 12" architect's square
  - drafting dots or tape
  - compass
  - cleaning pad and dusting brush
  - a variety of paper and vellum.
- (Drafting table and parallel rules are available for student use in McGill 215; please treat with care and consideration.)

### Course Description:

This course is designed to help students develop their drafting skills for theatre and the entertainment industry. Students will learn the language of the line, the drafting standards for theatre as codified by the United States Institute of Theatre Technology (USITT), and the means with which to create accurate measured drawings. Drafting is the tool with which designers, directors, technicians and all members of a production team communicate the information necessary to mount all the technical aspects of a given production, and one that needs to be recognized and consistent across the industry in order to be effective. *Drafting is essentially a method of communication, one that is accurate and clear.*

Course Outcomes:

Through daily exercises and assignments, this course will teach students how to read, understand and generate measured drawings for the stage, screen, television and all other theatrical applications. Students will learn the codified standards of lines, line weights, line types and symbols in drafting. Students will achieve mathematically precise drawings through use of geometry and consistent practice with drafting tools and equipment. Students will learn the proper method of laying out and establishing drafting views including but not limited to: section, plan, orthographic, and exploded views. Students will learn the technique and method for creating drawings in perspective and how to solve for true size and shape in drafting. Students will learn the techniques for dimensioning and notation in drafting along with how to accurately create measured drawings of an existing space.

Grading:

This course will consist of 13 assignments including the final project. **Do not fall behind! This course is rigorous and you will find it very difficult to succeed if you do not stay up to date in your work!**

Assignments:	20-50 points	350
Final	100 points	150 points
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Total		500 points
450-500 points	A	
400-449 points	B	
350-399 points	C	
300-349 points	D	
299 and below	F	

Attendance policy:

Attendance is extremely important; it is assumed students will attend all classes. ***Only two unexcused absences are allowed***, each absence after two will result in the loss of ten points from the student's total points. An unexcused absence is defined by failing to notify the instructor PRIOR to missing a class. Assignments are due either on or prior to due date. ***Late assignments will not be accepted except at the discretion of the instructor. ALL assignments must have borders, title blocks and the necessary information or they will not be accepted.***

## SCHEDULE

- Jan 25** Introduction to the course. Tools. Chapter 1  
**Assignment #1- Go shopping, purchase everything listed on the syllabus and be ready to draw at the next class.**
- Jan 27** Getting started-Setting up the drawing, title blocks, borders.  
USITT standard alphabet of lines, dimensioning and standard symbols.  
Chapter 2  
**Assignment #2 given.**
- Feb 1** Lettering. Chapter 3  
**Assignment #3 given.**  
*Assignment #2 due.*
- Feb 3** Tool use, scale rule. Chapter 4  
**Assignment #4 given.**  
*Assignment #3 due*
- Feb 8** Geometry. Chapter 5  
**Assignment #5 given.**  
*Assignment #4 due*
- Feb 10** Geometry continued. Chapter 5  
**Assignment #5 part 2 given.**
- Feb 15** *No class- Holiday*
- Feb 17** Drafting views. Chapter 6  
**Assignment #6 given**  
*Assignment #5 due*
- Feb 22** Section views. Chapter 7  
**Assignment #7 given**  
*Assignment #6 due*
- Feb 24** True size and shape. Chapter 8  
**Assignment #8 given**  
*Assignment #7 due*
- Feb 29** Dimensioning. Chapter 9  
**Assignment #9 given**  
*Assignment #8 due*
- Mar 2** Notation. Chapter 10  
*Assignment #9 due*

**Mar 7** Creating measured drawings. Chapter 11  
**Assignment #10 given**

**Mar 9** Library visit-historic draftings

**Mar 14** No class-USITT

**Mar 16** No class-USITT

**Mar 21** Perspective drawing  
**Window drawing done in class**

**Mar 23** Perspective drawings  
*Assignment #10 due*

**Mar 28** Drop point perspective  
**Drop point perspective assigned**

**Mar 30** Work on drop point perspective

**Apr 4** **Spring Break**

**Apr 6** **Spring Break**

**Apr 11** Work on drop point perspective

**Apr 13** **Final project assigned**  
*Drop point perspective due*

**Apr 18** Research presented

**Apr 20** Sketch presented

**Apr 25** Work on final project

**Apr 27** Work on final project

**May 2** Work on final project

**May 4** Work on final project

**May 13<sup>th</sup>, Friday 10:10-12:00** **Finals submitted**

## 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](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/>.