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Spring 2-1-2017

### THTR 307.01: Production Construction I

Brian Gregoire

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**The University of Montana School of Theatre & Dance**  
**THTR307-01: Theatre Production: Scenery Construction I**  
**Spring 2017**

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Instructor: Brian Gregoire  
PARTV 140 (Scene Shop)  
Brian.Gregoire@umontana.edu

Office Hours:       M/W 9:30a – 10:30a  
                          T/R 5:30p – 6:00p

Class Meeting Times:       As Scheduled with Instructor       (3 CR)  
(PARTV 140) Scene Shop

Final Meeting Times:       1:10p -3:10p Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>

Course Objective:

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

Course Description:

This course is designed for students working in advanced phases of scenery and props construction. Students learn in depth analysis and gain hands-on experience by undertaking specific production assignments throughout the course. Although the assignments may differ, each class participant gains an understanding of their work and its importance and impact on fully realized departmental productions. Credit in this course could come from production assignments not accepted as either a Junior or Senior project, or as a specialized project in one of the shops or on productions outside the departmental season. As the assignments vary with each individual and production, students in these courses need to make arrangements with their advisor and the design/tech division as to the scope and extent of the responsibilities required for successful completion

Required Materials:

Tape Measure (25'), Pencils, Safety Glasses (ANSI Z87.1-2003)

Course Requirements:

Participation at all scheduled production strikes, active/meaningful participation during class time, demonstrate advanced skillsets in scenery construction knowledge and vocabulary, demonstrate advanced knowledge of scene shop protocol, safety, and tool usage.

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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 instructor.

Assessment:

This class will utilize verbal, written and demonstrative methods for evaluation. Students will need to be able to:

- Identify essential tools, hardware and fasteners.
- Identify material types and material usage as it relates to scenery.
- Demonstrate safe and correct usage of stationary and portable tools.
- Read and use draftings, sketches, and elevations to create scenery.
- Identify of individual areas scene shop, tool room and other tool storage areas.
- Be fluent in theatre terminology as it applies to scenery.
- Demonstrate proper building techniques as instructed.

Daily Production Evaluation:

- |  |      |
|--|------|
| • Dress appropriately/prepared for class | 2pts |
| • Efficiency and organization            | 3pts |
| • Completing work to highest quality     | 2pts |
| • Taking/following instruction           | 2pts |
| • Working safely/following protocol      | 2pts |
| • Attentiveness/situational awareness    | 2pts |
| • Staying on Task                        | 2pts |

Policies:

- Please be prepared for every class.
- Dress in a manner appropriate for work in a shop. Oils, dust and paint are common hazards to clothing. Shoes cannot be slip-ons or open-toed. Clothes cannot be extremely baggy or formal. Long hair must be tied back and contained so it does not fall forward; jewelry that may dangle into the moving parts of a tool is prohibited.
- Be ready to *receive instruction* at the top of the scheduled hour.
- Have required items with you (tape measure, pencil, and safety glasses) and ready to use at the top of the scheduled hour. If you are not fully prepared for class, I reserve the right to release you from any duties for the day, which will prevent you from getting points for the day.
- 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.
- Any injury incurred during class time, must be reported to the Instructor.
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Policies continued:

- A shop runs most effectively when it is clean and organized. At the end of each day, we will stop working no later than 20 minutes prior to the end of class so everyone can help clean the entire shop.
- You will be required to sign in at the start and out at end of each class. At the end of class everyone will be excused **at the same time**. Please be considerate to your fellow students and stay until cleanup is complete and the class has been released.
- **Cell phones may not be used during class time**. Use of cell phones during class time will result in a reduction of daily production points.

Attendance:

Attendance is essential to the completion of each show and also to pass the course. If you know you must be late or absent please send an email to me, letting me know.

- If I do not receive an email from you, your absence will be counted as unexcused.
- If you are late or leave early four times it will count as one unexcused day.
- Two unexcused absences will result in drop of one full letter grade for your attendance score.
- Each unexcused absence thereafter will result in an additional ½ letter grade drop in attendance score.
- The working of additional hours is welcomed and will be reflected in your final grade.
- UNEXCUSED ABSENCES CANNOT BE MADE UP!
- Absences due to departmental productions or class work will be treated as excused absences. Adv. Notice is required.
- Excused absences must be made-up within two weeks from the date which the absence occurred for full credit unless other arrangements are made.

Fridays and work calls:

- Fridays are days when the shop is open to make up any missed hours or to simply come in and enjoy creating. The shop will be open from 12n – 3p.
- Work calls are mandatory and will be points will be added into the attendance and production evaluation scores to reflect these times. Any work calls attended about the required amount are considered Extra Credit.
- The following dates are reserved for work calls.
  - Tuesday, March 07      6p- 9p
  - Thursday, March 09      6p- 9p
  - Saturday, March 11      10a-6p
  - Thursday, March 30      6p-9p
  - Saturday, April 01      10a- 6p
  - Thursday, April 06      6p- 9p

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**\*Please note\***

Other dates may be added as needed or these may be canceled if they are not needed.

Strike Requirement:

Strike is the process of deconstruction the set at the end of the run. As a team member you are required to complete both *Thinner than Water* and *Noises Off* strikes. Conflicts with other production assignments or coursework must be addressed and resolved with me no later than the Monday before the strike date.

Important Scene Shop Dates:

Tuesday, January 24	Majors Meeting
Friday, February 3	Thespians Festival (through Saturday)
Thursday, February 09	<i>Thinner than Water</i> load in complete
February 13 – 21	<i>Thinner than Water</i> tech week and dress
Thursday, February 23	Dance in Concert load in complete
Sunday, March 05	<b>3:30p</b> <i>Thinner Than Water</i> Strike
February 27- March 04	<i>Dance in Concert</i> tech week and dress
March 15-27	BG out of town
March 18-26	Spring Break
April 03-09	<i>Mad Woman</i> Tech and run
Friday, April 07	<i>Noises Off</i> Load in/ Set Complete
April 10-18	<i>Noises Off</i> tech week and dress
Sunday, April 30	<b>3:30p</b> <i>Noises Off</i> strike.

**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://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student\\_conduct.php](http://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student_conduct.php).

**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/>.

**All Theatre & Dance students** must have an in-depth knowledge of the practices and procedures outlined in the School of Theatre & Dance Handbook.  
<http://www.umt.edu/umarts/theatredance/About/handbook.php>.

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**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.