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THTR 207.05: Theatre Production II - Costume Construction

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University of Montana School of Theatre & Dance  
Fall Semester 2013  
THTR 107, 207 & 307  
Paula Niccum, Costume Shop Manager  
Costume Shop PARTV 40  
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Office hours 1-2 pm, M-Th  
Section 2  Monday-Wednesday 2-5:30  
Section 5  Tuesday-Thursday 2-5:30

THTR 107A - Theat Prod l: Constr Crew  
(R-9) Offered autumn and spring. The construction and completion of scenery, costumes and  
props under supervision and related activities in shops. Most assignments involve very basic  
construction techniques. Involves two 4-hour labs a week.  
3.000 Credit hours  
8.000 Lab hours  
Levels: Undergraduate  
Schedule Types: Lab  
Theatre & Dance Department  
Course Attributes:  
Expressive Arts Course

This class meets for 3 ½ hours twice a week, with a 10 minute break. Duties include, but are  
not limited to, building, altering, and pulling of costumes and costume crafts/accessories as  
needed per show as well as basic shop maintenance, costume stock maintenance & storage  
and cleaning. A minimum of 100 hours of work in the costume shop is required to receive a “D”  
and must be completed before finals week (class does not meet during finals week). Students  
have the opportunity to make up shop hours during rehearsal weekends as they become  
available, dictated by the needs of the shop.

After that prerequisite is fulfilled, the following will determine your grade:

• **Communication**- If you do need to miss class, come in late, or leave early, let the shop  
  manager know as soon as possible. If you’re not sure of how to do something or need a  
  job to do, don’t be afraid to ask shop staff as well as the shop manager. If you aren’t  
  sure what to do and can’t find someone to help you, check the list of tasks posted on the  
  door and see which of them need to be done. Initial afterwards when you have  
  completed your task, so we can give credit where it’s due.

• **Punctuality**- You should come to your scheduled lab, arrive on time, and not leave  
  early.

• **Quality of Time**- You should be conscientious in your use of shop time. Do you  
  diligently work  
  on the assigned tasks, or do you waste time chatting, fooling around, taking breaks,  
  making noise and generating distractions for the other shop workers, etc?

• **Quality of Work**- You will be asked to do the best you can, nothing less and nothing  
  more. Work will be assigned according to the level of you skills. As this improves, you  
  will be challenged further. Are you satisfied with your work? Is it up to the standard set  
  by the shop manager or other costume faculty? Must it frequently be redone? Do you  
  rise to meet the challenge? You will not be penalized for less than optimal sewing  
  abilities if you make up for it with a positive attitude, responsible work ethic, gracious  
  acceptance and conscientious completion of any task you are assigned.
• **Attitude** - No job is too small. If you feel you cannot complete a job successfully, speak with the shop manager. It is important that you freely contribute your skills and knowledge and abilities, but we work as a team. It takes all of us to make a production successful. Be patient, courteous, pleasant and tolerant.

What is expected -
As a student in this workshop, you need to learn quickly and precisely how things are done in the U of M costume shop and take responsible initiative early in the semester. Ask questions, clean up your own projects and messes (& sometimes of those less considerate).

What to expect -
A duty of the costume shop manager is to organize what is to be done, and by whom. If there is nothing to be done, then the student will not be penalized and will be sent home with the full 3 ½ hours credited to them. All staff should be able to instruct and teach you the skills we need you to learn to make the build of the costumes smooth and accurate.

There is no homework, required textbook or final exam in this class.

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. All Drama/Dance students must have an in-depth knowledge of the practices and procedures outlined in the Department of Drama/Dance Handbook. The Handbook is available online at [http://www.sfa.umt.edu/drama/index.html](http://www.sfa.umt.edu/drama/index.html). 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](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.