THEATER PRODUCTION — TH 129

SPRING 2023

Instructor: Taylor Jaskula MON 2:30-4:30 PM: JKB DESIGN STUDIO

Email: ———— Office: ————

Phone: ———— Hours: BY APPOINTMENT

[OVERVIEW]

This class is an introduction to the process of executing the physical elements of stage production, the process by which theatrical productions are mounted, the structure of the physical theater, and the various personnel and their roles across production departments. The class will cover basic production skills in lighting, sound, rigging, carpentry, costumes, paint, props and stage management. At the conclusion of the term the successful student will have learned how to organize and communicate the production information necessary to stage manage a performance, have garnered foundational skills in all of the major production departments, and understand the common safety practices of the theater industry.

[COURSE OBJECTIVES]

- Demonstrate a basic understanding of the different production departments and how they function as a whole to produce a theatrical event.
- Demonstrate an understanding of production process and elements as related to scenic, lighting and costume design implementation.
- Demonstrate an understanding of current theatrical practices of design and technology as related to the stage management process.
- Explain the importance and application of industry standard safety practices.
- PROBLEM SOLVE!
- THINK!

[CLASS ATTENDANCE / PARTICIPATION]

Students are permitted ONE unexcused absence per semester. Any subsequent absences will result in a one-point reduction of your final grade (ex: B →B-). Additionally, three occurrences of lateness will equal one absence. Students are responsible for all missed work for excused or unexcused absences. There is no communication needed prior to class for an unexcused absence. If you are requesting an excused absence, please communicate this <u>before</u> class (preferably at least 24hr).

The Theater Department supports students missing class for protests and demonstrations, as well as for health reasons. We conceptualize health broadly and inclusively. Theater depends on collaboration; please make your best efforts to communicate in advance of being absent from class.

[HEALTH / SAFETY]

The College expects all members of the community to adhere to the College's COVID-19 health and safety guidelines at all times. Please be aware of the guidelines posted on the College's website may change at any time.

[COVID-19 SYMPTOMS]

If you think you are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, isolate and contact Health Services immediately (health@skidmore.edu, x5550). Please follow Health Services' recommendations regarding testing and when to safely return to class and public spaces.

[MASK WEARING]

Skidmore College is committed to the health and safety of all members of our community and has implemented protocols based on recommendations from the CDC, New York State Department of Health, and Saratoga County Department of Health. During periods of low/moderate transmission, the College is not requiring the wearing of masks indoors. When mask wearing is required, you must wear a mask covering your mouth and nose fully at all times in the classroom. I reserve the right to request that we all wear a mask in our classroom/studio, to protect each other and preserve the best possible outcome for our production work.

[PERFORMANCES]

Students are required to attend the Black-Box and Main-Stage productions and should be prepared to discuss and write about the happenings with respect to the technical production vocabulary we have shared up to that point in the semester.

[PRODUCTION CREW / LAB]

A portion of the learning for this class will take place through hands on experience in the shops and on production. (Details on page 4).

[NOTES / JOURNAL]

Students are required to keep a single subject journal of what they learn day to day in production lab assignments, as well as take notes in class and from readings. Journals may be collected periodically throughout the semester and reviewed.

[STAGE MANAGEMENT PROJECT]

Each student will prepare a comprehensive stage management paperwork file. The script and a list of required elements for the project will be distributed early in the semester. We will work on various parts of the project in class throughout the semester.

[PRODUCTIONS]

BLACK BOX

THE PLACE THAT MADE YOU
WRITTEN BY DARCY PARKER BRUCE
DIRECTED BY TAIT BRENCHER
MARCH 3-8

MAINSTAGE

AFTER JANE
WRITTEN BY RACHEL LUANN STRAYER
DIRECTED BY TEISHA DUNCAN
APRIL 21-23 & 28-30

[LAB WORK]

UP YOUR ASS
BY VALERIE SOLANAS
DIRECTED BY ISAAC DEMARCHI
FEBRUARY 8-9

STANDARD PROCEDURE
WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY SOPHIE KELLY
FEBRUARY 20 & APRIL 24

THE GREAT IMPRESARIO BORIS LERMONTOV WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO DINNER

BY TRISTAN WILLIS
DIRECTED BY MICAH PFLAUM
FEBRUARY 27-28

HORSE GIRLS

BY JENNY RACHEL WEINER
DIRECTED BY ANNE-SOPHIE VANDENBERK
APRIL 10-11

[COURSE CONTENT OUTLINE] - SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY POINT DURING THE SEMESTER

WK	DATE	TOPIC	DUE	READING
1	1.30	PRODUCTION / THEATER STRUCTURE	LOA (IN CLASS)	TT: CH #1
2**	2.6	THE STAGE / TYPES OF THEATERS	FLOWCHART	TT: CH #2 & 4
				BH: p. 257-269
3	2.13	INTRO TO STAGE MANAGEMENT / ELECTRICS	QUIZ#1 (STAGE)	TT: CH # 6
				BH: p. 165-177
4**	2.20	LIGHTING		TT: CH # 5
				BH: p. 178-198
5**	2.27	TOOLS	QUIZ #2 (LIGHTS)	BH p. 1-13, 22-23, 32-41
6	3.6	STAGE MNGMT. PART 1 / SAFETY PART 1	SM PART #1 DUE	TT: CH #15
			QUIZ #3 (TOOLS)	SG p. 1-22 & 49-60
7	3.13	SPRING BREAK!		
8	3.20	COSTUMES	BB REFELECTION	TT: CH # 7 & 8
		[GUEST LECTURER : SAM GARWOOD]		BH: p. 200-202
9	3.27	KNOTS / RIGGING	QUIZ # 4 (COSTUMES)	BH: p. 84-107
10	4.3	STAGE MNGMT. PART 2 / SAFETY PART 2	SM PART #2 DUE	SG: p. 31-48 &151-173
			QUIZ #5 (KNOTS)	
11	4.10	SCENERY		TT: CH # 3
				BH p. 235-241 & 270-285
12	4.17	PAINT / PROPS	QUIZ #6 (SCENERY)	TT: CH #12
		[GUEST LECTURER : JESS GOEROLD]		BH: p. 25-29
13	4.24	STAGE MNGMT. PART 3 / SOUND & VIDEO	PART #3 DUE	TT: CH # 9 & 10
14	5.1	LIFE SKILLS 101	MS REFLECTION	TT: CH #15
		[GUEST LECTURER : JARED KLEIN]	SIGN-UP FOR FINAL	

^(**) DENOTES CLASSES FOR WHICH SHOP APPROPRIATE ATTIRE IS NECESSARY

TT = TECHNICAL THEATER FOR NONTECHNICAL PEOPLE

BH = BACKSTAGE HANDBOOK

HSG = THE HEALTH & SAFETY GUIDE FOR FILM TV & THEATER

[TEXTS]

<u>Technical Theater For Nontechnical People</u>, Drew Campbell (3rd Ed.)

Backstage Handbook by Paul Carter (3rd Edition)

The Health & Safety Guide for Film TV & Theater, Monona Russol (2nd Ed.)

Introduction to Theatrical Design and Production, Judy Ryerson [**SUGGESTED**]

The Pocket Reference Guide by Thomas J. Glover (3rd Edition) [**SUGGESTED**]

[GRADE BREAKDOWN]

15% Class Participation

10% Seminar Responses

30% Quizzes

25% Company Lab Work

20% SM Paperwork

[PRODUCTION REQUIREMENTS]

PRODUCTION CREW:

Each student will fulfill responsibilities on a production crew for one Skidmore Theater Company production during the semester. Possible areas of responsibility: lighting or paint crew. [10 HOUR MINIMUM]

AND

PRODUCTION LAB / SHOP HOURS:

Each student will work in the scenic or costume shop for a regular two (2) hour period each week of the semester. During this time you will be trained in the use of tools and materials, and will work on the scenic or costume elements for Skidmore Theater Company Productions. [20 HOUR MINIMUM]

[STRIKE]

Production students will be called upon to attend strike for **ONE** of the two seminar shows. Please refer to the production calendar for strike dates. If you are unable to attend one of the strike dates, please let me know as soon as possible so we can ensure that you are called for the other one.

[HOURS TRACKING]

Production students are responsible for tracking their hours at the end of **EACH** work session. There are binders in each workspace for the appropriate crews.

[IMPORTANT NOTES]

- If you work in the costume shop in **TH 129** (production) then you will work in the scenic shop when you take **TH130** (design) and vice versa.
- These hours may be used towards the 20 hour commitment in Skidmore Theater Company TH235

[SKIDMORE COLLEGE - POLICY]

LAND ACKNOWLEDMENT

"The Theater Department at Skidmore College acknowledges that we reside on the lands of the Haudenosaunee, Muheconneok, Kanienkehaka, and Abenaki peoples."

"In the Saratoga Springs region, we are living on the territories of the Haudenosaunee, Muheconneok, Kanienkehaka, and Abenaki peoples. We thank the elders of these tribes for their stewardship of these lands. We acknowledge that it is the violence and genocide of settler colonialism that has afforded us the privilege to occupy these lands. We recognize that land acknowledgement is only a first, small step towards building ethical, reciprocal, and reparative relationships with the indigenous, Native, and First Nations peoples of this hemisphere."

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are expected to follow the Skidmore College Honor Code and code of conduct to the fullest extent. A recommendation of a maximum penalty will be recommended for all violations of the Honor Code.

HONOR CODE

I hereby accept membership in the Skidmore College community and, with full realization of the responsibilities inherent in membership, do agree to adhere to honesty and integrity in all relationships, to be considerate of the rights of others, and to abide by the college regulations.

HONOR CODE STATEMENT FOR EXAMINATIONS

While taking this examination, I have not witnessed any wrongdoing, nor have I personally violated any conditions of the Skidmore College honor code.

ACCOMMODATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES AND PROVIDING ACCESSIBILITY

If you are a student with a disability and believe you will need academic accommodation, you must formally request accommodation from Meg Hegener, Coordinator of Student Access Services (mhegener@skidmore.edu). You will also need to provide documentation which verifies the existence of a disability and supports your request. For further information, please call 580-8150 to contact Student Academic Services in Starbuck Center.

CONSCIENTIOUS RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE POLICY

If religious observances cause absence from class, campus employment, athletic practice, and/or game days or necessitates accommodations, students should notify their faculty, coaches, or supervisors prior to the date(s) of their absence. New York State policy and Skidmore College policy mandates that students be allowed to make up academic work and/or campus employment requirements without penalty. These accommodations should not reduce the overall expectations of a course nor unduly burden the student requesting accommodation. Faculty must permit students to take a makeup examination without any penalty if they have to miss an examination due to religious observances. Similarly, faculty must permit students to submit missed assignments by an agreed upon due date, without penalty.

Although not required, the College highly recommends that students submit written notification of the pending religious observances at the start of the semester or at least one week before the date. As an option, students may use this form. Distributing the written notification during the first week of classes, campus employment, or the start of the athletic season gives students, faculty, coaches, or supervisors time to prepare for the absence.

If a student, supervisor, coach, or faculty member feels the policy is being violated, they should contact the Dean of Faculty Office at 518-580-5705 (Palamountain 416), the Dean of Students Office at 518-580-5760 (Case Center 313), or Human Resources at 518-580-5800 (Barrett Center first floor).

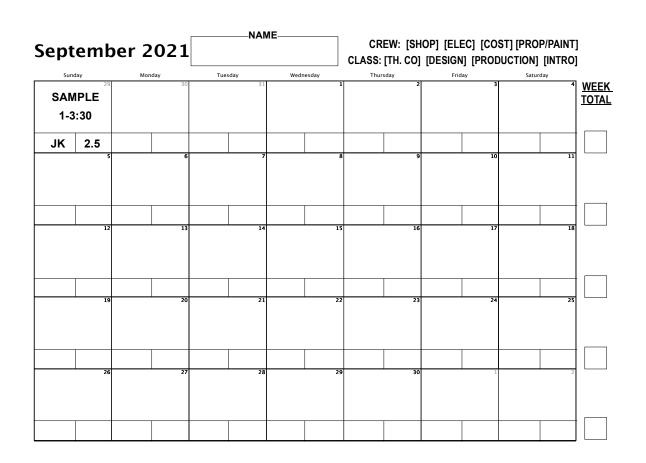
DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Skidmore College is committed to fostering a diverse and inclusive community in which members develop their abilities to live in a complex and interconnected world. Consistent with our educational mission, we recognize ourselves as a community that respects individual identities based on varying sociocultural characteristics such as race, ethnicity, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, national origin, first language, religious and spiritual tradition, age, ability, socioeconomic status and learning style. We strive to create a socially just world that honors the dignity and worth of each individual, and we seek to build a community centered on mutual respect and openness to ideas—one in which individuals value cultural and intellectual diversity and share the responsibility for creating a welcoming, safe and inclusive environment. We recognize that our community is most inclusive when all members participate to their full capacity in the spirited and sometimes challenging conversations that are at the center of the college's educational mission.

SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED MISCONDUCT: TITLE IX STATEMENT

Skidmore College considers sexual and gender-based misconduct to be one of the most serious violations of the values and standards of the College. Unwelcome sexual contact of any form is a violation of students' personal integrity and their right to a safe environment and therefore violates Skidmore's values. Sexual and gender-based misconduct is also prohibited by federal and state regulations. Skidmore College faculty are committed to supporting our students and upholding gender equity laws as outlined by Title IX. If a student chooses to confide in a member of Skidmore's faculty or staff regarding an issue of sexual or gender-based misconduct, that faculty or staff member is obligated to tell Skidmore's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Deputy Coordinator. The Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Coordinator will assist the student in connecting with all possible resources for support and options for reporting both on and off campus. Identities and details will be shared only with those who need to know to support the student and to address the situation through the college's processes. If the student wishes to confide in a confidential resource, the Counseling Center Staff, Health Services, and Victim Advocates (anonymous) are all options available.

More information can be found at the Sexual and Gender-Based Misconduct website or by contacting the Title IX Coordinator, Joel Aure (jaure@skidmore.edu), 580-5708, or Deputy Coordinator for Student Affairs, Gabriela Melillo (gmelillo@skidmore.edu), 580-5022.



[CREW/LAB SIGN-UP SHEET]

SELECT 1 SHOP & 1 LAB!				
NAME				
SCENE SHOP				
[Monday - Thursday — 10-1 & 2-5:30 // Friday — 10-2:30] (2 consecutive hours per week)				
1ST CHOICE DAY TIME				
2ND CHOICE DAY TIME				
[OR]				
COSTUME SHOP (Verify 2 hr per week w/ Patty or Sam)				
DAY TIME				
PRODUCTION CREW // 10 HR MINIMUM [CIRCLE 1 SHOW & 1 ROLE]				
SHOW: (BLACK BOX) OR (MAIN STAGE)				
ROLE: (LIGHTING CREW) OR (PAINT CREW)				
[LEARNING/LAB AGREEMENT]				
I have read and understood the syllabus – asked for any needed clarification – and agree to take ownership of my learning in class as well as on production and to abide by the the Skidmore College honor code.				
STUDENT PRINT STUDENT SIGNATURE				