STAGECRAFT
THEA 2370                Spring ’14
Sections 1 & 2           TTh 12:30-1:45 PM
Corpus Christi Hall, CCH 209

Instructor               Kevin Loeffler   Chair       J. Don Luna
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Email                    Kevin.Loeffler@tamucc.edu   Email       Don.Luna@tamucc.edu
Office hours             MWF 10 am-12 pm, TTh Appt.   Office       Bay Hall #333
Office                   RM 373

Objective:
The objective of this course is to teach students the skills necessary to actively contribute to the technical aspects of theatrical productions. Students will learn skills and knowledge related to the various technical fields including scenery, lighting, sound, props and painting. Through lecture, discussion, readings, hands-on experience and various projects and quizzes, students will become fluent in technical terminology and practices. By the end of this course, students will be able to contribute effectively to the various production aspects involved in technical theatre, especially within the theatre department at TAMUCC.
This class is taken in conjunction with THEA 1101 Theatre Production Lab.

Student Learning Objectives:
1. The student will learn proper theatre terminology and language related to technical theatre.
2. The student will demonstrate proper safety practices for working in the various shops and as part of a production.
3. The student will successfully demonstrate skills and practices related to various areas of stagecraft through proper application.
4. The student will demonstrate the ability to translate design documents into the appropriate technical documents needed for execution in a theatrical production.

Course Requirements:
1. Stagecraft is designed to maximize student learning through lecture and hands-on experience. Because of this, attendance is mandatory to ensure the successful completion of the course. Final grades will be reduced for unexcused absences.
2. Students will be assigned several hands on projects. These projects will be large enough in scope that they may not be completed within the given class time each week. Students are expected to work on these projects outside of class as necessary to complete them on time.
3. Students are required to come to each class having prepared any given assignments/readings for that day. Students are also expected to come to class with the necessary materials to work efficiently each day based on the schedule laid out in the syllabus.
Grading:
Grades for Stagecraft will be based on the following criteria: attendance/participation, completion of assignments/projects as detailed, quiz scores and the final project. Taken into consideration for each assignment/project will be completeness of work, growth and understanding of materials.
Grading for this course will be as follows:
Attendance/Participation – 150 pts.
Production Lab Timesheet – 50 pts.
Tool Training Completion – 50 pts.
Pinewood Derby Assignment – 50 pts.
Scale Rule Assignment – 25 pts.
Layout Assignment – 25 pts.
Cut List Assignment – 50 pts.
Taping out a Ground Plan Assignment – 50 pts.
Rigging Assignment – 50 pts.
Lighting Assignment – 50 pts.
Sound Assignment – 50 pts.
Qlab Assignment – 25 pts.
Props Assignment – 25 pts.
Paint Assignment – 25 pts.

QUIZZES: *Will include questions from assigned readings as well as from lecture*
Tool Quiz – 100 pts.
Materials Quiz – 100 pts.
Knots Quiz – 100 pts.
Electricity Quiz – 100 pts.
Sound Quiz – 100 pts.

FINAL PROJECT – 500 pts.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance/Participation</td>
<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td>550</td>
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<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>500</td>
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<td>Final Project</td>
<td>500</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>1700</td>
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Grading Break Down
A= 1700 – 1551
B= 1550 – 1401
C= 1400 – 1251
D= 1250 – 1101
F= 1100 – 0

LATE ASSIGNMENTS/PROJECTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED UNLESS ACCOMPANIED WITH AN EXCUSED ABSENCE! (or with prior consent from instructor)
Attendance:
Excused absences will only be granted at the discretion of the instructor, given proper accompanying paperwork is provided (doctor’s note, note from parent regarding death in the family) and signed. Excused absences will also be given for proper, documented religious holidays. Each unexcused absence will result in a full letter grade drop. More than 3 unexcused absences will result in a failure of the course. Extreme circumstances may come up and should be discussed with the instructor to resolve any foreseeable disputes.

Lateness:
Class will start promptly and in conjunction with the stated time listed at the top of this document. Arrival 10 minutes after this time will result in a loss of participation points for that day. Arrival fifteen minutes or later will result in an unexcused absence for that day. Time management is an important asset in this business and will not be taken lightly.

Cell Phones/iPhones/iPods/iPads/etc.
The use of cell phones and all other personal electronic equipment, not necessary for medical reasons, is not permitted. The use of these items in class is a distraction. Checking of these items during class, even for the time, will result in a loss of participation points for the day.

Tools:
Pencils (not mechanical)
Eraser
Architects Scale Ruler (not engineers, they are different)
Notebook (Bound papers for taking notes, completing assignments)
Ability to print assignments (mostly in black and white)
*If you have a tool set/tool bag, please feel free to bring them and store them in a locker outside of the scene shop for use during your work hours.

Other materials may come up, but are not required for the course. They may be purchased at the students expense to further communicate their ideas.

You are expected to come to class prepared with the materials necessary to work productively on the task assigned on that day according to the calendar. Failure to do so will result in a loss of participation points for that day.

Materials:
Materials listed below will be discussed in detail the first day of class. Textbooks may be shared only if it does not interfere with each student completing assigned tasks out of the textbook. It should be said that the book(s) assigned will be useful to any student wishing to pursue a career in this field.
**Textbooks:**
Illustrated Theatre Production Guide  
John Holloway  2\textsuperscript{nd} Edition  

**Recommended Texts:**
- Theatrical Design and Production  
  J. Michael Gillette  
- The Backstage Handbook  
  Sally Friedman Carter

**Expectations:**
Your initiative, enthusiasm and willingness to explore unfamiliar ground are crucial to your understanding of the material presented. Always come to class prepared to work with adequate supplies and materials. Remember, theatre is a collaborative art and its success depends entirely on all members of a production working as one.

**Schedule:**
*Note: This schedule is subject to change throughout the semester. The instructor will try to give proper notice, but it is not guaranteed.*

*Chapters are listed on the day they are expected to be read by.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weeks</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Readings:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1</strong></td>
<td>1/23</td>
<td>Introduction, Shop Safety</td>
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| **Week 2** | 1/28        | Hand & Power Tool Training | Ch. 16  
|          | 1/30        | Saw Tool Training     | Ch. 17  
| **Week 3** | 2/4         | Fasteners & Materials | Ch. 14 & 15  
|          | 2/6         | Tool Quiz, Shop Drawings & Scale Rulers |
| **Week 4** | 2/11        | Layout, Flats & Platforms | Ch. 18  
|          | 2/13        | Rigging & Knots       | Ch. 3 & 4  
| **Week 5** | 2/18        | Materials Quiz & Pinewood Derby | Ch. 5  
|          | 2/20        | *Cabaret Opens – thru March 2\textsuperscript{nd}  
|          |             | Taping out a Ground Plan & Knots Quiz | Ch. 2  
| **Week 6** | 2/25        | Electricity           | Ch. 6 & 7  
|          | 2/27        | Wiring & Light Boards | Ch. 8  
| **Week 7** | 3/4         | Lighting Fixtures & Electricity Quiz |
|          | 3/6         | Lighting Plots & Paperwork | Ch. 9  
<p>| <strong>Week 8</strong> | 3/11        | SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS |
|          | 3/13        | SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS |</p>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>3/18</td>
<td>Hang, Gel &amp; Focus</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3/20</td>
<td>Hang, Gel &amp; Focus</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>3/25</td>
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<td>3/27</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>4/1</td>
<td>Sound Theory &amp; Terminology</td>
<td>Ch. 11</td>
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<td>4/3</td>
<td>Sound Equipment</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>4/8</td>
<td>Sound Board &amp; Patching</td>
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<td>4/10</td>
<td>Sound Quiz &amp; Patching</td>
<td>Assignment</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>4/15</td>
<td>QLab &amp; Editing</td>
<td>Ch. 12</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4/17</td>
<td>QLab &amp; Editing</td>
<td><em>The Ladies of the Camellias Opens – thru April 20th</em></td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>4/22</td>
<td>Props &amp; Paperwork</td>
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<td>4/24</td>
<td>Props Construction</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>4/29</td>
<td>Painting Tools and Practices</td>
<td>Ch. 22</td>
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<td>5/1</td>
<td>Painting Techniques</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Final Project Q&amp;A</td>
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<td>Final</td>
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**Policies:**

**Compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act:**
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall, Room 116. If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

**Sexual Harassment:**
This course will observe the university’s policy for avoiding sexual harassment.

**Academic Integrity Policy:**
Scholastic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will be prosecuted to the fullest extent. You are expected to have read and understood the current issue of the university and departmental handbooks regarding student responsibilities and rights, and the intellectual property policy, for information about procedures and about what constitutes acceptable on campus behavior. Please note you will Fail the course at minimum and be dismissed from the university as one repercussion maximum.
**Grade Appeal Process:**
Students who feel that they have not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in this class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, cla.tamucc.edu/students/studentinfo.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean.

**Academic Etiquette:**
Respect for ALL persons at ALL times. Universities must maintain standards of etiquette in order to create an atmosphere conducive to learning. You are expected to demonstrate courtesy to one another in and out of the classroom.

**Academic Advising:**
The College of Arts and Humanities requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College's Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E, and can be reached at 825-3466.

**University Islander Email:**
All students are now required to sign up for their university email account. All communication from the university, department and professor will be sent to your university account.