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THE 550 Theatrical Design

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2021

Instructor: Andrea Williams

Office Location: PAC 107

Office Hours: By appointment

University Email Address: Andrea.Williams@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: **e-mail**

Communication Response Time: M-8:00 am through F- 5:00pm within 24 hours

This course will meet weekly via Zoom, unless otherwise specified.

COURSE INFORMATION

Required Text & Materials:

Theatrical Design and Production: An Introduction to Scene Design and Construction, Lighting, Sound, Costume, and Makeup By J. Michael Gillette and Rich Dionne
8th edition

Another Part of the Forest by Lillian Hellman

Anna in the Tropics by Nilo Cruz

Semester Viewing:

***Recipe of Life* by Jaylan Fennell**

Directed by Jaylan Fennell

Produced over Zoom by the University Playhouse at A&M Commerce

February 23rd – 28th, with live broadcast on the 23rd and the 26th at 7:30pm.

The New Play Development Series

Title TBD

Directed by Rebecca Worley

Produced as a stage reading via Zoom by the University Playhouse at A&M Commerce

April 13th – 18th, with live broadcast on the 13th and the 16th at 7:30pm.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Tickets are available for a nominal fee from the University Playhouse Box Office. You may make reservations by email at playhouseboxoffice@tamuc.edu. All of the shows will be offered through streaming and if you don't get a ticket you won't get the code to access the site.

Course Description

Provides the student with the basic knowledge of theatrical design. Familiarizes students with the methods, materials, vocabulary, concepts and processes involved in the design of scenery, costumes, lighting and sound for theatre production. Emphasis of this course will be on the process of how to design, how to think like a designer, and how to communicate as a designer.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Recognize and utilize design terminology, color theory and visual composition to communicate conceptual ideas for a theatrical design.
- Interpret analysis of text into design ideas using research and visual inspiration.
- Demonstrate insight into text and design idea development by using images to convey ideas.
- Demonstrate the ability communicate visually.
- Write critically using analytical thinking to analyze a script for design needs.
- Demonstrate research skills in writing and presenting information to a group.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Projects:

Design exercises (20 pts. Each)	100-200 pts
Anna in the Tropics – Analysis	50 pts
AITT Design Boards, ideas	30 pts
AITT Designs	100 pts
Another Part of the Forrest – Analysis	50 pts
APOTF Design Boards/Idea	30 pts
APOTF Designs	100 pts
Research Paper & Presentation (2)	150 pts
Total:	610 – 710 pts

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

- A = 90%-100%
- B = 80%-89%
- C = 70%-79%
- D = 60%-69%
- F = 59% or Below

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Assessments

You will be graded on the progression of your own work not how it compares to someone else's. We all start at different artistic skill levels, I want to see how you incorporate assessment and practice not how well your work stacks up against someone else's.

A grade of "A" will not be assigned to any individual who has not completed ALL class assignments; regardless of average.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

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COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement:

If at any time during this course you are in need of further explanation or should need to speak with me about the course or its outcomes, please reach out to me. I am always available by email. Please communicate, I can't help if I don't know there's an issue or a question.

Email Policy:

Before sending me an email with a general course-specific question, **review your syllabus/look at the handouts/check myLeo Online/ask a classmate first**. If your question has already been addressed in one of those places, then you will have the answer you need. If your question does not exist, please feel free to email me.

When emailing me: Please make your emails clear and concise, written with proper grammar in order to assure my earliest attention. In addition, please follow some common "email etiquette" procedures in order to keep our electronic communication effective and efficient. Specifically:

- Write a relevant subject line (e.g., "Theatrical Design question," or "THE 550 meeting request")
- Address me by name (ie: "Dear Professor Williams" or "Hi Andrea" or just "Andrea")
- Bonus: "meaningless niceties" are never a bad idea!
- Concisely state what it is you need. If it can't be communicated in a concise manner, perhaps request an appointment. **If requesting an appointment**, give me times that you are available **in the initial email!!!** It helps things go faster if I have your availability to compare to mine.
- Use a "sign-off" ("Thank you" is always good) and **sign your name**.

Not following these guidelines potentially puts you at the bottom of my list for response time.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Late Work:

I do not accept late work.

Extra Credit:

Can be offered at the discretion of the instructor.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

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Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

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 have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

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COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Wk 1 – Chapter 1, Design exercise 1
January 13th

Wk 2 – Chapter 2, Chapter 4 Discussion,
January 20th

Wk 3 – Chapter 5, Chapter 6
January 27th

Wk 4 – Chapter 9, Design Exercise 2
February 3rd
Paper #1 Due
Profile Presentation(s)

Wk 5 – Chapter 14 Design Exercise 3
February 10th
Profile Presentation(s)

Wk 6 –, Chapter 18, Design Exercise 4
February 17th

Wk 7 – Research Methods, Design Exercise 5
February 24th
Paper #2 Due

Wk 8 – Anna in the Tropics Analysis due, Discussion
March 3rd
Profile Presentation(s)

Wk 9 – Idea Board, Visual Themes for Anna in the Tropics
March 10th
Profile Presentation(s)

Wk 10 – Work on Designs, meet as needed
March 24th

Wk 11 – Anna in the Tropics Designs due
March 31st

Wk 12 – Another Part of the Forest Analysis Due, Discussion
April 7th

Wk 13 – Idea Board, Visual Themes
April 14th

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Wk 14– Work on Designs, Meet at Needed
April 21st

Wk 16 – **Finals Week**

Final will be Wednesday April 28th at 4:30pm

Final – Scenic, Costume, and Lighting Designs for Another Part of the Forest

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