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THEA 366 001, Scene Design I

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2021

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Cade M. Sikora
Office Location: PAC 103
Office Hours: By appointment
Office Phone: 903.886.5338
Office Fax: Who faxes anymore?
University Email Address: Cade.Sikora@tamuc.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: **email**
Communication Response Time: Within 24 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Materials Required

Architect's Scale Rule
Black Foamcore (as needed)
18" Straight Edge (or larger)
White Bristol Board or Matboard (as needed)
Drafting supplies: either digital (CAD) or traditional (pencils, eraser, triangle, tape)
X-acto Knife & Blades
Cutting Mat (12"x18" or larger)
Sketch Pad, 9"x12"
Scissors, Glue, Craft Supplies (as needed)

Textbook(s) Required

The Whale by Samuel Hunter
Picasso at the Lapin Agile by Steve Martin

[isbn.nu/9780573701665](https://www.isbn-international.org/view/title/9780573701665)
[isbn.nu/9780573695643](https://www.isbn-international.org/view/title/9780573695643)

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Bouncers by John Godber

isbn.nu/9780822201380

Viewing Required

The Addams Family Musical

Directed by Duncan Michael

Produced in the Main Stage by the University Playhouse at A&M Commerce

October 19-24

In the West

Directed by Rebecca Worley

Produced in the Main Stage Studio Theatre by the University Playhouse at A&M Commerce

Play #1 – September 29-October 4; Play #2 October 27-November 1; Play #3 November 16-21.

Optional Texts and/or Materials

An Introduction to Theatre Design. Di Benedetto, Stephen.

isbn.nu/9780415547543

Course Description

Student Learning Outcomes At the completion of this course, students will have a fuller understanding of:

1. The scene design process [script analysis, research, drawing/drafting, model-making]
2. Model making techniques
3. Presentation skills and strategies
4. The typical production process and the members of the production team

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Skills

While minimal technical skills are required for this class, students will need to be able to use basic crafting tools like scissors and glue sticks, and intermediate tools such as X-acto knives.

Instructional Methods

Students will learn through lectures, readings, discussions, and projects.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course.

GRADING

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

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

Total points corresponding to the final letter grades

- A = 90 - 100 Points
- B = 80 - 89 Points
- C = 70 - 79 Points
- D = 60 - 69 Points
- F = 59 & > Points

Reading Responses (3 @ 5pts each)	15 pts
Model Box	5 pts
Production Responses (2 @ 5pts each).....	10 pts
Midterm Quiz.....	10 pts
Show Concept / Research Project	15 pts
Rough Model.....	10 pts
Prelim Drawings	5 pts
Final Drawings	10 pts
<u>Final Model and Design presentations</u>	<u>20 pts</u>
Total	100pts

Assessments

1. Following the reading of each play, students will write a 1-2 page response to the script, noting themes, scenic needs, specific challenges, etc. These topics will be discussed in class. A double-spaced format akin to MLA is required.
2. Students will construct a model box of our proscenium space to use for their final project. They will be evaluated on stability, cleanness, and the general construction of the box.
3. Following attendance of the department's productions, students will write a 1-2 page response to the productions, noting their impressions, how the design and technical elements supported the production, whether the designs were successful, etc. A double-spaced format akin to MLA is required.
4. The midterm quiz will focus primarily on vocabulary and technical information about theatrical spaces, scenic techniques, etc. It will *not* be about the play scripts to be read for class, nor will it be about the productions we will see for class.
5. After having read the three scripts required for the class, students will select a script to create a full design for and will present a scenic concept and research to the class.

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6. Using skills from in-class activities and based on their research, students will build a rough model of their scenic design and present it to the class in an *informal* presentation. Evaluation will be based on completeness and general effectiveness of design as they work toward a finished piece.
7. Students will create a preliminary scale ground plan and front view sketch of their design. Evaluation will be based on completeness and general effectiveness of the design as they work toward a finished piece.
8. Considering feedback from previous projects, students will create a finished ground plan, front view sketch, and model box and present these to the class as their final design. Evaluation will be based on overall completeness, communication of the design, effectiveness of the design, and consideration of previous feedback.

Please note that more information and resources for these assignments and projects will be available online and/or in class when the assignments are given.

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

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use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor. Before contacting your Instructor, double check the syllabus and relevant course materials to be sure that your question has not already been answered. When contacting your Instructor, be clear and concise about your questions, observations, and or concerns.

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>

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 feel free to reach out to me. I am always available by email and will make every effort to respond within 24 hours of receiving your email.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Late Work: I do not accept late work.

Extra Credit: Can be offered at the discretion of the instructor.

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).

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

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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](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf>

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

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

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

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

Fax (903) 468-8148

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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.

A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

Department or Accrediting Agency Required Content

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COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Date	Topic/Activity	Assignment Due
Mon Aug 30	Introduction to class / Syllabus	
Wed Sept 1	Theatre Architecture / Spaces	
Fri Sept 3	Intro to Design / Elements of Design	
Mon Sept 6	No Class - Labor Day	
Wed Sept 8	Common Scenic Terms	
Fri Sept 10	Script Analysis/Concept	
Mon Sept 13	Discussion	<i>The Whale Response Due</i>
Wed Sept 15	Spaces tour	
Fri Sept 17	Spaces Discussion	
Mon Sept 20	Model-Making Intro / Design Activity	Bring model-making stuff
Wed. Sept 22	Design Activity / Model Theatre	Bring model-making stuff
Fri. Sept 24	WORK DAY (at PAC or at home)	Bring model-making stuff
Mon Sept 27	Discussion	<i>Picasso/LA Response Due</i>
Wed Sept 29	WORK DAY Model Theatre	Bring model-making stuff
Fri Oct 1	WORK DAY Model Theatre	Model Theatre Due
Mon Oct 4	Materials / Structures	
Wed Oct 6	Materials / Structures	
Fri Oct 8	Flex Day	
Mon Oct 11	Discussion	<i>Bouncers Response Due</i>
Wed Oct 13	Midterm	Midterm
Fri Oct 15	Review Scripts / Research and Ideas	
Mon Oct 18	Intro to Final Project	Select Script to Design
Oct 19	<i>The Addams Family Musical opens</i>	
Wed Oct 20	Research and Prelim Ideas	
Fri Oct 22	The Addams Family Musical walk-thru	
Mon Oct 25	Concept / Research Presentations	Research Projects Due
Wed Oct 27	Presentations Pt II / 3D Sketching	Bring Sketching materials
Fri Oct 29	WORK DAY (at PAC or at home)	<i>Addams Family Response Due</i>
Mon Nov 1	Drawing / Drafting	Bring Drafting Supplies
Wed Nov 3	Drawing / Drafting Workday	
Fri Nov 5	WORK DAY (at PAC or at home)	
Mon Nov 8	Color Renderings	Prelim Drafting / Sketches Due
Wed Nov 10	Color Renderings Workday	
Fri Nov 12	WORK DAY (at PAC or at home)	
Mon Nov 15	Review Final Project Reqs	
Nov 16	<i>In the West opens</i>	
Wed Nov 17	<i>In the West</i> walk-thru	Color Renderings Due
Fri Nov 19	WORK DAY (at PAC or at home)	

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Mon	Nov 22	Work day	Bring model-making stuff
Wed	Nov 24	No Class – Thanksgiving Break	
Fri	Nov 26	No Class – Thanksgiving Break	
Mon	Nov 29	Work day	Bring model-making stuff
Wed	Dec 1	Presentations	<i>In the West</i> Response Due
Fri	Dec 3	Presentations Pt II / Work Day	Preliminary Design Due Bring design work
Mon	Dec 6	Work day	
Wed	Dec 8	Desk Critiques	Bring design work
Fri	Dec 10	Desk Critiques	Bring design work
Wed	Dec 15	Final Exam from 10:30-12:30	Final Design Package Due

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