



THEA 212 001, Scenic Design

COURSE SYLLABUS: FALL 2021

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Cade M. Sikora
Office Location: PAC 103
Office Hours: M/W 10-12:00
Office Phone: 903.886.5338
Office Fax: Who faxes anymore?
University Email Address: Cade.Sikora@tamus.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: e-mail
Communication Response Time: M-F within 24 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Required Text & Materials:

Fundamental of Theatrical Design by Karen Brewster & Melissa Shater

Required Viewing:

A Year with Frog and Toad

Directed by Jackie Rosenfeld

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

October 10-14 at 7:30pm, October 15 at 3:00pm

Thanksgiving Play

Directed by Angela Vaughn

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

November 14-18 at 7:30pm, November 19 at 3:00pm

Thanksgiving Play

Directed by Angela Vaughn

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

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

November 14-18 at 7:30pm, November 19 at 3:00pm

Our ticketing is done entirely through Eventbrite. Our page is located at <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/dept-of-theatre-texas-aampm-university-commerce-34067403123>, and we can be found via the Eventbrite app as well. You can follow our Eventbrite page for immediate updates when tickets go on sale.

Technology Required and Recommended

In addition to a computer to access course materials, students will need access to a printer to print out blank ground plans and select paperwork with they will fill out for their final project. Alternatively, students can use an AutoCAD or Vectorworks program to do this (but that is expensive).

Students will also need access to a camera to take pictures of their model box, rough model, and finished model for the final project.

Students may wish to utilize a webcam (or similar) to partake in group meetings and check-ins with the Instructor to receive feedback as they progress through the course. Additionally, a webcam may be used to record students' final presentations if desired.

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.
- Analyze a script for design purposes
- 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.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Skills

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

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Instructional Methods

Students will learn through virtual lectures which will be posted periodically, readings, and projects. A semi-regular group meeting time to discuss topics, questions, and concerns will be scheduled if possible.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

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

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

Projects:

Design exercises (2x2.5 pts, 7x5 pts)	40 pts
Production Responses (2x5 pts)	10 pts
A Play Analysis / Concept	10 pts
A Play Rough Designs	10 pts
A Play Finals	30 pts
<hr/> Total:	<hr/> 100 pts

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.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Attendance

You are allowed 3 unexcused absences for the semester. After that every unexcused absence will result in a full letter grade drop from your final grade. If you have 7 unexcused absences, you will fail this course. If you are more than 10 minutes late that counts as tardy and for every 2 times tardy = unexcused absence.

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

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

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.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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 without legitimate excuses or a plan for submission. If you are concerned that you are unable to submit work in a timely fashion, let me know as soon as you can and we can create a plan.

Extra Credit:

Can be offered at the discretion of the instructor.

Be resourceful: Times are wild right now and sometimes things are not going to work the way we plan, even if we have tried the plan before. If life throws you a curveball that affects your work in this class, do not despair; think outside the box. Do not feel limited by the way you might be expected to do things; if you have a great idea for how to accomplish something, try it.

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](#).

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

<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 [Procedures 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

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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.

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

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

AI use policy [Draft 2, May 25, 2023]

Texas A&M University-Commerce acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty

13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty

Department or Accrediting Agency Required Content

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Date	Topic/Activity	Assignment Due
Mon Aug 28	Introduction to class / Syllabus	
Wed Aug 30	Discussion	Read Chapter 1: Script Analysis

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Fri	Sept 1	Discussion	
Mon	Sept 4	Discussion	Read Chapter 2: The Objectives of Theatrical Design
Wed	Sept 6	Discussion	Read Chapter 4: Collaboration
Fri	Sept 8	Discussion	
Mon	Sept 11	Discussion	Read Chapter 5 Design Elements
Wed	Sept 13	Field Trip!	
Fri	Sept 15	In-class work	Due: Design Exercise 1 (2.5 pts)
Mon	Sept 18	Discussion	Read Chapter 6: Design Principles and Visual Composition
Wed	Sept 20	In-class work	Bring Drawing Materials
Fri	Sept 22	In-class work	Due: Design Exercise 2 (2.5 pts)
Mon	Sept 25	Discussion	Read Chapter 7: Scenic Design
Wed	Sept 27	In-class work	
Fri	Sept 29	In-class work	Due: Design Exercise 3 (5 pts)
Mon	Oct 2	Discussion	
Wed	Oct 4	In-class work	
Fri	Oct 6	In-class work	Due: Design Exercise 4 (5 pts)
Mon	Oct 9	Discussion	Read Chapter 8: Costume Design
Tue	Oct 10	<i>A Year with Frog and Toad opens</i>	
Wed	Oct 11	In-class work	
Fri	Oct 13	No Class – YFT Morning Show	
Mon	Oct 16	Discussion	Due: Design Exercise 5 (5 pts)
Wed	Oct 18	In-class work	
Fri	Oct 20	In-class work	Due: Design Exercise 6 (5 pts) Submit Production Response by 11:59pm
Mon	Oct 23	Discussion	Read Chapter 9: Lighting Design
Wed	Oct 25	In-class work	
Fri	Oct 27	In-class work	Due: Design Exercise 7 (5 pts)
Mon	Oct 30	Discussion	
Wed	Nov 1	In-class work	
Fri	Nov 3	In-class work	Due: Design Exercise 8 (5 pts)
Mon	Nov 6	Discussion	Read Hand-out: Projection and Media Design
Wed	Nov 8	In-class work	
Fri	Nov 10	In-class work	Due: Design Exercise 9 (5 pts)
Mon	Nov 13	Discussion	Read Chapter 3: Research, Read A Play
Tue	Nov 14	<i>Thanksgiving Play opens</i>	
Wed	Nov 15	Discussion	
Fri	Nov 17	Discussion / Final Project intro	

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Mon	Nov 20	Small group work	Due: A <i>Play</i> Analysis
Wed	Nov 22	No Class – Thanksgiving Break	Submit Production Response by 11:59pm
Fri	Nov 24	No Class – Thanksgiving Break	

Mon	Nov 27	Discussion	Due: Concept Presentations
Wed	Nov 29	Presentations	Concept Presentations
Fri	Dec 1	Presentations	Concept Presentations

Mon	Dec 4	Independent work	Rough Design Presentations
Wed	Dec 6	Independent work	Rough Design Presentations
Fri	Dec 8	Independent work	Rough Design Presentations

Wed Dec 13 Final Exam from 8:00-10:00 Due: Final Design Presentation

If you are the first person to find this text box, Cade will buy you a soda from the vending machines in the green room or something of equal value.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.