



THE 550 Theatrical Design

COURSE SYLLABUS: Summer II 2024

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Professor: Andrea Williams
Office Location: PAC 107
Office Hours: By Appointment via Zoom
University Email Address: Andrea.Williams@tamuc.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: email
Communication Response Time: Monday 9am – Friday 4pm within 24 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Required Books/Materials:

Fundamentals of Theatrical Design by Karen Brewster & Melissa Shafer
ISBN: 978-1-58115-849-6

Mr. Burns, a post-electric play by Anne Washburn (no specific copy or edition)

You will need to create art for this class, so you will also materials needed to do so. Either programs to do it digitally or select art materials for doing it by hand. If doing it by hand you need better quality than Crayola and computer paper. Drawing paper and colored pencils can be very versatile, and the brand Windsor-Newton is available on Amazon and caters to art students with affordable yet quality materials.

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, and lighting 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.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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

Instructional Methods

This course will be taught via Zoom and utilizing d2l for assignments and handouts.

Zoom Link: <https://tamuc.zoom.us/j/96951752969>

Meeting ID: 969 5175 2969

GRADING

Projects:

Design exercises (10 pts. Each)	100 pts
Mr. Burns Analysis	75 pts
Mr. Burns Design Boards/Roughs	50 pts
Mr. Burns Designs	150 pts
Research Paper & Presentation	75 pts

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

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

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Students will need access to d2l and a zoom account.

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

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.

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 reach out to me. I am always

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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," or "THE 550 question")
- 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.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Late Work:

Late work accepted at the discretion of the instructor. Please realize that often assignments build on each other and we only have 5 weeks, it's difficult to catchup if you fall behind.

Extra Credit:

Can be offered at the discretion of the instructor but is not guaranteed.

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.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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:

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

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

Gee Library- Room 162

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

Fax (903) 468-8148

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

All chapter reading assignments are from "The Fundamentals of Theatrical Design"
Some of the exercises in the assigned chapter we will do as in class exercises
some might be assigned for further homework.

Week 1: Intro to Course and expectations, Analysis, Language, Research
Chapter 1&2 Due

Week 2: Basics of Scenic, Costume, Lighting
Due: Chapter 3; Designer paper & presentation

Week 3: Chapter 7,8,9 – In class work/lecture/discussion
Due: Mr. Burns Analysis

Week 4: How to Present designs and Ideas – Peer critique
Due: Mr. Burns Inspiration Boards, Rough Designs

Week 5*: Final=Presentation of Final designs for Mr. Burns, In class Peer Critique

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.