



aClass Information and Objective(s)

This course is an introduction to theatre production; specifically a survey of technical techniques in scenery, properties, and lighting for the theatre. The goal of this class is to introduce construction techniques, personnel, materials, and equipment used in scene shops, prop shops, and lighting shops from Broadway to academic theatre. At the end of the semester, you should be prepared to:

- Hang and focus conventional lighting fixtures
- Be comfortable with a variety of hand and power tools
- Distinguish cost, benefits, and usage of building materials
- Develop skills in theatrical wood working, electricity, sound, and/or scenic painting
- Understand technical drawings and paperwork
- Participate in individual and group critiques of projects and processes developed in class

Class time will include lectures, demonstrations, and presentations. Please silence your cell phones during class. Also note that the use of technology other than that necessary to take notes will not be tolerated during class time.

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 Office Hours: by appointment

Safety

There is a dress code for this class. All participants must wear close-toed shoes, tie back long hair, take off dangling earrings, necklaces, & bracelets, and remove rings. Participants may not wear skirts, dresses, or flowing clothing during class; nor may participants wear clothing that would expose cleavage or one's lower backside. It is recommended to wear jeans with a belt, t-shirts, and sneakers to class. This is for the safety of all participants as we explore elements of the scenic and lighting studios. If lecturer deems clothing inappropriate for class, students will be sent home with no credit towards attendance and class participation.

Participants will also be required to read and sign the studio safety guidelines placed on WISE.

Text Book and Materials

All texts and material may be found on WISE and are mandatory for this class. The texts includes projects due for class as well as the scene studio safety guidelines. Readings and support materials will also be located on WISE and are meant to aid in the process of learning and study. You will also be

required to read Bertolt Brecht's *Mother Courage and Her Children* and see Willamette University Theatre's *Smashed* and *People Dance*. *Mother Courage and Her Children* is readily available at your local bookstores. *Mother Courage and Her Children* will be used to spur many of our projects while viewing the plays will be important for class discussions. I highly recommend attending the preview nights as they are (a) less expensive and (b) are not as likely to sell out.

You will be expected to supply the following materials for class: Architectural scale ruler, 24" t-square, triangle, 1/2" field template (see Rachel), drafting pencils, drafting erasure, erasure shield, protractor, and design velum that is at least 24" wide.

Grading Policy

Attendance: Due to the way in which this course is taught, class attendance is mandatory. A missed class will constitute a severe drop in one's grade. Prompt attendance is also required. Tardiness and Absences are considered synonymous. Lateness is defined by (1) not in class at appointed time or (2) come to class after I arrive - whichever is the later.

Participation: Active participation in class discussion is expected and will be a factor in each student's grade. The participation grade will be based upon thoughtful contributions in discussion and other class exercises. All in-class projects will have a group critique attached to the assignments. Each student is required to participate in group critiques. Active participation in group critiques will count as 25% of the assignment as well as participation credit for the day.

Group critiques are fundamental to the process of collaborating on a theatrical production. At their heart, the group critiques come from a place of openness and generosity. Asking hard questions is an important part of the process, however mean spirited critiques will not be tolerated. Each student is asked to participate in each critique so that the work grows. Students will have the opportunity to adjust work based on the critiques given in class.

Assignments: Projects and quizzes will be due at the beginning of class. Quizzes will not be taken at an additional time and late projects will be levied -5% percent per day. The projects will be graded on your ability to finish the project and the time and care you have put into each project. Neatness and accuracy will be primary attributes considered in all projects graded (as these qualities are very important to theatre production.)

Scenic Studio Hours: Each student will be expected to spend 3 hours a week in the scenic studio. You may break your 3 hours in one of two ways: (a) one time slot of 3 hours or (b) two time slots of 1.5 hours each time slot. Your time in the shop **MUST BE CONSISTENT**. For example, if you sign-up for Wednesday afternoons from 1-4, you will be expected to be in the scenic studio every Wednesday this semester from 1-4. If you miss your hours, you will not be given the opportunity to make them up. For those of you in work-study and scholarship hours, these hours are in addition to those already established hours. You must sign-in and out each time you work and have E.J, myself, or a scenic studio supervisor initial that you worked those hours. If you do not sign-in and out, then you must make up those hours. The purpose of your scenic studio hours is to give you hands-on experience in the scenic studio. The time you spend there is important. Be sure to ask questions about tool use, materials, and theatrical process.

All materials must be labeled with your first and last name. All materials (minus the hand drafted materials) must be placed in the drop box on WISE before class time.

I will use the grade descriptions outlined in the CLA Catalogue: (A) excellent; (B) good; (C) satisfactory; (D) below standard; and (F) failing.

The following is the grading breakdown for this term:

Attendance: 25%
 Class Participation: 25%
 Projects, Quizzes, & Exams: 35%
 Scenic Studio Hours: 15%

If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make arrangements to meet with me as soon as possible. Also, please request that the counselor for students with disabilities send a letter verifying your disability.

It is my intent that students from all diverse backgrounds and perspectives be well-served by this course, that students' learning needs be addressed both in and out of class, and that the diversity that students bring to this class be viewed as a resource, strength and benefit. It is my intent to present materials and activities that are respectful of diversity: gender, sexual orientation, disability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, race, culture, perspective, and other background characteristics.

Plagiarism will not be tolerated in this class. The OED defines plagiarism as, "the action or practice of taking someone else's work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one's own; literary theft". Willamette University's plagiarism policy can be found in the College of Liberal Arts Catalog.

Class Assignments	Quiz 1	the studio and the theatre
	Quiz 2	Mother Courage and her Children
	Review:	<i>Smashed</i>
	Review:	<i>People Dance</i>
	Lab Sheet	Safety Form
	Project 1	Ground Plan & Elevation
	Project 2a	Properties Budget
	Project 2b	Properties Research Project
	Project 3	Lighting Instruments
	Project 4	Light Plot, Channel Hookup, Inspirational Images
	Project 5	Hang and Focus

Class Schedule	8/30	Introduction/Theatre Personnel
	9/1	Studio Tour/Theatre (the buildings)
	9/6	Tools.Hardware
	9/8	Design Process Quiz 1
	9/13	Drafting please bring your supplies
	9/15	Drafting Day. Quiz 2 due

9/20	Drafting Day.
9/22	Drafting Day.
9/27	Materials: Wood Project 1 due
9/29	Materials: Metal & Plastics
10/4	Discuss Project 2a-b (what the heck is a prop?)
10/6	What is a production budget?
10/11	What are shop drawings & material lists? Project 2a due
10/13	Knots
10/18	Group Critique of Project 2b & Smashed Review due
10/20	Group Critique of Project 2b cont.
10/25	Basic Electricity, Dimmers & Circuits Project 2b due
10/27	Lighting Instruments
11/1	Color Project 3 due
11/3	Degrees, Foot Candles, Color Temperature
11/8	Lighting for Different Theaters & Discuss Project 4
11/10	Light Plot and Paperwork
11/15	Light Plot and Paperwork cont.
11/17	Drafting Day
11/22	Drafting Day People Dance Review due
11/24	Thanksgiving (no class)
11/29	Drafting Day
12/1	Group Critique of Project 4
12/6	Group Critique of Project 4 cont.
12/8	Light Hang and Focus Project 4 due
12/15	2PM-5PM Final Exam (Project 5 due)