

**THEATRE 2210**  
**Production II with Lab**

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Basic theories and practice of theatrical production. Areas of study include stage properties, drafting, scenic design and lighting. Prerequisite: Theatre 2200 or consent of instructor. In addition, students work backstage two afternoons per week constructing sets for The Millsaps Players. **NOTE: Theatre 2212 (production lab) must be taken concurrently -- students will head a crew (props, lights, sound, etc.) for one production this semester.**

II. REQUIRED TEXT AND MATERIALS:

Gillette, Theatrical Design and Production, Mayfield, 2000, 4th ed.

All plays listed in syllabus

T-square; 2 triangles 45-90 and 30-60-90; architect scale rule; 4H, 2H, HB pencils, newsprint, eraser.

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES:

To prepare students to execute the responsibilities of beginning designer/technicians in the areas of drafting, properties construction, scenic design and lighting. Having satisfactorily completed the requirements for this course students will be able to:

1. Analyze a script and determine required elements, style and period.
2. Read and interpret simple blueprints
3. Hang, focus and gel lighting instruments.
4. Calculate electrical loads and requirements.
5. Install a plug or connector.
6. Wire a simple series and parallel circuit.
7. Design a set for the proscenium stage
8. Prepare a graphic presentation or model of the design.
9. Draft working drawings for the design.

IV. STUDY SECTIONS:

1. Stage Properties
2. The Design Process
3. Style, Composition and Design
4. Scenic Design
5. Mechanical Drafting
6. Electrical Theory and Practice
7. Lighting Production

## V. GRADING SYSTEM:

			SCALE:	
Tests	4 @ 100	400	93%-100%	A
Projects		600	86%-92%	B
Homework and In Class Assignments		200	78%-85%	C
Cards		100	66%-77%	D
		1300	below	F
TOTAL		1300		

## VI. ASSIGNMENTS

1. Tentative Reading and Exam Schedule: See end of syllabus.
2. PROJECTS: You have several major projects to complete this semester. They are:

## A. Set Design:

Colored Model or Rendering	300 pts
Working Drawings	100 pts
Floor Plan	100 pts

- B. Wire a series and parallel circuit: 100 pts

3. HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS: assigned periodically throughout the semester:  
Total 100 pts

A. Short paper entitled, "What is Design"	25 pts
B. Design and Present a New Fruit	25 pts
C. Design and Present a Collage of Selected Play	25 pts
D. Library Research	25 pts
E. Drafting homework	100 pts

4. CARDS: annotated readings to be submitted for each of the following plays: 20 pts. each if on time -- Total 100 pts.

			<u>Date Due</u>
A. <u>House of Blue Leaves</u>	John Guare		Jan 24
B. <u>A Man for All Seasons</u>	Robert Bolt		Feb 11
C. <u>Candida</u>	G. Bernard Shaw		Mar 07
D. <u>The Glass Menagerie</u>	Tennessee Williams		Apr 04
E. <u>The Philadelphia Story</u>	P. Barry		Apr 18

Annotations are to include, but are not limited to (you know the drill by now):

1. Your name, play's title and author,
2. genre, theme, and period, number of acts/scenes, and settings.
3. Major characters with a brief description, numbers of men and women.
4. Synopsis including dramatic structural elements, point of attack, crises, climax, and denouement.
5. Your reaction/evaluation.

Perhaps Dr. Sypniewski's discussion of theme will help you:

"A theme often refers to some abstract principle, rather than a synopsis of the plot. It is not usually possible to reduce a theme to one word. Themes give meaning to a story; teach us something about life, most effectively in a non-didactic way. It gives a reason for telling this story aside from sheer entertainment value, and a reason for remembering it; optimally, it validates our experience."

Characterization is an understanding of what makes a particular character "tick". Dramatic works tell us how about the characters only by what they say or do. Remember that lyrics are often conveyers of character and theme.

5. Class Attendance (applies to lab as well):

Tardiness and poor attendance will lower your grade. You are allowed three (2) unexcused absences. Each additional absence will lower your final grade by 1%. Excused absences are only those where the instructor was notified ahead of time or where the student can supply a written doctor's excuse for the day in question. **80% attendance required to pass.**

You may **not** "make-up" an assignment due on a day you receive an **unexcused** absence. This means a "0".

**NOTE: Late assignments** A one (1) week extension will be offered for assignments if the student makes a WRITTEN REQUEST at least one (1) week prior to the due date. Late work will be penalized 10% per day, including weekends.

VIII. EXAMS

Tests are given at the end of each section covering the text, lectures, the plays, and any handouts given in class. No comprehensive written final.

IX. PRODUCTION LAB:

I. THE SHOP (Backstage work) -- this is ½ of your Theatre 2212 grade.

The lab consists of work in the shop constructing, setting up, rigging, and painting scenery for departmental productions (senior projects count as extra credit). Grades are determined by:

1. Number of hours spent in lab. Students are required to work backstage 4 hours per week, a total of 60 hours. **ANYTHING LESS IS UNACCEPTABLE.** This means an "F". Your choices for lab are Monday and Wednesdays from 3:00 to 5:00 **or** Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:00 to 5:00; this is a regular scheduled class and you may **not** substitute. Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays will count as extra credit if you have fulfilled your obligations, but do **not** substitute for normal lab hours UNLESS you have made prior arrangements with me.
2. Quality of time spent backstage.
3. Progress made during the semester.
4. Attitude, dependability, promptness, and ability to adapt to new challenges and situations.

Students provide their own pencil, tape measure, and mat knife for **every lab**. A time sheet is provided by the instructor; every lab please fill in your sheet and have the instructor or shop foreman initial your work. Hours not initialed **will not count**. It is your responsibility to get the signature. The time sheet are turned into the instructor at mid-term and at the end of the semester.

II. CREW ASSIGNMENTS – this is ½ of your Theatre 2212 grade.

Each student will be assigned to a lighting, property, or stage crew for one of the major productions. You are required to be present at crew call, set-up, rehearsals involving your crew, every night of the show and production meetings for your assigned show (production meetings are in my office, CC-18, every Thursday at 11:30 a.m.). You will be directly

responsible to the Crew Chief, Technical Director, or Designer while the show is in production; and to the Stage Manager while the show is in performance. **You will turn in a 1 page written account of your crew work (due one week after the last performance);** this, along with the recommendation of your supervisor will determine your grade. Because of the amount of time required by crew assignments, **it is STRONGLY SUGGESTED that you do not act in a show you wish to crew.** This means that you should only act in one (1) show per semester while taking Production.

Dates for Spring Players' Productions.

Feb 17, 18, 19, 20	<b>Lend Me a Tenor</b>
Apr 07, 08, 08, 10	<b>Nonsense</b>

#### TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Jan	10	Introduction and begin discussing props	
	12	Chapter 11: Stage Properties	
	14	Stage Properties -- Motley	
	17	<b>No Class</b> Martin Luther King Day	
	19	Fire Arms and Safety (Larry Wells or Security)	
	21	Foam Cutting demo and practice	
***	24	Positive/Negative molds & Vac-u-form Demo	
	26	Molds & Celastic	
	28	Effect Properties; Parker & Smith 343-349	
	31	<b>Test #1</b>	
Feb	02	Chapter 2: The Design Process	<b>Paper: "What is Design"</b>
	04	Model building	
	07		
	09	Chapter 5: Style, Composition, and Design	<b>"Fruit Design"</b>
***	11		
	14		
	16	Chapter 7: Scenic Design	
	18	Mechanical Perspective - bring drafting tools to class	
	21		
	23		
	25	<b>Test #2</b>	
	28	Chapter 20 -- Mechanical Drafting	
Mar	02	Drafting Symbols and Conventions	
	04	Types of Drawings	
***	07	In class drafting	
	09	In class drafting	
	11	In class drafting	
	14	<b>Test #3</b>	
	16	In class work on student designs	
	18	<b>No Class</b> GOOD FRIDAY SUBSTITUTION	

21  
 23                    SPRING BREAK  
 25  
  
 28    Chapter 13: Electrical Theory and Practice  
 30    The Power formula  
 Apr  01   Typical Problems  
  
 \*\*\*   04    Series and Parallel; Electrical current  
       06    Chapter 14: Lighting Production, Lenses and Lamps  
       08  
  
       11    Reflectors; Lighting Instruments ERS  
       13    Lighting Instruments and how to focus  
       15    Dimmers types and the Gating Principle  
  
 \*\*\*   18    Control Consoles  
       20    Cables and Connectors  
       22    Wiring Project in Class  
  
 FINAL EXAM PERIOD —   **Test #4    Monday, April 25, 2005**