THEA 142 Production Lab

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Introduction and expectations

The Production Lab course is an introduction to aspects of theatre operations, design and technology, an immersion-learning experience in which you take part in bringing professional-quality theatre events to opening night. This course explores practical applications for operations leadership, project management, team development, construction techniques, and resource coordination.

Actual assignments will depend on projects derived from the Department of Theatre production season. Appointments may include assistant technical director, properties coordinator, designer or assistant designer and stage management positions.

By participating in this course students will demonstrate processes needed for a positive working relationship with team members, will demonstrate and evaluate the roles and functions of leadership and team membership and will work together as a team to analyze and solve problems.

Textbook and Supplies

This course has no required textbook. Individual projects may be informed by materials and textbooks assigned by the supervising faculty member.

Class Schedule

Actual lab responsibilities vary widely and may include evening and weekend activities. The schedule of lab events, project target dates and responsibilities will be negotiated at the beginning of the semester with the supervising faculty member.

Grading

Participation component (30% of final grade)
This component of the final course grade is determined by the student attending all agreed-upon project activities and related events during the semester, which may include design conferences, shop hours, production meetings, rehearsals and performances.

Teamwork, Initiative, Skills Development component (50% of final grade)
Your final course grade will also be determined by the quality of your work. Your grade will be calculated based on the instructor’s observation of your teamwork, professionalism, positive attitude, punctuality, effort to improve, and willingness to learn. Special attention will be paid
to collaboration, development of leadership skills and conscientious application of relevant
design skills as demonstrated by faculty.

**Documentation Component (20% of final grade)**
Although actual documentation will vary based on assignments and responsibilities,
Production Lab activities will result in student-generated materials documenting the
work on the course. Examples may include design and construction diagrams, cue
plots, properties tracking plots, stage management reports and contact sheets, etc.
Written work will be graded by professional academic assessment of organization,
spelling, insight, engagement with the material and clarity. Easily avoidable errors
including evidence of inadequate proofreading and editing will result in drastic grade
reductions.

**Course Policies**

- Late assignments will not be accepted. Exceptions may be considered only with
  special needs documentation from the office of the Dean of Student Life.
- Any requests for learning disability special accommodations must be made
during the first two weeks of class. Documentation is required.
- The instructor recognizes each student is an adult responsible for his or her academic
  experience. Under no circumstances will the instructor discuss a student’s grade or
course progress with anyone other than the student or the student’s academic advisor.
- Students should review the department policy and procedure manual and familiarize
  themselves with the expectations and guidelines for their production assignments.