

# **Theatre Arts 10 – Introduction to Design**

**Syllabus** Summer 2016

**Professor David Lee Cuthbert**

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Office Hours Mondays 12:30-1:30 or by appointment

Class Meets – E100, Monday and Wednesday, 9am-12:30

## **Course Objective**

Using the framework of theater production, students explore the process of translating a script into visual performance cues. Topics include: visual literacy, color theory, the research process, creative problem solving, collaboration and team building, and soundscapes. This course is a prerequisite for all upper-division design courses.

In this course, we will look at all of the aspects that designers must address when designing a play— from the pre-production research and text analysis to the technical rehearsals and preview before the play opens.

## **Required Text**

*Theatrical Design and Production, 7<sup>th</sup> edition.* ISBN-13: 978-0073382227

Available in the bookstore

You will also be required to obtain:

3 Scantrons (Parscore f-1712) and #2 Pencils for exams.

## **Class Format**

This class is organized as a series of lectures and projects—it is your responsibility to take down notes at each class meeting. Though there are visual slides in the course, you will not have access to them outside of class lectures. Lecture material will show up on midterm and final exams. Roll will be taken on random days.

## **Evaluation**

20% Attendance & Participation

10% Two Design Critiques

20% Two in class Exams

10% First Project

20% Final Project

20% Final Exam

## **Design Critiques**

You will write two design critiques of shows you see this quarter. Topics covered can include how the design supported the text, the director's interpretation, the actors as well as the integration of the audience. Due 8/8 and 8/17.

One additional project will be due on 8/1. This will be explained in class.

### **Final Project**

The final project will be individual work within a collaborative structure. That is, a group of 4 might include individuals presenting as a scenic, lighting, costume and sound designer. Work will be submitted individually, but you will present as a group to the whole class. Much more on this to follow. Groups will present on 8/24.

### **Attendance**

This course moves very quickly through a variety of topics, all of which will come into play for your final project. Missing any class will prove problematic. Your evaluation will reflect poor attendance after 2 class absences, and your grade will be affected.

### **Collaboration**

Theatre is a collaborative art. In a community of artists all working towards one goal, there is little room for slacking. We don't move opening night because one person didn't get his or her job done in time, and we don't hold the house until 8:30 because someone's car didn't start. As such, late assignments will not be accepted, and repeated absences or lateness will result in grade reduction.

### **Integrity**

The official UCSC policy governing Academic Integrity is available at [http://www.ucsc.edu/academics/academic\\_integrity/](http://www.ucsc.edu/academics/academic_integrity/). Suspected cases of plagiarism or other cheating will be handled strictly according to those policies. If you have any questions about what exactly constitutes plagiarism, read [http://www1.ucsc.edu/academics/academic\\_integrity/undergraduate\\_students/resources.html](http://www1.ucsc.edu/academics/academic_integrity/undergraduate_students/resources.html) and talk to me. No behavior that constitutes cheating, plagiarism, or any form of misconduct (including submitting a paper to me that has been submitted to another class) will be tolerated in this class for any reason. If you get caught, in other words, you automatically receive an "F" for the class and may no longer attend the class sessions. In addition, the professor may choose to pursue more stringent academic disciplinary action, which may include your expulsion from the university.

### **Accommodation**

UC Santa Cruz is committed to creating an academic environment that supports its diverse student body. If you are a student with a disability who requires accommodations to achieve equal access in this course, please submit your Accommodation Authorization Letter from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) to me privately during my office hours or by appointment, within the first two weeks of the quarter.

### **Late Work/Missed Exam Policy**

No late work accepted or late exams proctored. There is no extra credit for this course. In extreme cases (personal hospitalization/immediate family death) an alternate method of evaluation will be substituted, but these cases must be clearly documented with email warning before the missed class occurs to the course instructor and the submission of follow-up official documentation from medical or mortuary authority.

Theatre Arts 10 Schedule			
		Summer 2016	Cuthbert
Week	Date	Topic	Reading due
One	7/25	Course overview	
		Design in Theater - Portfolio	
One	7/27	Elements of Design, design terms	Chapt 1 & 5
		Hamlet Style/Color	Midsummer
Two	8/1	History of Design	Chapt 3 & 6
		IIPP – Project #1	
Two	8/3	Exam # 1	Chapt 2
		Design Process	True West
Three	8/8	The Stage	Chapt 4 & 9
		Scenic Design/ 1st Critique	
Three	8/10	Scenic Construction	Chapt 10 & 13
		Props	Zoot Suit
Four	8/15	Costumes/ Exam #2	Chapt 18 - 20
		Cost Construction/Makeup	
Four	8/17	Lighting Production/ 2 <sup>nd</sup> Critique	Chapt 16 & 14
		Lighting Design	TBD
Five	8/22	Sound	Chapt 21 & 17
		Media and Projections	
Five	8/24	Final Project Presentations	
		Final Exam	

**Important DATES:**

Drop Deadline – August 1st

Withdraw Deadline – August 12th

**Other Resources:**

**Academic Advising**

Academic advising is offered year-round; hours will vary by college. Students can contact their colleges to find out when advising is being offered or visiting [advising.ucsc.edu](http://advising.ucsc.edu)

**Counseling & Psychological Service**

Counseling & Psychological Service are available year-round. <http://caps.ucsc.edu/>