

**DRAMA 130: STAGECRAFT  
FALL 2008**

Dra 130: Stagecraft. A lecture - laboratory course involving the student in problems of scenery construction and rigging for the theatre.

**Professor:**

Lyle B. Miller, Professor of Performance in Technical Theatre and Stage Design, B.F.A. (in Design and Technical Theatre), University of Oklahoma, M.F.A. (in Design), University of Oklahoma.

**1. Goals and Objectives of the course:**

- A..To develop an understanding of the basic concepts and principles of scenery and prop construction.
- B. To develop the skills and knowledge needed to safely work with the tools and equipment found in the scenic studio and backstage environments.
- C. To demonstrate the proper techniques of scenery and prop construction.
- D. To help develop their creative and problem solving skill.

**2. Instructional Materials**

**A. Text:**

Required Gillette, J. Michael. Theatrical Design and Production, Palo Alto, California: 6 th Edition, Mayfield Publishing Co. 2000.

Suggested: Carter, Paul. Backstage Handbook, New York, New York: 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, Broadway Press. 1988.

**B. Materials:**

Interwrite PRS Clicker

**3. Office Hours**

**Office:** Laidlaw Performing Arts Center. Room #1044      Phone 460-6305  
Office hours: 1:25 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. WF, 9:30 am to 11:30 am TR

**Studio hours:** 2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. MWF, 1:15 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. TR.  
or by Appointment.

**4. Class Attendance Policy:**

Students are expected to attend all class meetings.

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**Other Class Requirements:**

- A. Participate in class discussions
- B. Read all assignments as scheduled
- C. Take all Exams, Tests, and or Quizzes
- D. Attend ALL Theatre USA's productions. **ADMISSION CHARGED**
- E. Complete and all projects and assignments as assigned and on time
- F. Complete any and all group assignments

**5. Exams:**

There will be 4 exams and 1 comprehensive final scheduled throughout the semester (see attached). All students **MUST** take all exams and the final to pass the class. Failure to take one or more exams and or the final will result in a failing grade regardless of the their class grade.

The number and scheduling of quizzes will be administered "as needed" based on students preparation and class participation. Students will not receive advance notice of quizzes. Missed quizzes can not be made up.

**6. Make Up Work:**

Work (exams, projects, etc.) may be made up only if approved in advance or under extreme conditions (i.e. Illness, death, etc.). Arrangements to make up work missed " under extreme conditions " must be made prior to the start of class on the first day you return to class. Failure to make proper arrangement will result in not being able to make up missed work.

**YOU MUST COMPLETE ALL WORK TO RECEIVE A PASSING GRADE.**

Quizzes given at the beginning of the class period will have a time limit on taking each test. Late comers will have to complete the tests in the remaining time.

Missed quizzes can not be made up.

**7. Class Assignments:**

Additional class/group assignments and projects will be determined and assigned during the semester as needed.

**8. Penalty For Late Work:**

For Exams see above.

For other assignments, penalties will be established and explained with each assignment or project.

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9. Grade Evaluation:

A. Exam #1	15%
B. Exam #2	15%
C. Exam #3	15%
D. Exam #4	15%
E. Quizzes / Group Projects	10%
F. Comprehensive Final Exam	20%
G. Shop Credit	10%
TOTAL	100%

The instructor reserves the right to modify the number of exams and their percentage weight. Students will be written notice of any changes.

10. NOTICE:

**"In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, students with a bon fide disabilities will be afforded reasonable accommodation. The Office of Special Student Services will certify a disability and advise faculty members of reasonable accommodation."**

11. Since all classes do not progress at the same rate, the instructor reserves the right to modify the above requirements or their timing as circumstances dictate. For example, the instructor reserves the right to change the number and frequency of exams, or the number and sequence of assignments.

Questions, suggestion, discussions are welcome, as are office visits. I will be happy to assist you in any way with the class. Please do not hesitate to ask.

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**Exam & Quiz Bonus Points:**

Bonus points can be earned through group effort. The Class will be randomly divided into group of approximately 5 students. The groups may be modified at any time by the instructor. Bonus point will be distributed as follows:

Quizzes:	25 points each
	If every member of the group scores between.
	22.5 to 25 points      3 bonus points
	20 to 22.5 points      2 bonus points
	17.5 to 20 points      1 bonus point
	0 to 17.5 points      0 bonus points

**Exams**

	If the group average is
95 to 100	12 bonus points
90 to 95	10 bonus points
85 to 90	8 bonus points
80 to 85	6 bonus points
75 to 80	4 bonus points

Bonus points will be added to your quiz or exam grade.  
Bonus points will not be available on the final exam.

**Shop Credit:**

As part of the "Shop" Grade, you can earn credit by working in the scene shop during the semester. Credit will be based on 1. The number of hours you work, 2. Your attitude and willingness to work, 3. The quality of your work base on your skill level, 4. Your development & 5. Dependability & reliability of your work schedule.

Note: Total number of hours count for 50% of grade and # 2, 3, 4, & 5 for 50% of grade.

90 + hours	(Avg. 6 + hours per week)	= A
60 to 89 hours	( Avg. 4 - 6 hours per week)	= B
30 to 59 hours	(Avg. 2 - 4 hours per week)	= C
15 - 29 hours	(Avg. 1 - 2 hours per week)	= D
>15 hours	(Avg. >1 hour per week)	= No Credit

Note: Assistantship & Dra 101 - 301 hours will count towards shop credit.

\*\*\* See Ms. Smith to arrange work schedule.\*\*\*

Maximum hours per week 15. The department work days do not count towards shop hours. Crewing a show can count for up to 45 of your shop hours. Crew assignment are based on production needs and may not be available for all production or to all class members.

**Group Projects:**

Group Project will be assigned during the semester. All members of the group will share earned credit equally. All member are expected to equally share the responsibilities of completing each project.

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**Tentative Class Schedule**

Aug.	18	M	
	20	W	Chapter 1: Production Organization and Management
	22	F	
	25	M	
	27	W	Understanding working drawings
	29	F	
Sept.	1	M	No Class Labor Day Holiday
	3	W	Chapter 2: The Design Process
	5	F	
	8	M	EXAM # 1 Chapter 1 & 2 + working drawings
	10	W	Chapter 4: The Stage and It's Equipment
	12	F	
	15	M	
	17	W	
	19	F	
	22	M	
	24	W	
	26	F	<i>Spoon River Anthology</i> Sept. 26, 27, 28, Oct. 2, 3, 4.
	29	M	EXAM # 2 Chapter 4
Oct.	1	W	Chapter 8: Tools and Materials
	3	F	
	6	M	
	8	W	
	10	F	
	13	M	
	15	W	
	27	F	
	20	M	EXAM # 3 Chapter 8
	22	W	Chapter 9: Scenic Production Techniques
	24	F	
	27	M	
	29	W	
	31	F	
Nov.	3	M	
	5	W	
	7	F	
	10	M	
	12	W	
	14	F	<i>Tartuffe</i> Nov. 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22
	17	M	EXAM # 4 Chapter 9
	19	W	Chapter 10: Scene Painting
	21	F	
	24	M	Chapter 11: Stage Props
	26	W	No Class
	28	F	No Class
Dec.	1	M	
	8	M	Final (Comprehensive) 10:30 am to 12:30 pm