

THEA 0841 Intro to Theatre Design

Fall 2015

Meeting time: M & W 3:00-4:20pm

PPAC B02

Instructor: John Teacher MFA

PPAC 213 – jgt10@pitt.edu

Office: M, W, F 11:00am-12:00Noon: Tu&Th by appointment only

Required Materials:

“Texts” *Impromptu* by Tad Mosel (and) *Everyman* by Anon (provided)

Mechanical Pencil(s)

Architect’s scale (ruler)

Art Materials—List to follow

One ticket to Pitt-Johnstown Theatre Department’s Fall Mainstage “*Decisions and Choices*”

Nov 18-21 @ 7:30PM and Nov 22 @2:30pm

Overview:

This course is an introduction to designing scenery, lighting, properties, and costume for live theatre. Students will study the duties and functions of the various design positions as well as the techniques and processes utilized by those designers. Emphasis is placed on design as a collaborative process. Students will also study general principals of design.

Objectives/ Outcomes:

During the Course the students will:

- Improve their ability to read and analyze plays with the focus of a designer.
- Understand the importance of visual research and prototyping, and become acquainted with multiple resources to aid the designer in research.
- Develop visual research skills.
- Become familiar with and demonstrate general design principals.
- Understand the various methods designers use to convey their vision to other members of the production team
- Develop rendering, modeling, and drafting skills
- Create scenic and costume designs as well as lighting inspirations

Grading and assignments:

	Percent of final grade	Points
Shoe Box Project	5	50
Groundplan Assignment	5	50
Elevation Assignment	10	100
Study Model Assignment	10	100
Costume Design Assignment	10	100
Lighting Assignment	10	100
Research Assignments	15	150
Show Evaluation	5	50
Final Project (including gallery)	30	300
Total		1000

Class expectations:

Attendance:

Students are expected to be on time for the start of class. Once attendance is taken no changes will be made. Absences are excused only for emergencies, illness and representing the college (participation in sporting events, field trips, etc.) Please schedule all personal appointments at other times.

Students are responsible for keeping track of where in the schedule we are currently, preparing appropriately, and being at the right classroom location. Students are responsible for making up lost time and work due to illness.

For every 3 absences, one letter will grade will be deducted from your grade.

“Final Exam”:

This class does not have a final exam. Instead it has a final project that is required to be displayed at the design gallery. Design Gallery this year is scheduled for Monday Dec 14 from noon-5pm with an “artist’s reception” from 3-5pm. Details on set up will follow. This class WILL STILL MEET during the final exam period on Wed December 16 1:30-3:30pm

Cheating:

It ends badly for those caught. Don't do it.

Students in this course will be expected to comply with the University of Pittsburgh's Policy on Academic Integrity. Any student suspected of violating this obligation for any reason during the semester will be required to participate in the procedural process, initiated at the instructor level, as outlined in the University Guidelines on Academic Integrity. This may include, but is not limited to, the confiscation of the examination of any individual suspected of violating University Policy. Furthermore, no student may bring any unauthorized materials to an exam, including dictionaries and programmable calculators.

Cell Phones and texting:

Don't use them in my class. It is disrespectful to me and to your fellow students. If you have something so important that it trumps this class—take it outside.

Disability Services:

If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and the Office of Health and Wellness Services, G10 Student Union, (814) 269-7119 (voice), (814) 269-7186 as early as possible in the term. The Office of Health & Wellness Services will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course.

** As this course is an art based class requiring visual acuity, students with color blindness are strongly encouraged to present this.

Copyright Notice:

Course materials may be protected by copyright. United States copyright law, 17 USC section 101, et seq., in addition to University policy and procedures, prohibit unauthorized duplication or retransmission of course materials. See Library of Congress Copyright Office and the University Copyright Policy.

Statement on Classroom Recording:

To ensure the free and open discussion of ideas, students may not record classroom lectures, discussion and/or activities without the advance written permission of the instructor, and any such recording properly approved in advance can be used solely for the student's own private use and may not be redistributed in any format.

Everything Else:

All rules and regulations as stated in the various student and university handbooks are enforce at all times in this classroom. The scene shop is designated as a classroom and therefore subject to the same policies.

**This Syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.
In such cases written revisions will be provided to the student.**

M	8-31	Course Introduction. Begin shoebox
W	9-2	Finish/ present shoebox- theatre organization/ place of designers/ Reading as a designer
M	9-7	NO CLASS—HAPPY LABOR DAY
W	9-9	MEET IN LIBRARY 2 nd floor classroom—Visual research
M	9-14	Types of Theatres, Types of sets. Understanding “Scale”
W	9-16	Types of Drawings
		Set Design unit(s)
		--rendering and drafting drawings
		--model types and building
		Costume units(s)
		--rendering costumes
		Lighting unit(s)
		--types and characteristics
		--light renderings
M	12-7	Design Gallery Set up
W	12-9	Design Gallery Set up
M	12-14	(Finals) DESIGN GALLERY noon-5pm. Artist reception 3-5 pm
W	12-16	(FINAL EXAM) 1:30-3:30 pm. Gallery removal, final grades, and AWARDS!