FUNDAMENTALS OF MODERN THEATRE PRACTICE
THEATRE 255
Class Rooms: 0157 Studio Design Pearson Hall and Fisher Theatre
Sp 2015 Rob Sunderman (rsunder@iastate.edu)
MWF 1:10-2:00 Phone: Office 294-4482
Credits: 4 (3 class, 1 studio lab)
Office 2228 Pearson

Studio Lab/ISU Theatre Scene Shop Supervisor: Derek Hisek
Fisher Theatre 294-8478

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The intent of this course is to introduce the student to basic stagecraft, scenic, costume and lighting practices through lectures, labs, and practical experience. Various challenges and solutions encompassing all aspects of technical theatre will be explored and discussed.

COURSE GOALS:
The student will acquire a basic understanding of the craft of theatrical production.
The student will acquire the skills and knowledge to assemble basic costumes
The student will acquire the skills and knowledge to build basic scenery
The student will acquire the skills and knowledge to hang, focus and control lighting

ATTENDANCE: IS VERY IMPORTANT!!!!!!
You will receive 4 excused absences for the class. If you miss class after the 4 excused absences you will receive a notice from me and your grade will drop half a letter grade for each additional class that you miss. This policy will be adhered to stringently. If you come to class late and miss half the class you will be counted as absent. YOU NEED TO SIGN YOURSELF IN EACH CLASS NO EXCEPTIONS!

Late assignments will not be accepted!

REQUIRED TEXT - may be purchased at College Book Store, University Book Store or Varsitybook.com
Scenic Design and Stage Lighting. Stage Fright (optional)
W. Oren Parker, R. Craig Wolf & Dick Block
9th Edition
Wadsworth Cengage Learning
Health & Safety In The Theatre
Monona Rossol
Allworth Press

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT- may be purchased at Lowe’s or Walmart
16'-0" tape measure(optional) safety goggles earplugs pencil

STUDIO LAB:
PRODUCTION PROJECT: You will be required to schedule a three-hour studio lab session each week throughout the semester to work on production projects. It is the intention that these projects be used as an opportunity to become involved in the technical aspects of theatre and to give the student a better understanding of the theatrical process of going from thoughts, concepts, and ideas, to lumber, paint, and light and fabric. The hours work out to 45 total hours. Any extra hours you wish to put in will be considered extra credit and will help your final grade. There will also be REQUIRED studio calls that will not count toward your hour total lab hours. Derek Hisek is the scene shop supervisor and will be monitoring your hours. Lab hours are worth 315pts for the semester or 7pts per hour of lab.

STUDIO LAB SHOP HOURS: All studio lab sessions will meet in the scene shop. It is recommended that old and grubby clothes be worn on lab days since this is "hands on" experience. Hard toed shoes should be worn. NO FLIP-FLOPS/SANDALS OR OPEN SHOES!

Costume Shop hours are: Scenic Shop hours are:
9:00-12:00 & 1:00-5:00 M-F 1:00-5:00 M-F
Additional studio hours will be announced in class
GRADING:
315 pts Lab Attendance  
150 pts Strikes  
75 pts ISU Theatre production Critiques  
120 pts Ushering 6 time (20 pts) (2 per production)  
700 pts Costume, Scenic Painting, Scenic Design and various Projects  
472 pts 5-6 Quizzes  
100 pts Bag Sewing Project  
200 pts Midterm  
200 pts Final  
2332 pts Total (NOTE: This total will most likely change as the semester progresses)

STRIKE CALLS: The following strike calls will be worth 50 pts each for a total of 150 pts. (exact strike call times will be announced by Derek Hisek during lab the week before a strike)

Sunday after the final performance of “Love and Honor” Mar. 8th 4:00 Fisher Theatre  
Sunday after the final performance of “Les Miserables” April. 19th 4:00 Fisher Theatre  
Sunday after the final performance of “On the Verge” May.3rd 4:00 Union Maintenance Shop?

PRODUCTION CRITIQUES: You are required to attend the above list of ISU Theatre productions and fill out a critique that is due a week after the production. Each production critique is worth 25 pts for a total of 75 pts.

USHERING: All students will have to usher for 2 nights per production. Ushering is worth 20 pts per ushered show for a total of 120 pts for 3 productions.

STUDIO SHOP HOURS: All studio lab sessions will meet in the scene shop. It is recommended that old and grubby clothes be worn on lab days since this is “hands on” experience. Hard toed shoes should be worn.

Costume Studio hours are: 9:00-12:00 & 1:00-5:00 M-F  
Scenic Studio hours are: 1:00-5:00 M-F  
Additional studio hours will be announced in class

NOTE:
Students with documented disabilities that may require special accommodations to participate fully in the course are encouraged to speak with the instructor within the first two weeks of the course so that appropriate arrangements can be made.