

University of Arkansas – Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

THEA 1503 Stagecraft

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Prerequisite: THEA 1203 Introduction to Theatre or consent of instructor

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Introduction to technical problems in the production of plays: scenery, lighting, sound, costuming, and makeup.

B. Additional Course Information

This course is an optional requirement for students seeking a theatre minor, and is required for most 4-year degree programs. It may be taken by students in other disciplines as an elective.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify and explain the function of theatrical hand and power tools, scenery pieces, lighting instruments, and sound equipment.
2. Utilize hand and power tools to construct simple 2D and 3D scenery pieces.
3. Understand and follow all rules pertaining to safety regarding the scene shop and theatrical productions.
4. Complete simple projects from line drawings and other drafting templates.
5. Set-up proper lighting and sound reinforcement gear for simple theatrical operations.
6. Operate a sewing machine and build a simple garment from scratch.
7. Apply proper stage makeup for simple characters.
8. Paint scenery and backdrops using fill, texture, and lining techniques.
9. Exhibit a working knowledge of theatrical flying and rigging systems

B. University Learning Outcomes

This course enhances student abilities in the following general education areas:

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking

Analysis of scenic devices and production techniques will lead the students to a deeper understanding of the role of production in theatrical performance. Students will also evaluate artistic scenic techniques for merit and participate in the construction of materials and scenery using exact specifications from blueprints. This will introduce students to the quantitative accuracy necessary for beautiful art to exist. Students will also learn to calculate load numbers in rigging and electrical systems.

Ethical Decision Making

The personal and group responsibility for safety will be one of the primary focuses of the class. Also, an understanding of producing accurate results on time and on budget will be handled.

III. MAJOR COURSE TOPICS

- A. Safety
- B. Hand Tools
- C. Power Tools
- D. Hardware
- E. 2D/3D Scenery
- F. Scenic Painting Techniques
- G. Lighting Basics
- H. Color
- I. Sound
- J. Costume and Makeup Basics
- K. Rigging Basics
- L. Crew Assignments