

University of Arkansas – Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

THEA 2513 Fundamentals of Design

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Prerequisite: THEA 1503 Stagecraft or consent of instructor

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Introduction to the philosophical, critical, and practical processes of design in theatre stenographic art.

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. Explain the design process in the theatre.
2. Introduce form, line, color, shape, and mass into their designs.
3. Produce correct renderings, sketches, and line drawings.
4. Research accurate and useful historical data for creating designs in time.
5. Analyze a dramatic work for the purpose of creating a theatrical design.
6. Create a complete design for three different works of theatre.
7. Evaluate existing designs critically.

B. University Learning Outcomes

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

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking

Analysis of design process will lead the students to a deeper understanding of the role of design in theatrical performance and allow them to make more informed design choices. Research methods for theatrical design and production will be introduced as well as the usefulness of historical records and architecture in design. Utilizing their original ideas, students will learn how to incorporate art into design and put their personal ideas into production and practice.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

The process of working as part of a design team, including the communication tools necessary to develop and demonstrate the design to the production and artistic teams in theatrical settings.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Design Process
- B. Line
- C. Shape
- D. Form
- E. Mass
- F. Color
- G. Rendering and Thumbnails
- H. Line and Working Drawings
- I. Collaboration
- J. Design Analysis
- K. Reflection