

# Stagecraft

TPA 2202C TU/TH 4/5 PERIOD 10:40—12:30 Fall 2019

Course credit : 4 hours

Instructor: Zak Herring Email: zak@ufl.edu

Office Hours MWF 9:30-11:30 – Production Office (G-016) Phone: 273-0524

## COURSE OBJECTIVE:

This course is designed to bring the student into the world of technical theater through lecture, hands on projects and backstage experience. The student will gain knowledge of the stage equipment and safety rules that are essential and mandatory. Basic construction techniques for stage scenery and tool use will be mastered. The production experience, by means of being a member of a backstage crew is not only a requirement of the course, but also a wonderful opportunity for the non-technical students to gain valuable insight into the commitment and dedication required to support the actors on stage.

## GRADING:

Class projects, lab hours, and backstage crew assignments are graded on the student's skill, independence, accuracy, attendance, punctuality, shop manners and above all, the ability to follow safety procedures. A student taking any type of medication that would affect their performance or safety must notify the instructor before the use of any equipment.

## POINT SYSTEM:

Test #1	10 pts
Test #2	10 pts
Test #3	10 pts

## **ALL TESTS ARE CUMULATIVE**

### GRADING SCALE:

Power tool project	5 pts	A	93-100
Hard flat project	5 pts	A-	90-92
Soft Flat project	10 pts	B+	87-89
Caddy project	10 pts	B	83-86
Lab grade	20 pts	B-	80-82
Backstage crew	<u>20 pts</u>	C+	77-79
Total	100 pts	C	73-76
		C-	70-72
		D+	67-69
		D	65-67
		E	Below 65

## CLASS PROJECTS:

Each student will complete the four projects listed above on their own. Any "assembly line" work will result in the complete lost of all points for the project for all students involved.

COURSE SUPPLIES: (required to bring to every class and lab – or lose one point off final grade):

- 1) Architect scaled ruler
- 2) # 2 pencil
- 3) a “Sharpey “ fine point permanent marker
- 4) your own copy of The Backstage Handbook, by Paul Carter, Broadway Press ISBN 0-911747-39-7
- 5) Personal safety glasses and hardhat (supplied by UF)
- 6) Clothing that is suitable to work in during class time and lab. These clothes are likely to get sawdust, paint, oil, or other types of dirt on them. Closed-toed shoes (tennis shoes or work boots, not flimsy shoes) are required to enter the shop also, long pants, no shorts or skirts. No exceptions.
- 7) A copy of this syllabus

#### ATTENDANCE:

The class will be divided into two groups on various days due to the limited number of tools, space and to provide a safer working condition. You must attend class the days marked for your group or you will lose five (5) points off your final grade for each class missed. Make up work or exams will not be accepted without a doctor’s or clinic’s excuse. Students must provide the original excuse to the instructor to be copied and to keep for the records. Any student more than 5 minutes late to class or lab will lose one (1) point off their final grade. The Instructor must be notified by August 23rd of any holidays or religious days that interfere with classes, labs or backstage crew assignments.

#### USE OF EQUIPMENT:

Safety rules must be obeyed at all times (see shop rules painted on the wall in the shop). Any student that feels uncomfortable in the operation of any piece of equipment or job task at any time must immediately discuss the situation with the instructor.

#### LAB HOURS:

Lab hours are designed to give the student addition stagecraft experience in a realized production. Students are given assignments according to observed skill level and needs of the productions. An unexcused absent will result in a loss of three (3) points off final grade. Classroom projects are not to be worked on in Lab. First lab day will be Tuesday, Sept. 3rd and last lab day will be Monday, Nov. 25th.

#### STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students requesting classroom accommodations must first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, [dso.ufl.edu/drc](http://dso.ufl.edu/drc)). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentations to the student who must then provide these documentations to the Instructor.

## CELL PHONES AND LISTENING DEVICES:

Students must keep their cell phones and other devices in their zipped up backpack or lockers during class time and labs. Anyone using cell phone or other listening devices will have one point off final grade per incident. If you are required to have a cell phone, please discuss it with the instructor before class or lab. This is a safety issue and therefore extremely important rule to follow.

## BACKSTAGE CREWS:

A backstage crew contract with a list of the required times for the production will be sign by the student and turned in to the instructor. A copy will be given to the student upon request.

Assignments on the crews are determined by the needs of the production. The stage manager will be instrumental in your grade for your backstage crew. You are required to be on time for all call times that are subject to change by the Production Manager. Anyone who is going to be more than 5 minutes late must call the stage manager and inform them of their tardiness.

Students are required to wear all black clothing for their backstage assignment. You must attend the strike of the production that you are attending for your backstage crew. The crew assignments typically will require the student to be available for 16 consecutive days including 3 week-ends. **If a student cannot accommodate this requirement, they should drop the course.**

AUG	20	CLASS MEETING
	22	HAND TOOLS—GROUP A+B
	27	POWER TOOLS—GROUP A
	29	POWER TOOLS—GROUP B
SEPT	3	POWER TOOLS—GROUP A
	5	POWER TOOLS—GROUP B
	10	POWER TOOLS—GROUP A
	12	POWER TOOLS—GROUP B
	17	TEST #1—POWER TOOL PROJECT DUE (5PM)
	19	HARDWARE—GROUP A+B
	24	STAGE EQUIPMENT—GROUP A+B
	26	HARD FLAT DEMO—GROUP A+B
OCT	1	HARD FLAT—GROUP A
	3	HARD FLAT—GROUP B
	8	TEST # 2—HARD FLAT PROJECT DUE (5PM)
	10	SOFT FLAT DEMO—GROUP A+B
	15	SOFT FLAT PROJECT—GROUP A
	17	SOFT FLAT PROJECT—GROUP B
	22	SOFT FLAT PROJECT DUE (5PM)
	24	SOFT GOODS AND KNOTS—GROUP A+B
	29	INSTRUMENTS AND CABLES—GROUP A+B
	31	HANG AND FOCUS—GROUP B
NOV	5	HANG AND FOCUS—GROUP A
	7	PAINTS AND GLUES—GROUP A+B
	12	CADDY DEMO—GROUP A+B

- 14 CADDY PROJECT—GROUP B
- 19 CADDY PROJECT—GROUP A
- 21 CADDY PROJECT —GROUP A+B
- 26 CADDY PROJECT —GROUP A+B
- DEC 4 TEST #3—CADDY PROJECT DUE (5PM)

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# SIGNATURE PAGE

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
(PRINT NAME)

**Students must print , fill out this page, sign and turn in this portion to Zak by 3p.m., Aug. 23rd, 2019 .**

I have read, asked, received clarification, and understood everything on this entire syllabus.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(student ID number) \_\_\_\_\_ (email) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(cell phone number) \_\_\_\_\_

I will not be in attendance at the University on due to:

\_\_\_\_\_ starting at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock for  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(date) (time) (name of holiday)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
(SIGNATURE)