

**UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA: School of Theatre + Dance**

TPA2202C: *Stagecraft*

Syllabus – Fall 2024

**CLASS:**

Tuesday/Thursday, period 4, 10:40 AM – 11:30 AM, C-218 (design studio of Nadine McGuire Pavilion)

**LAB:**

Friday, periods 7-9, 1:55 PM – 4:55 PM, G-017 (scene shop of Nadine McGuire Pavilion)

**FINAL:**

Finals: Project complete/presentations during lab, Friday, November 22.

Exam: Tuesday, December 10 @ 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

**INSTRUCTOR:**

Rob Leach                      rleach@ufl.edu                      352-273-0542

**OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday/Wednesday, 9:00-10:00 AM, Nadine McGuire Pavilion, room G-016.

**OBJECTIVES:**

This course introduces technical theatre production, primarily scenic, through classroom discussions and research and physical projects. Students will learn materials, techniques, and tools basic to the construction of scenery and will explore associated trades and specialized equipment of the entertainment industry.

**REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

**TOOLS:**

Pen or pencil

16' (minimum length) steel tape measure

Safety glasses, impact rated to ANSI Z87.1 standard, and stamped accordingly. If the glasses don't have this rating on them (i.e. only have it on the package), please don't buy that pair. Please bring all tools to every lab and class.

**IN-PERSON ATTIRE:**

Work clothes: pants (such as jeans or khakis), sleeved shirt, and closed-toe/closed-heel shoes; long hair must be tied back; personal accessories must be removed (i.e., dangling necklaces, wallet chains, watches...). You will be asked to leave and marked absent if you do not have proper attire. Do not wear ear buds/headphones in the scene shop.

**SCHEDULE:**

Assignment narratives will be posted on Canvas; these projects are due at the start of the class associated with their due date. Readings are due next to the date to which they are assigned. Please check Canvas regularly to make sure you are not getting behind on your projects. Lab time will be dedicated to specific projects, but students might need to invest more time outside of the lab for their projects; please note weekly posted shop times.

| Semester week | day      | date   | class # | topic                          | assigned (readings due) | Due (quizzes TBA) |
|---------------|----------|--------|---------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1             | Thursday | Aug 22 | 1       | Introduction, Canvas, syllabus | required materials      |                   |
|               | Friday   | Aug 23 | lab 1   | shop tour, PPE, power tools    | BH: tools 1-13          |                   |
|               |          |        |         |                                |                         |                   |

| Semester week | day       | date   | class #  | topic  | assigned (readings due)                                    | due (quizzes TBA)  |  |
|---------------|-----------|--------|--|--|--|--------------------|--|
| 2             | Tuesday   | Aug 27 | 2  | measurement and scale                          | BH: shop math 205-216                                      | required materials |  |
|               | Thursday  | Aug 29 | 3  | lumber   | BH: lumber 120-130 (*122!!!)                               |                    |  |
|               | Friday    | Aug 30 | lab 2  | shop tools                                     | Triscuit writeup (files), virtual tool box, Interpretation | Biscuit drawing    |  |
| 3             | Tuesday   | Sep 3  | 4  | lumber   | Nominal Versus Actual (files)                              |                    |  |
|               | Thursday  | Sep 5  | 5  | lumber   |  |                    |  |
|               | Friday    | Sep 6  | lab 3  | platform construction                          |  |                    |  |
| 4             | Tuesday   | Sep 10 | 6  | drawings                                       |  | lumber quiz        |  |
|               | Thursday  | Sep 12 | 7  | the cut list                                   |  |                    |  |
|               |           |        | <i>Pipeline</i> opens tonight: congratulations cast and crew!  |  |  |                    |  |
|               | Friday    | Sep 13 | lab 4  | platform construction<br>TBA/on-set discussion | platform presentation available, apple box                 |                    |  |
| 5             | Tuesday   | Sep 17 | 8  | more platform discussion                       |  |                    |  |
|               | Thursday  | Sep 19 | 9  | reassessment/stairs                            | BH: stairs 235-238   |                    |  |
|               | Friday    | Sep 20 | lab 5  |  |  |                    |  |
| 6             | Tuesday   | Sep 24 | 10   | Hardware: simple machines                      | BH: hardware 49-63   |                    |  |
|               | Thursday  | Sep 26 | 11   | general hardware continued                     | BH: hardware 64-83   |                    |  |
|               | Friday    | Sep 27 | lab 6  | apple box                                      |  |                    |  |
| 7             | Tuesday   | Oct 1  | 12   | flats  | BH: flats 276-279  |                    |  |
|               | Thursday  | Oct 3  | 13   | flats  | flat cut list  |                    |  |
|               | Friday    | Oct 4  | lab 7  | apple box                                      |  |                    |  |
| 8             | Tuesday   | Oct 8  | 14   | soft goods                                     | BH: soft goods 280-285                                     |                    |  |
|               | Thursday  | Oct 10 | 15   | soft goods                                     |  | flat cut list      |  |
|               | Friday    | Oct 11 | lab 8  | flat project                                   | flat construction  | apple box          |  |
| 9             | Tuesday   | Oct 15 | 16   | rigging basics                                 | BH: 100-107, 263-267                                       |                    |  |
|               | Wednesday | Oct 16 | <i>Music Man</i> opens tonight: congratulations cast and crew! |  |  |                    |  |
|               | Thursday  | Oct 17 | 17   | counterweight rigging in Constans              |  |                    |  |
|               | Friday    | Oct 18 | lab 9  | HOME COMING—NO CLASS                           | Consider alternate times                                   |                    |  |
|               |           |        |  |  |  |                    |  |

| Semester week | day                 | date              | class #   | topic                                | assigned (readings due)       | due (quizzes TBA)      |  |
|---------------|---------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|--|
| 10            | Tuesday             | Oct 22            | 18  | draw/build project                   |                               |                        |  |
|               | Thursday            | Oct 24            | 19  | draw/build project                   |                               |                        |  |
|               | Friday              | Oct 25            | lab 10  | flat project                         |                               | virtual tool box       |  |
| 11            | Tuesday             | Oct 29            | 20  | paint                                | BH: 134-140                   |                        |  |
|               | <b>Thursday</b>     | <b>Oct 31</b>     | 21  | paint demo                           |                               |                        |  |
|               | Friday              | Nov 1             | lab 11  | paint project                        |                               | flat construction      |  |
| 12            | Tuesday             | Nov 5             | 22  | scenic design                        | BH: architecture plus 239-263 |                        |  |
|               | Thursday            | Nov 7             | 23  | lighting/audio                       |                               |                        |  |
|               |                     |                   | <i>Why Are You Like This?</i> opens tonight: congratulations cast and crew! |                                      |                               |                        |  |
|               | Friday              | Nov 8             | lab 12  | in-lab hardware project              |                               |                        |  |
| 13            | Tuesday             | Nov 12            | 24  | knots                                |                               |                        |  |
|               | Thursday            | Nov 14            | 25  | fire awareness                       |                               |                        |  |
|               | Friday              | Nov 15            | lab 13  | paint/free time                      |                               |                        |  |
| 14            | Tuesday             | Nov 19            | 26  | truck and logistics                  |                               |                        |  |
|               | Thursday            | Nov 21            | 27  | casters and wheels                   |                               |                        |  |
|               |                     |                   | <i>Agbedidi</i> opens tonight: congratulations cast and crew!               |                                      |                               |                        |  |
|               | Friday              | Nov 22            | lab 14  | project presentations                | final exam discussion         | Interpretation project |  |
| 15            | <del>Tuesday</del>  | <del>Nov 26</del> |   | FALL BREAK                           |                               |                        |  |
|               | <del>Thursday</del> | <del>Nov 28</del> |   |                                      |                               |                        |  |
|               | <del>Friday</del>   | <del>Nov 29</del> |   |                                      |                               |                        |  |
| 16            | Tuesday             | Dec 3             | 28  | semester wrap + organizations/unions |                               |                        |  |
|               | Thursday            | Dec 5             |   | Reading day                          |                               |                        |  |
|               | Friday              | Dec 6             |   | Reading day                          |                               |                        |  |
| 17            | Tuesday             | Dec 10            |   | FINAL EXAM<br>3:00 PM - 5:00 PM      |                               |                        |  |

#### EVALUATION:

Students will be evaluated through attendance, participation and professional attitude, successful completion of construction projects, a research project, execution and presentation of a final project, with possible quizzes and practicals. Every semester I teach this class I introduce new projects and alter assignments from other semesters; we will follow the syllabus as a guide, but pending discussion, participation, and production needs could change assignments and associate points. Grades will be calculated by tallying earned points; I anticipate *approximately*

1900 possible points. The following is a **guide** to point distribution, but will not be completely accurate until the end of the semester to reflect actual quizzes and completed projects. Unexcused absences will result in a minimum of a loss of points; lack of participation in class and lab sessions will likewise reduce attendance points. All projects include a category of professionalism.

|                      |                       |  |                  |                |
|----------------------|-----------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| Quizzes & practicals | TBA                   |  | Virtual tool box | 150            |
| Scale project        | 25                    |  | Triscuit         | TBA            |
| Apple box            | 100                   |  | Interpretation   | 300            |
| Flat cut list        | 50                    |  | Drawbuild        | 100            |
| Flat build           | 100                   |  | Class attendance | 290 (10/class) |
| Paint project        | 100                   |  | Lab attendance   | 420 (30/lab)   |
| Knots                | TBA                   |  |                  |                |
| Final exam           | 200<br>(approximated) |  |                  |                |

The final course grade is based on the following percentages (your total points divided by total possible points)

|    |         |    |        |    |        |
|----|---------|----|--------|----|--------|
| A  | 94-100% | B- | 80-83% | D+ | 67-69% |
| A- | 90-93%  | C+ | 77-79% | D  | 64-66% |
| B+ | 87-89%  | C  | 74-76% | D- | 60-63% |
| B  | 84-86%  | C- | 70-73% | E  | 0-59%  |

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

Theatre is a collaborative environment that demands continual support. Your successful completion of this course is based on discussion and participation in class and lab sessions. Attendance is vital. One (1) unexcused absence from class will be permitted without penalty. Two (2) late arrivals and/or early departures = (1) absence. Three unexcused absences is cause for removal from the class. Where appropriate excused absences require documentation. You are responsible for the content an absence skips.

**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:**

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center. [Click here to get started with the Disability Resource Center.](#) It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

**UF GRADING POLICIES:**

Earned grades will align with UF policies; information can be found at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/#gradestext-otp1>

**PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT:**

Please take care of yourself mentally and physically. Accept responsibility for your successes and failures. Earn your grade. Adhere to university policies. Respect your peers, facilities, and the staff and faculty of the school. Submit work that shows your pride in the process and your product.

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:**

The Honor Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

**ELECTRONICS and VIDEO:**

While personal electronics can be useful for class purposes, using devices to contact others should only be done for emergencies; calls and texts/messaging should be initiated/answered outside of class/lab.

**COURSE EVALUATION:**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. [Click here for guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner.](#) Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via [ufl.bluera.com/ufl/](http://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/). [Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students here.](#) I do appreciate personal comments that you can provide during class, or ideas about making content more relevant.

**SUMMARY:**

Please enjoy this class, be willing to try something new, offer your opinions, and support each other. Ask questions. We will cover a lot of material, and if you don't live up to your expectations on one project, there is always a different project that might be more agreeable to you.