
School of Theatre and Dance at The University of Florida
Production Practicum • TPA 4946 Sound Design and Engineering
• 1-3 Credit Hour(s) • McGuire Pavilion • Revised 20250812

Instructor:

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Office: McGuire 201

Meeting Time & Meeting Room:

The students are required to schedule weekly meetings during the entire production process with the instructor.

Course Description/Purpose:

TPA 4946: Production Practicum – Sound Design, is a course for undergraduate School of Theatre and Dance (SoTD) students that examines Sound Design techniques, artistry and implementation by serving as a Sound Designer, Assistant Sound Designer, Production Sound Engineer, etc. on a SoTD production.

Course Objectives and Student Outcomes:

- Demonstrate organizational, time management and communication skills
- Explore the art of collaboration with artistic and production teams
- Further refine skills in Sound Design, paperwork development, execution and leadership
- Explore technologies used in creative ways to realize design ideas.
- Examine the role of the Sound Designer as an artistic contributor to a production
- Complete a production book (digital, hardcopy or combination of both)

Required Materials:

- Access to a computer with Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Digital Performer and Autocad/Vectorworks.
- Access to a computer with internet connectivity to access the course E-Learning site and the production materials sharing site (Basecamp).
- Computer software with ability to convert documents to PDF files
- A Three-ring binder and divider tabs or digital organizational method (to be approved by instructor)
- An email address and phone that you check frequently
- Closed toe and closed heel shoes (all rehearsals, performances and production related activities)

Course Requirements & Expectations:

- Actively participate in all design meetings and production meetings for your production
- Actively and regularly meet with the show director
- Respectfully communicate and collaborate with all members of the artistic and production team
- Complete all production paperwork specific to your production
- Delegate responsibilities while providing support and assistance when needed
- Exercise time management skills with your Sound Design production assignment, class work, additional production assignments, etc. Please remember to talk to your instructor if you are feeling overwhelmed.
- Complete a production book (digital, hardcopy or combination of both)
- Meet with the Sound Design mentor regularly for production updates, feedbacks and evaluations.

Attendance:

The success of this course and your assigned production is dependent on your dedication and participation. Attendance is vital. Unexcused absences are not permitted. Each unexcused absence will lower your final grade one full letter. Excused absences are consistent with university policies in the undergraduate catalog (<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>) and require appropriate documentation. Please inform the instructor of this course of any unavoidable absence prior to the absence.

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University Policies and Additional Information:

Please view the Academic Calendar for important dates including holidays and drop/add deadlines:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/dates-deadlines/2018-2019/#springtext>

Students are required to adhere to the UF Honor Code. Visit the Student Conduct and Honor Code website for policies on academic integrity and student conduct:

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available

at gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/students/. 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.bluer.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/public-results/.

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>. 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's Counseling and Wellness Center is available to assist you. Please feel encouraged to reach out to them for assistance if needed:

Counseling and Wellness Center

3190 Radio Rd.

352-392-1575

www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/

Grading:

Project management (managerial, artistic, and technical achievement)	20%
Implementation of duties	15%
Communication and collaboration with artistic and production team	20%
Communication and collaboration with advisor and stage management team	15%
Personal Qualities and Professionalism	15%
Production Book (digital, hardcopy or combination of both)	15%

The final course grade is based on the following percentages:

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%

NOTE: Your production book will be accepted until 5pm on the day that it is due (the Monday following the closing of your production). After 5pm your production book will be considered late. Your final course grade will be lowered by one (1) full letter grade for each day the production book is late unless an arrangement is made under special circumstances.

A Grade = Outstanding

- Always collaborates in a positive manner
- Proven desire to learn and further develop skills
- Attends and actively participates in all prep week activities, meetings, rehearsals and performances

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- Excels at paperwork creation and meets all paperwork deadlines
- Excels in leadership and time management
- Excellent written and verbal communication with artistic and production teams
- Consistently performs beyond the minimum requirements
- Completes a review meeting with faculty advisor within two weeks after the final performance
- Completes a professional quality production book that is turned in on time

B Grade = Above Average

- Collaborates in a positive manner
- Has a desire to learn and further develop skills
- Attends and actively participates in all prep week activities, meetings, rehearsals and performances
- Meets the majority of paperwork deadlines
- Strives toward strong leadership and time management
- Good written and verbal communication with artistic and production teams
- Aims to perform beyond the minimum requirements
- Completes a review meeting with faculty advisor within two weeks after the final performance
- Completes a well-organized production book that is turned in on time
- Submitting the production book one (1) day late will result in lowering the final course grade of an “A” to a “B”

C Grade = Average

- Usually collaborates in a positive manner
- Sometimes demonstrates a desire to learn and further develop skills
- Attends and actively participates in all prep week activities, meetings, rehearsals and performances
- Meets half of paperwork deadlines
- Satisfactory leadership and time management
- Adequate written and verbal communication with artistic and production teams
- Mostly meets minimum requirements
- Completes a review meeting with faculty advisor within two weeks after the final performance
- Completes an unorganized production book that is turned in on time
- Submitting the production book one (1) day late will result in lowering the final course grade of a “B” to a “C”
- Submitting the production book two (2) days late will result in lowering the final course grade of an “A” to a “C”

D Grade = Below Average

- Rarely collaborates in a positive manner
- Little desire to learn and further develop skills
- Not available for prep week activities, meetings, rehearsals and performances
- Often fails to meet paperwork deadlines. Is often unprepared
- Little effort toward leadership and time management
- Poor written and verbal communication with artistic and production teams
- Meets some but not all minimum requirements
- Fails to schedule a review meeting with faculty advisor within two weeks after the final performance
- Fails to complete production book or production book is submitted over three (3) days late.

E Grade = Insufficient

- Fails to collaborate in a positive manner and disregards collaborators

- No desire to learn or further develop skills
- A pattern of absences or late arrivals for prep week activities, meetings, rehearsals and performances
- Fails to meet deadlines and/or work is unacceptable. Lacks preparation
- No effort toward leadership and time management
- Fails to communicate with artistic and production teams
- Does not meet the minimum requirements
- Fails to schedule a review meeting with faculty advisor within two weeks after the final performance
- Fails to complete production book or production book is submitted over four (4) days late.

Information on UF grading policies for assigning grade points can be found:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Please note: Information contained in this syllabus, other than the grade and absence policy, is subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor to enhance learning opportunities. Any changes will be clearly communicated via the course E-Learning site.

Campus Resources:

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit umatter.ufl.edu/ to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

Counseling and Wellness Center: Visit counseling.ufl.edu/ or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit shcc.ufl.edu/.

University Police Department: Visit police.ufl.edu/ or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center.