

THE 6950
Applied Theatre
Course Syllabus for Graduate Set Designers
Fall 2025

Instructor: Mihai Ciupe Associate Professor of Set Design
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Class Meetings: Tuesday, period 4 - 5

Credits: 1-3 (usually 3 depending upon assignment).

Goal:

- to utilize our department's production work as a learning tool. This includes the entire approach and execution of the design process. Through your efforts in completing your assigned position, the instructor will be able to evaluate your methods, skills, progress and knowledge with the goal being a noticeable gain in all areas.

Method:

Students will be assigned a "position" on a particular project chosen by their instructor. These positions include : Set Designer, Assistant Set Designer, Prop Master, Scenic Charge Artist, Assistant Technical Director. They will be responsible for all elements indicated in the grading outline. The method of the course is found in the design process itself. This can include research, direction, collaboration, budget, schedules and guidance.

Attendance:

Attendance at weekly meetings is required of all students. Despite the fact that your project has not be started or has been completed, your presence and verbal contributions are necessary on other ongoing projects.

More than **two** absences will result in severe reduction in a student's grade regardless of the success of the student's project.

Class Demeanor:

Students enrolled are expected to be ready to make useful contributions to the progression of the design work that is being developed. This contributions may be verbal or visual. Participation through critique and suggestions on other student's work is expected.

Grading: Students are graded according to the criteria listed below. Some elements within these sections are more relative to the specific position that has been assigned to the student, however the individual sections will carry the same listed percentage rate with all assignments.

SCALE:

Research	10%
Collaboration with Design Team/ Staff/ Crew	15%
Collaboration with the Choreographer/ Director/ Designer/ Supervisor	15%
Relationship with Mentor	10%
Scheduling	20%
Design or Plan	20%
Product	10%
	100%

Explanation of Criteria for Grading:**1.Research:**

Information gathering, technical knowledge, contributions made to the production, preparation of materials for presentation. 10%

2.Collaboration with Design Team/ Staff/ Crew:

Communication with, listening to, relationship with, respect for, knowledge and understanding of their individual contributions and choices, your contributions to the concept and its process. 15%

3.Collaboration with the Choreographer/ Director/ Designer/ Supervisor

Communication with, listening to, relationship with, respect for, knowledge and understanding of their concept and direction, your contributions to the concept and its process. 15%

4.Relationship with Mentor

Communication with, listening to, respect for, sharing information, scheduling and attending meetings with. 10%

5.Scheduling:

Were design/planning deadlines met? Were meetings planned and attended? Was there effective preparation of all work? Were work calls and shop time effectively planned and executed? Were the respective shops and workers informed of all the work that was to be completed? Did you set and meet your own deadlines? 20%

6. Design or Plan:**Design:**

Was the proper directorial information gathered? Was a concept and its direction established? Was adequate research completed and documented? Were all necessary/ assigned drawings completed? Did you adhere to the concept accurately and consistently? Were any necessary or desired adjustments competently redesigned? 20%

Plan:

Was the proper information gathered? Was the concept, direction, and/or goal established? Was adequate planning completed and documented? Were all necessary lists, acquisitions, supplies, and schedules completed? Did you adhere to the direction of your Supervisor/Designer accurately and consistently? Were all changes and redirections met with competency and support? 20%

7.Product:

Were deadlines met? Was there a successful accomplishment made? Was there anything that you possibly could have done or personally didn't do, to insure a better success? Did your work show integrity? 10%

Students with Disabilities:

Students requiring classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

Counseling and Mental Health:

Please be aware that there are people on-campus to assist you if you feel that the pressures of a semester are too great for you to handle. Call any of the services listed below for assistance:

Student Mental Health (24 hours call)

2nd Floor, Student Health Care Center

392-1171

University Counseling Center

P301 Peabody Hall

392-1575

Please refer to your student handbook for the University's honesty policy regarding cheating and the use of copyrighted materials.

This syllabus is subject to change at the Instructor's discretion.