THEA 153-01
Spring 2019
Instructor: Todd Wren

Course Syllabus

Introduction to Theatre Technology

Course Credit:	3 Units
Course Meeting:	T,Th 9:00-10:40 (TAPS)
Office Hours:	M, W 1:30-3:30 or by appointment
Contact Information:	Office: EHFA 133 Phone: O: 843-349-2555 C: 917-913-4032 Email: twren@coastal.edu

Course Description

Students will be introduced to modern lighting, sound, and video technology commonly used in theatrical productions. Emphasis will be placed on equipment and connector identification, installation techniques, electrical theory, and basic system operation. Lectures in conjunction with lab exercises provide students with the skills required to install and operate theatrical equipment.

Overview/Objectives

1. Install and operate basic theatrical lighting, sound, and video equipment.
2. Identify theatrical lighting, sound, and video connectors and equipment.
3. Read a Light Plot and Sound Signal Flow Diagram.
4. Researching unfamiliar theatrical equipment specifications.

Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Students will demonstrate proficiency installing and basic operation of basic theatrical lighting, sound, and projection equipment.
2. Students will use scale drawings and signal flow diagrams to accurately install theatrical lighting and sound systems.
3. Students will demonstrate proficiency identifying commonly used lighting, sound, and video connections, cables, and equipment.
4. Students will identify the duties of specific theatre technology positions.

Recommended Reading

Electricity for the Entertainment Electrician and Technician by Richard Cadena
Media Servers for Lighting Programmers by Vickie Claiborne
Sound and Music for the Theatre by Deena Kaye, James LeBrecht
A Practical Guide to Stage Lighting Design by Steven Louis Shelley

Organization

Class will be divided into four parts.

1) Classroom Lecture: Classroom discussions of theatre technology principles and applications. Respectful class discussion is essential. Participation in this class should offer a safe and stimulating environment for students to hone their spoken communication skills, and students will be evaluated on both the quality and quantity of their participation. At times, information shared in the class may be of a confidential nature. Students are expected to respect this confidence.
2) Classroom Lab: Assignments will be completed during scheduled class times in the classroom and various campus performance venues. Lab projects provide an opportunity for students to apply theories from the lectures to practical exercises.
3) Out of Class Assignments: Written and practical assignments will be given to be completed outside of scheduled class meetings.
4) Technical Lab: Students will work 20 hours, outside of class times, as crew members for lighting, sound, and projection for installation and strikes. Students may earn 15 Technical Lab hours by serving as a Sound, Lighting, or Video PROGRAMMER for a departmental production. These positions fill quickly and should be requested ASAP.

Appropriate Clothing

Appropriate clothing as described below is to be wore to class every day and to all work calls. Failure to wear proper clothing will prohibit the student from participating in lab work and result in missed quizzes, assignments, and lab hours.

- TAPS can be hot or cold, depending on the day. Please be prepared.
- No dangling clothing, scarves, sashes, obi's, etc.
- Long hair MUST be tied back. Bring a scrunchy.
- No Open-toed shoes or high heels. Work shoes or sneakers are perfect.
- Skirts are discouraged. You may be working on ladders, scaffolds, or catwalks.
- You MUST have a belt loop or other method of safely attaching and storing tools to your person.

Topics Covered

Date:	Scheduled Topics	Assignments
1/15-17	Class Biz and System Basics Electricity 1 Circuits + Schematics	 Quiz 1 – System Basics
1/22-24	MLK Electricity 2 Power, Math and Formulas Power Cable Wiring	Quiz 2 – Electricity
1/29-31	No Todd Vero Cable ID, Color Codes, Running, Storage Lighting 1 – System Overview – Online	Quiz 3 – Cable Tech Olympics 1 Cable
2/5-7	Lighting 2 – Lighting Fixtures Lighting 3 – Hang, Circuit, Focus	Quiz 4 – Fixtures Pin Connector Assignment Due
2/12-14	Lighting 4 – System Set Up + Plot Lighting 5 – Console 1: Data, Patch, Address	Quiz 5 – Lighting Systems
2/19-21	Lighting 6 – Control 2: Basic Operation Lighting 7 – Trouble Shoot	Quiz 6 – Lighting Console Tech Olympics 2 Lighting
2/26-28	Mid Term Exam Sound 1 – Sound Overview	Mid Term Exam

Date:	Scheduled Topics	Assignments
3/5-7	Sound 2 – Mic, speaker, cable, Connectors Sound 3 – System Set Up, Trouble Shooting	Quiz 7 – Sound System Tech Olympics 3 Sound
3/12-14	Spring Break	
3/19-21	Sound 5 – Trouble Shooting Solder School	
3/26-28	Sound 6 – Mixer 1 Sound 7 – Mixer 1	Quiz 8 - Sound Mixer
4/2-4	Q-Lab 1 – Introduction Q-Lab 2 – Programming	Solder Project Due Quiz 9 – QLab Basics
4/9-11	Video 1 – System Overview Video 2 – Equipment	Quiz 10 – Video System QLab Project Due
4/1-18	Video 3 – QLab Video 4 – Trouble Shooting	Tech Olympics 4 Video
4/23-25	Final Project Presentations	
4/30	Practical Final Exam	
5/7 11a	Final Exam	Final Exam

Class schedule and topics are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor

Lab Hours

Technical lab hours are available F 2p-6p. You should let me know at least a few hours in advance of attending scheduled work hours so I might let you know where we are working any given afternoon. Evening and weekend hours are available for the programming and strike for each production. Below is a list of opportunities and I will strive to keep you apprised of other opportunities throughout the semester.

Guidelines for Lab Hours

- Arrive on time and ready to work.
- Wear appropriate clothing.
- You Must be available for at least 2 consecutive hours to sign up for a work call.

Date	Times	Location	Tasks	Crew Needed
1/20-1/28	tba	Edwards Black Box	Program *She Kills Monsters*	1
2/9 Sat	9p-Mid	Edwards Black Box	Strike *She Kills Monsters*	3
2/10 Sun	10a-6p	Edwards Black Box	Strike *She Kills Monsters*	5
2/10-2/18	tba	Wheelwright	Program *Steel Pier*	2
3/2 Sat	9p-Mid	Wheelwright	Strike *Steel Pier*	4
3/3 Sun	10a-6p	Wheelwright	Strike *Steel Pier*	8
3/31-4/8	tba	Edwards Black Box	Program *New Brain*	1
4/22 Sat	9p-Mid	Edwards Black Box	Strike *New Brain*	2
4/22 Sun	10a-6p	Edwards Black Box	Strike *New Brain*	5

Lab schedule and locations are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor

Policies

Attendance

Students are expected to attend class and to arrive on time. When conflicts are unavoidable, a student must arrange an excused absence with the instructor *36 hours in advance* or provide a signed note from a care provider. Students who miss class are responsible for material covered on that day, for turning in any assignments due that day, and for getting any new assignments. *There are no "free" unexcused absences*. Excessive lateness will also result in unexcused absences. Three unexcused absences will lower the student's final grade by one letter grade and each subsequent absence will further lower the student's final grade by ½ a letter grade.

Conduct/Collaboration/Cheating

This class is a skills class. I expect students to help each other to understand the concepts and ideas expressed in class by working with one another. Each student must submit their own work and will be held accountable to explain the tools and possesses utilized to solve specific tasks.

Please review the "2017-2018 Code of Student Conduct" portion of your Student Handbook.

http://www.coastal.edu/media/studentaffairs/deanofstudents/2015-2016%20Code%20of%20Student%20Conduct%20WEB.pdf

Students are required to silence alerts on all devices and telephones. Any student disrupting class will be required to leave the classroom.

Homework

Assignments for this class consist of primarily of projects or assemblies along with a few written documents. All projects or assemblies must be clearly labeled with the students name. Projects submitted without a name will not be counted. All written documents must be grammatically correct, spelling checked, and formatted neatly.

Students submitting assignments on multiple pages must include their name on each page, and properly secure the work such that it will not become separated or submit it bound or in a folder. Before turning in any assignment, students should proofread for clarity, grammatical errors, and spelling.

Assignments are due at the start of the class on the due date. *Late assignments will not be accepted.*

Students with circumstances affecting their ability to complete assignments on time should arrange **48 hours in advance** of due date/time to be eligible for an extension.

Grading Scheme:

The class semester grade will be weighted as follows:

Participation	250 pts.
Lab Hours	200 pts.
Quizzes	250 pts.
Tech Olympics 4 x 50	200 pts.
Projects 3 x 100	300 pts.
Mid Term	200 pts.
Final Project	300 pts.
Final Exam	300 pts.
Total	2000 pts.

Grading will be ABCDF scale:

A	2000-1820 100%-91%	Exceptional work that consistently exceeds the expectations the assignments.
B	1819-1640 90% - 82%	Good work that meets the requirements of the assignments.
C	1639—1460 81%-73%	Work which meets the average expectations of the assignments.
D	1459-1280 72%-64%	Work markedly below the average expectations of the assignments.
F	1279-0 63%-0%	Incomplete, excessively late, or submissions that fail to meet the minimum expectations of the assignments

NOTES:

A grade of "D" or below may trigger an academic action, including but not limited to a warning letter or imposition of probationary status. Grades in the College of Fine Arts measure a student's progress toward mastery in their field. Expectations of progress are defined within each option and for each level of the curriculum.

Faculty consider specific factors in determining grades. Individual rubrics and requirements are made available on a course specific basis. The following are areas of competency in the College of Humanities and Fine Arts evaluates on a school-wide basis; artistic and professional aptitude and potential, skills mastery, professional conduct and engagement, innovation and positive collaboration.

Achieving a "B" in this class should prove rather easy. Achieving an "A" in this class will prove rather difficult and requires exceptional performance on all projects, quizzes, and exams. Missing quizzes, or poor preparation for assignments will certainly trigger lower grades.