



## DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE & FILM STUDIES

Spring SEMESTER, 2023

Rubric #: THEA 3300

**TITLE:** Foundations of Design

**Instructor:** Christian DeAngelis

**Room:** Fine Arts Rm 400

**Meeting Times and Days:** T, TH 9:35am – 10:50 am

Contact Information: christian.deangelis@uga.edu

Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday 11:00-12:00pm in person, or by appointment, or by Zoom appointment

**Teaching Assistant:** Jeremy Weing

**E-mail address:** jeremy.weing@uga.edu

### REQUIRED TEXT

Theatrical Design and Production, 8th ed., by J. Michael Gillette. Check amazon.com for rental options.

### REQUIRED SUPPLIES

Basic selection of artist supplies depending on the requirements of your Final Project and Drawing Exercise or as suggested in class throughout the semester. Any medium is allowed except for Crayon and Finger-painting.

Another item to acquire/find/borrow is an Architectural Ruler.

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This class is intended to introduce you to the basic knowledge of theatrical design and production. No previous experience is necessary. Course content will include lectures, class discussion, student presentations, journals, and written examinations.

### LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, a student should be able to:

- Students will develop a working knowledge of modern theatrical design practices.
- Students will understand the function and process of a theatrical designer.
- Students will feel comfortable developing, discussing, and presenting design ideas.
- The class will look over the history and Architectural theatres, while discussing different types of Theatres, and different size of theatre configurations

### TEACHING METHOD

The course will be taught through a combination of classroom meetings involving lecture and discussion methods balanced by a series of demonstrations conducted in the classroom.

### GRADING POLICY – 415pts Total

Your overall grade for the course will be determined by the following:

Class Participation/Attitude	20pts
Architecture Scale Project	20pts
Drawing Exercise	25pts
5 Journals (10pts. Each)	50pts
Exam 1	100pts
Exam 2	100pts
Final Project (Design Presentation)	100pts

Extra Credit	15pts
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**Total: 415pts**

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### **Participation/Attitude**

Daily participation is vital to the creative and educational process. Everyone must come prepared to discuss, ask questions, and have thoughts and opinions on the daily topics listed on the course calendar. Poor attitude, being late to class, cell phone use, and not paying attention will be penalized.

### **Exams**

There are two tests during the semester to monitor your progress through the course material. These consist of one midterm and one final exam. You must be present on the day of the test in order to get credit for the exam.

### **Journals**

Throughout the semester you will be collecting images that catch your eye or spark your imagination in reference to design (Theatre, Architecture, Concert, Event, etc..) These images can be art paintings, pictures from your own camera, or pictures from magazines, books, the internet, even film stills—keep your eyes open and collect at least 5 images for every journal entry. These images **must be put** in a .PDF format along with 3-4 sentences explaining what struck you about each image. Perhaps the picture is outdoors and you can talk about what time of day it is, or how beautiful a house is or someone wearing something wacky! Open your mind. Journals may be sent to me via e-mail. When naming your Journal entries, please label “Journal #1 “Your name”, “Journal #2” “Your name”, etc...An example of a journal can be found on ELC.

### **Architectural Scale Project**

Working individually, each student will be given a set of dimensions in different scales. Using your architectural ruler, you will answer the questions regarding the scale and dimensioning.

### **Drawing Exercise**

Each student will be given a set of drawings that will be worked on utilizing the value system and the choices in a particular passage of a script given in class. Attention to detail, value, color, and shadow are important. You can utilize any medium you have available: (charcoal, color pencils, markers, gouache, acrylic, etc..)

### **Final Project - Design Presentations**

Working in groups of 4, each group will read a play/musical/opera or a 1 Act play of their choosing (please email play/musical/opera choice to instructor for approval). Then, each group will collaborate together and follow the steps of the design process resulting in a full presentation of the design elements for the show. Presentations will include an overview of the script and your design concept for the show, a simple ground plan (either on computer or by hand), and visual research of the work (scenic, lighting, costume and sound). For sound, present some interesting music, sound effects, etc.. that would be inspiring for the script. The presentation should be approximately 7-10 minutes in length and demonstrate a thorough understanding of the script, the process, and the design choices being presented.

The ground plan should be in Scale (in 1/8” or 1/4” Scale), and represent some design choices that are necessary, but also tell the story of your show. Research should be at least 15 pictures **each** for Scenic, Lighting and Costumes. Sound should include at least 5 sound effects/music about the “feel and emotion” of the piece. Collage each design area to help aid in your organization.

Present all of your work in a PowerPoint Presentation. Once your presentation is done, upload all the information to ELC.

What to Upload to ELC:

- PowerPoint Presentation – Add bullet points on a slide about your design concept
- Design concept of the script (1-page max paper) – this is different than the powerpoint presentation
- Research. 15 pictures **each** for Scenic, Lighting and Costumes. Collage each design
- Sound choices – this can be added into your powerpoint presentation for context
- Ground plan of your set

### **Extra Credit**

For those needing a little extra credit, you can choose any theatrical designer, director or choreographer (pending instructor's approval). Add a picture of the person and write a research paper pertaining to their work, successes, and history. Your paper should be **at least a 1 page (single space)**, and be well-written – poor grammar and spelling will result in lower extra credit.

### **ATTENDANCE: DEPARTMENTAL POLICY**

Each student is allowed (2) absences free of charge. However, after two absences, every subsequent absence will result in a FIVE POINT DEDUCTION FROM YOUR OVERALL GRADE. If you believe that a subsequent absence should be excused, please speak with the instructor. Being late to class is distracting. 3 late arrivals are equal to one absence and subject to the absence policy. No cell phone use in class. You will receive a warning, then asked to leave the classroom resulting in an absence.

The only times in which you will be 'excused' are as follows:

- Ordered to appear in court
- Committed to a hospital
- Ordered by your doctor or Health Services to stay away from class-Send Doctors note to Professor
- A Funeral
- Religious Holiday

\*Each of the above will need proof except for "A Funeral."

\*Note: A Doctor's note may be considered, however, you need to talk with your instructor about each situation

### **LATE ASSIGNMENTS**

All assignments must be turned in by the due date to receive full credit (which will be at the start of class on that day unless otherwise noted). Any assignment turned in after the due date and time will receive an immediate grade deduction of 20%. Each additional day that the assignment is late will result in a further grade deduction of 4% per day late. There are no make-up assignments. After 10 days the assignment will result in a zero.

### **SCHOOL POLICIES**

Academic Honesty: The University of Georgia has a strongly worded policy concerning academic dishonesty. Please refer to the University publication, A Culture of Honesty regarding this policy. All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty." Each student is responsible to inform themselves about those standards before performing any academic work. Projects assigned as an individual project must be completed entirely by the individual student. Violations of this policy will be reported to the appropriate university officials for investigation and disciplinary action.

## **DISABILITY SERVICES**

If you require any sort of accommodation to successfully fulfill the tasks at hand, please let me know at your earliest convenience. You must register with the Disability Resource Center (114 Clark Howell Hall – 706.542.8719 – [https://drc.uga.edu/content\\_page/register-for-services](https://drc.uga.edu/content_page/register-for-services))

## **MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS RESOURCES**

- If you or someone you know needs assistance, you are encouraged to contact Student Care and Outreach in the Division of Student Affairs at 706-542-7774 or visit <https://sco.uga.edu>. They will help you navigate any difficult circumstances you may be facing by connecting you with the appropriate resources or services.
- UGA has several resources for a student seeking mental health services (<https://www.uhs.uga.edu/bewelluga/bewelluga>) or crisis support (<https://www.uhs.uga.edu/info/emergencies>).
- If you need help managing stress anxiety, relationships, etc., please visit BeWellUGA (<https://www.uhs.uga.edu/bewelluga/bewelluga>) for a list of FREE workshops, classes, mentoring, and health coaching led by licensed clinicians and health educators in the University Health Center.
- Additional resources can be accessed through the UGA App.

## **GRADES**

You will be graded for the clarity and creativity of your work in comparison to the work of your peers. The goal is that your work is the perfect visual compliment in your journals, midterm and final, participation, design critique, drawing and design presentations.

### **A to A- 90-100%**

- All assigned work was finished on time and organized
- Expressed ideas in a clear and precise manner
- Was able to work with others without issues of attitude
- Took criticism well
- Participated in classroom discussions

### **B+ to B- 80-89%**

- All assigned work was finished on time and organized
- Developed a vocabulary in order to express their ideas in a clear and precise manner
- Was able to recognize attitude issues and worked to resolve them
- Understood that criticism is a tool to learn from
- Participated in some classroom discussions

### **C+ to C- 70-79%**

- Some assigned work was not finished on time and organized
- Design work was not well thought out
- Had some issues resolving attitude issues
- Did not learn from criticism that well
- Did not make a great effort to participate in classroom discussions

### **D+ to D- 60-69%**

- All assigned work was not finished on time and organized
- Design work was not good
- Had major issues in curbing one's attitude
- Did not take criticism that well
- Did not make any effort to participate in classroom discussions

### **F 59% or below**

- Assignments were not handed in and completed when required
- Lacked any understanding of all aspects of design
- Has major issues with attitude
- Cannot accept criticism without having excuses
- Didn't care to be in class and disrupted classroom discussions

**THEA 3300 – Foundations of Design – Spring 2023 Class Schedule** *(subject to change)*

DAY	DATE	TOPIC	ASSIGNMENT DUE TODAY	READ FOR NEXT CLASS
<b>Monday-Friday</b>	<b>Jan. 9-13</b>	<b>ADD/DROP &amp; LATE REGISTRATION</b>		
Tuesday	Jan. 10 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Introduction</b> (Read-through syllabus and discuss expectations)		Chapter 1
Thursday	Jan. 12 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Lecture:</b> Production Companies and Organization		
Tuesday	Jan. 17 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Lecture:</b> Production Personnel		
Thursday	Jan. 19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Lecture:</b> Rehearsal Process/Rehearsal Schedules		Chapter 3
Tuesday	Jan. 24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Class:</b> Work on Journal #1 <b>Christian:</b> Out of Town		
Thursday	Jan. 26 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Class:</b> Work on Journal #1 <b>Christian:</b> Out of Town		
Tuesday	Jan. 31 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Lecture:</b> Theatre Architecture	<b>Due:</b> Journal #1	Chapter 4
*Thursday	Feb. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Lecture:</b> The Stage and Its Equipment		
Tuesday	Feb. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Theatre Facilities Tour (Meet in Lobby) – Group 1		Read on ELC
*Thursday	Feb. 9 <sup>th</sup>	Theatre Facilities Tour (Meet in Lobby) – Group 2		Read on ELC
Tuesday	Feb. 14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Lecture:</b> Using an Architectural Ruler <b>Assignment:</b> Architectural Ruler Exercise		Chapter 7
Thursday	Feb. 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Lecture:</b> Drafting & Stage Directions		Chapter 13
Tuesday	Feb. 21 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Lecture:</b> Stage Properties and Special Effects	<b>Due:</b> Journal #2	Chapter 2
*Thursday	Feb. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Lecture:</b> The Design Process	<b>Due:</b> Architectural Ruler Exercise	Chapter 5 – Elements of Design only
Tuesday	Feb. 28 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Lecture:</b> Elements of Design Review/Catchup Day		
Thursday	March 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Exam #1</b> – Online Exam. Must be present online at time of class. <b>Christian:</b> Out of Town	<b>Exam #1</b>	Chapter 6
Tuesday	March 7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Class</b> – Spring Break		
Thursday	March 9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Class</b> – Spring Break		
Tuesday	March 14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Lecture:</b> Color <b>**Zoom Only</b>	<b>Due:</b> Journal #3	Chapter 5

DAY	DATE	TOPIC	ASSIGNMENT DUE TODAY	READ FOR NEXT CLASS
Thursday	March 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Class:</b> Read Chapter 22 and think about the type of medium you like/want to use for the drawing exercise		
Tuesday	March 21 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Lecture:</b> Style, Composition and Design		Chapter 22
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>March 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Withdrawal Deadline</b>		
Thursday	March 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Lecture:</b> Drawing and Rendering		
Tuesday	March 28 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Lecture:</b> Media and Drawing Materials <b>Assignment:</b> Drawing Exercise		Chapter 9
*Thursday	March 30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Lecture:</b> Scene Design	<b>Due:</b> Journal #4	Chapter 12
Tuesday	April 4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Class:</b> Work on Drawing Exercise		
Thursday	April 6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Lecture:</b> Scene Painting <b>In Class:</b> Paint Demonstration (video) <b>Assignment:</b> Final Project		Chapter 18
Tuesday	April 11 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Lecture:</b> Costume Design	<b>Due:</b> Drawing Exercise	Chapter 20
Thursday	April 13 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Lecture:</b> Makeup Design		Chapter 14,16
Tuesday	April 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Lecture:</b> Lighting Design	<b>Due:</b> Journal #5	Chapter 21
*Thursday	April 20 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Lecture:</b> Sound Design Review/Catchup Day		
Tuesday	April 25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Exam #2</b> – Online Exam. Must be present online at time of class.	<b>Exam #2</b>	
Thursday	April 27 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Work in Class:</b> Final Projects		
Tuesday	May 9 <sup>th</sup> 9-11am <b><u>Only!</u></b>	<b>Final Project</b> – 8 Groups	<b>Final Projects</b>	

\* - Denotes Jeremy Weing teaching while I observe

### Notes

1. Due to unforeseen circumstances this syllabus and related course requirements and schedule are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.
2. Any student in this course who has a disability that may prevent him or her from fully demonstrating his or her abilities should contact me personally so that we can discuss accommodations necessary to facilitate your educational opportunity and full participation in the class.
3. It is the policy of the university to reasonably accommodate absences due to observed religious holidays, however, the student will be held responsible for any material covered during the absence. You must inform the instructor two weeks prior to the observed holiday.