Basic Performance Design

THE 321
Spring of 2012
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday – 9:20 PM to 10:20 PM
Location: Beeghly Green Room

Instructor:
Terry Dana Jachimiak II
Office:
Beeghly Scene Shop
Office Hours:
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM Monday thru Wednesday or
By appointment.

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Course Description:

Designers working in the performing arts are responsible for determining the appearance of the scenery that will be created for a production. Analysis and understanding of a script, and creatively developing a concept is key. Designers' concepts and ideas must be communicated to directors, producers, and the other designers. Upon approval, those concepts and ideas are translated into actual settings by artists and technicians. Using sketches, renderings, and technical drawings, the designer explains his ideas and concepts to the rest of the production staff. Technicians must then be able to understand these drawings and bring the designers concept to reality. Through a series of specific assignments students will learn how to draft the technical drawings required to provide the artists and technicians the information and instructions needed to carry out the design.

Westminster Student Outcomes

1) To reason logically and evaluate critically
2) To communicate effectively
3) To think creatively, and appreciate aesthetic expressions
4) To demonstrate intellectual curiosity
5) To acquire knowledge of self, society, human cultures, the natural world, and human relationships to God
6) To apply our knowledge to contemporary issues
7) To demonstrate moral and ethical commitments to neighbor, society, and the natural world
8) To demonstrate commitment to lifelong learning and the acquisition of skills for careers and responsible service as world citizens.

Theatre Student Outcomes

1. Conceptually and critically analyze text, performance, and production.
2. Distinguish the elements of playwriting and production processes, aesthetic properties of style, and the way these shape and are shaped by artistic and cultural forces
3. Identify a wide selection of theatre repertory including the principal eras, genres, and cultural sources.
4. Develop and defend informed judgments about theatre.
5. Demonstrate ability in areas of performance and production or playwriting appropriate to individual needs and interests, consistent with the goals and objectives of the specific liberal arts degree program being followed.
6. Demonstrate of procedures and approaches for realizing a variety of theatrical styles.
7. Collaborate and contribute effectively in the public performances of theatre.
8. Demonstrate Intermediate to advanced competence in one or more theatre specializations in creation, performance, scholarship, or teaching.

Desired Course Outcomes and the Westminster and Theatre Outcomes They Support

1. At the end of the course, students will have gained a basic understanding of how to critically analyze text for basic design. (W-1, 2, 4 7; T-1, 3)
2. At the end of the course, students will have the abilites to draft and draw for the theatrical design areas. (W-8; T-6, 8)
3. At the end of the course, students will be able to creatively convey their concepts through the use of drawing, using color media. (W-2, 3; T-6, 8)

Required Text:

None. Professor will provide instructional handouts.

Recommended Reading:

Drawing Scenery for Theatre, Film and Television by Rich Rose (Cincinnati, OH: Betterway Books. 1994)

Drafting for the Theatre by Dennis Dorn & Mark Shanda (Carbondale, IL: Southern Illinois University Press. 1992).

Perspective Rendering for the Theatre by William H. Pinnell (Carbondale, IL: Southern Illinois University Press. 1996).

Required Equipment:

Portable Drafting table (http://www.utrechtart.com/Utrecht-Portable-Drafting-Table-Top-Boards-with-Parallel-Ruler-Straight-Edge-MP43913-i1015598.utrecht) **(OPTIONAL)**

.5, .7, and .9 drafting pencils
Kneaded eraser
Erasing shield
Drawing pencil
Several sheets of Drafting paper – 18" x 24" Clearprint
6" or larger 45 degree right triangle **(9" Preferred)**
Lettering guide
Flexible curve or French curves
30/60/90 triangle
Compass **(NOT PLASTIC)**
Architect's scale ruler
Small roll of drafting tape or drafting dots
Small 81/2" by 11" or larger unlined paper journal to use for sketch journal
Model building supplies which we will talk about in class **(NOT NEEDED IMMEDIATELY)**
Some source of color such as acrylics, watercolors, colored pencils, markers – your choice.
Brushes, water cups, palettes. **(NOT NEEDED IMMEDIATELY)**

Academic Integrity

Central to the purpose and pursuit of any academic community is academic integrity. All members of the Westminster community, including students, faculty, staff, and administrators, are expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity, in keeping with the philosophy and mission of the College. Academic dishonesty is a profound violation of this code of behavior. Outlined below are examples of and specific consequences for academic dishonesty at Westminster. The list of examples is not meant to be xhaustive, but rather to provide an overview of the community's common concerns. Students who are unsure as to whether specific behavior not listed here will constitute academic dishonesty should consult with their individual course instructors. For a list of Violations and Consequences, please see your undergraduate catalogue.

Attendance (Taken from the Undergraduate Catalogue):

Regular class attendance is essential if students are to realize the full benefits of a college education. Accordingly, Westminster students are expected to attend all classes, unless

specifically excused for some valid reason. Although each individual instructor may specify what constitutes a valid excuse, in general excused absences are allowed only for the following reasons:

1. Course-related field trips.
2. Illness that requires confinement to bed on physician's orders or confinement in a hospital.
3. Death or serious illness in the immediate family.
4. Appearance in court.
5. Co-curricular and extracurricular activities recognized and/or sponsored by the College.

Students are encouraged to participate in extracurricular activities, since these functions are often closely tied in to their professional preparation. Students who are involved in extracurricular or co-curricular activities at Westminster College must make this known to their professors before the end of the add period of each semester, particularly if such participation is anticipated to require them to be off campus at specific times.

Excused absences do not excuse a student from completing the work that is missed. When possible, students should complete the assigned work in advance, or at such time as the professor specifies. It is the student's responsibility to apprise all appropriate professors of off-campus involvement(s). With the professor's knowledge of the student's upcoming absences, conflicts should be minimized. The Office of Student Affairs will be notified whenever excessive absences occur. Where problems are identified which cannot be resolved by the faculty member and the student, a resolution will be made by the dean of the College.

Absences from Examinations

Absence from an announced examination results in a failing grade for the examination, unless suitable arrangements are made for a special examination. A student who seeks such a privilege should petition the instructor in writing prior to the scheduled examination date. If the instructor considers that the petition should be granted, then a note to the effect is added and the petition is presented to the dean of the College. The examination may be given only if the dean also approves the petition. In the case of athletic championship tournaments that fall during final week, it is the College's policy to permit those who are approved to participate in these tournaments to reschedule their missed work. Instructors and the dean must be notified in advance of the conflict and students must arrange with their instructors a place and time to make up the work.

Finally, you will be granted 2 unexcused absences from the class. An absence is either your inability to show up, or a being 20 minutes or more late. Also, 3 late arrivals will equal 1 unexcused absence. After your 2 unexcused absences, your final grade will be reduced by 5% for each additional unexcused absence.

Production "Late Night" Policy

There are no excusable absences from classes due to late night work on productions or other extracurricular activities.

Policy on Recording of Classroom Activities:

No student may record or tape any classroom activity without the express written consent of the professor. If a student believes that he/she is disabled and needs to record or tape classroom activities, he/she should contact the Office of Disability Resources to request an appropriate accommodation.

Technology:

All students will be required to understand and use the Electronic Mail and My Westminster to receive class materials and return any required items. Students should be proficient in the use of Word processing, and Computer Searches. It would be an enhancement to the student to also know PowerPoint and Scanning skills as well. All students must be signed on to the college e-mail system in order to receive the materials sent out to the class from the instructor. Consideration may be given to other addresses belonging to commuting students. An unacceptable excuse is "I can't get my e-mail to work." Cell phones and beepers must be shut off during the class, unless you are an official member of a rescue squad or fire department. This must be documented with a membership card or ID.

Multi-Cultural Studies and Interdisciplinary Approach:

Students who are studying theatre are urged to select items that represent the cultures and ideas of other people. The class will be taught through selection of materials that will expose the students to others.

In an effort to demonstrate the importance of theatre to other studies and other studies to theatre, we will stress the significance of history, the other arts, humanities, math and many other areas in our discussions.

Expectations of Students:

You will treat everyone in the class, including the professor, with the respect due to all human beings. You will attend every class, give your full attention to the material, and conduct yourself in an appropriate manner. You will agree to do the work outlined in the syllabus on time. You will acknowledge that previous academic preparation (e.g., writing skills) will affect your performance in this course. You will acknowledge that your perception of effort, by itself, is not enough to justify a distinguished grade. You will not plagiarize or otherwise steal the work of others. You will not make excuses for your failure to do what you ought. You will accept the consequences of your actions.

Expectations of Professor:

I will treat you with the respect due to all human beings. I will know your name and treat you as an individual. I will not discriminate against you on the basis of your identity or your well-informed viewpoints. I will manage the class in a professional manner; that may include educating you in appropriate behavior. I will prepare carefully for every class. I will begin and end class on time. If I do not know something, I will say so. I will conduct scholarly research and publication with the aim of making myself a more informed teacher. I will return your assignments quickly with detailed feedback. I will pursue the maximum punishment for plagiarism, cheating, and other violations of academic integrity. I will keep careful records of your attendance, performance, and progress. I will investigate every excuse for nonattendance of classes and noncompletion of assignments. I will maintain confidentiality concerning your performance. I will provide you with professional support and write recommendations for you if appropriate. I will be honest with you. Your grade will reflect the quality of your work and nothing else. I am interested in your feedback about the class, but I am more interested in what you learned than how you feel.

IF YOU AGREE TO THESE GUIDELINES, DO NOTHING. IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM, YOU MUST LET ME KNOW IN WRITING.

Projects

Handout Projects:

These are projects from handouts. They range in variety dealing with lettering, basic drafting skills, up to orthographic projections. Each will be graded based on the drafting neatness, accuracy and the ability to follow directions.

Script Anaylsis and Design Art:

You will be given a short script and develop a coherent analysis for the design aspects. You will also be tasked with creating a small project based on the design principles we talk about in class.

Ground Plan/Section/Elevations Worksheet:

These will be practice sheets for your final package. You will be given copies of each of these and you will need to increase the scale and draft them will all information necessary.

Sketch Book:

Any designer in theatre has to be able to draw. You will keep a sketch book through the semester. You will be required to sketch throughout the semester and are to bring the sketchbook to each class. I will periodically take a look at it and give feedback. It will be graded at the end of the semester. There should be approximately 39 sketches in the book, about 3 per week. The only way to get better is with practice.

In Class Rendering:

We will take several classes to work on sketching and rendering. You will finish 2 small renderings, which will then be graded based on improvement.

Design Package:

There are five pieces to the design package. They are the ground plan, section, elevations, rendering and model. You will be using your dorm room as the basis for this project. All of these aspects should include everything in your dorm room. We will go over further details in class.

Grading Scale

The final grades in this course will be based upon the following:

10 Book Projects (4 points each)	40
Sketch Book	7
In Class Rendering Work	7
Ground Plan Worksheet	7
Section and Elevations Worksheet	7
Script Analysis and Design Art	7
Final Project (Composed of Ground Plan, Section, Elevations, Perspective Rendering, and Model)Script Analysis and Design Art	25
Point Total:	100

A……..	100-93.4	C……...	76.6-73.4
A-……..	93.3-90.0	C-……..	73.3-70.0
B+……	89.9-86.7	D+……	69.9-66.7
B……...	86.6-83.4	D……...	66.6-63.4
B-……..	83.3-80.0	D-……..	63.3-60.0
C+……	79.9-76.7	F…….....	Below 60.0

Class Schedule

Text Abbreviations

All readings are from worksheets.

If there are changes to the schedule, you will be notified during class.

Date	Class Content	HW Given	Due
Wednesday, 1-18	Course Introduction: Expectations and Requirements, Tools of the Craft	Read Handouts	
Friday, 1-20	Graphic Standards and Lettering	Worksheets 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3	
Monday, 1-23	Basic Tool Use and Logic	Worksheet 4.1	Worksheet 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3
Wednesday, 1-25	Finish Worksheet 4.1 Advanced Tool Use and Logic	Worksheet 4.2	
Friday, 1-27	Finish Worksheet 4.2		
Monday, 1-30	Critique Worksheets 4.1 and 4.2 and Begin Geometric Construction	Worksheet 5.1	Worksheets 4.1 and 4.2
Wednesday, 2-1	Continue Worksheet 5.1 and Begin Worksheet 5.2	Worksheet 5.2	
Friday, 2-3	Finish Worksheet 5.2		
Monday, 2-6	Critique Worksheets 5.1 and 5.2 and Begin Orthographic Projections and Dimensioning	Worksheet 6.1 and 7.1	Worksheets 5.1 and 5.2
Wednesday, 2-8	Critique Worksheet 6.1 and 7.1 and Begin Section Drawings.	Worksheet 9.1	Worksheets 6.1 and 7.1
Friday, 2-10	Critique Worksheet 9.1 and Begin Mechanical Perspective	Begin Mechanical Perspective Sheet	Worksheet 9.1
Monday, 2-13	Continue Mechanical Perspective Sheet		
Wednesday, 2-15	Critique Mechanical Perspective		Mechanical Perspective
Friday, 2-17	Basic Analysis of Scripts in Relation to Design	Script Analysis	
Monday, 2-20	Principles of Design	Design Art	Script Analysis
Wednesday, 2-22	Basic Tenets of Drawing and Sketching for Designs		Design Art
Friday, 2-24	Basic Drawing Practice		
Monday, 2-27	Water Color (Preferred) or Color Pencil	Finish Watercolor/Color Pencil	
Wednesday, 2-29	Acrylics (Preferred) or Markers	Finish Acrylics	Watercolor/Color Pencil
Friday, 3-2	Groundplan Conventions	Begin Groundplan Worksheet	Acrylics
Monday, 3-5	**SPRING BREAK**		

Wednesday, 3-7 Friday, 3-9	**SPRING BREAK** **SPRING BREAK**		
Monday, 3-12 Wednesday, 3-14	Continue Grounplan Worksheet Continue Groundplan Worksheet		
Friday, 3-16 Monday, 3-19	Critique Groundplan and Begin Design Section View Conventions Continue Section Drawing	Begin Scenery Section Drawing	Ground Plan Worksheet
Wednesday, 3-21 Friday, 3-23	Critique Section Drawing Basic Model Making Techniques. Start Model Project		Section Drawing Worksheet
Monday, 3-26 Wednesday, 3-28	Model Project Model Project		
Friday, 3-30	Bedroom Ground Plan		Model Project Due.
Monday, 4-2	Bedroom Ground Plan		
Wednesday, 4-4	Bedroom Ground Plan		
Friday, 4-6	**EASTER BREAK**		
Monday, 4-9	**EASTER BREAK**		
Wednesday, 4-11	Bedroom Elevations and Section		
Friday, 4-13	Bedroom Elevations and Section		
Monday, 4-16	Rendering the Drawing		
Wednesday, 4-18	Rendering the Drawing		
Friday, 4-20	Rendering the Drawing		
Monday, 4-23	Model Building		
Wednesday, 4-25	**SYMPOSIUM**		
Friday, 4-27	Model Building		

Final Exam: Monday, May 7 at 3:00 pm in Beeghly Theatre