

Theatre 2500: Fundamentals of Theatre Design and Technology

4 credits

Accompanying lab section (THTR 1510 or 2510) is strongly encouraged but not required.

Time: MWF from 12:20 - 2:15

Place: Rm B20 at the Schwartz Center for the Performing Arts.

Required texts: Sophocles, Oedipus Rex, and Moliere, Tartuffe

Instructors: Sarah Bernstein - 4-2772 (seb57), Warren Cross - 4-2706 (wdc4),
Kent Goetz - 4-2707 (klg2), Ed Intemann - 4-2716(edi1)

Course information and materials will be posted on Blackboard at: <http://blackboard.cornell.edu/>.

Course Objective: This course is designed to introduce the student to the production disciplines, other than performance, involved in producing live theatre. Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to demonstrate an improved understanding and appreciation for the collaborative art of producing live theatre as well as an increased ability to be expressive in this form.

Grading: The final course grade will be a compilation of four section grades @ 80% (20% each), the haiku project @ 14%, and two sets of written production commentaries @ 6% (3% each.) Each section grade will be based upon criteria specific to that section. A student must receive a D or higher in at least two sections to pass the course.

Sections: The course is divided into four, three-week sections, each addressing a different area of theatre production. Each section will be taught by a different instructor with expertise in that particular area. This course covers a great amount of material very quickly. Much of the material is presented through class discussion and student presentations. Therefore, regular attendance and active participation in classroom discussion and activities are essential. Each instructor will explain the assignments, projects, and expectations for class participation for that section. All questions about work and grades for a particular section are to be addressed to that section's instructor.

Haiku Project: The final days of the semester are devoted to a capstone project that is designed to provide individuals with an opportunity to explore further a particular area of interest. Details concerning the final project will be communicated later in the semester. Class attendance during the final project week is essential. Each unexcused absence from a final project class session will result in 2/3 letter grade deducted from the project grade, e.g. B+ to B-. The final component of the haiku project will be presented on the last day of classes. You must be present for this presentation in order to receive a passing grade for the project.

Production Commentaries: Each student will attend a performance of the two SCPA productions offered this semester and post to the course's Blackboard Discussion Board original statements of opinion on how some aspect of each; scenery, costume, lighting and sound design, either contributed to, or distracted from, the overall impact of the production. The statements should be posted not later than 10 am the Monday morning after the closing of the production in order to be counted toward in the final course grade.