

COURSE OUTLINE

Theatre Arts 183 (C-ID Number: THTR 192)
Technical Theatre in Contemporary Production (C-ID Title: Technical Theatre in Production)

I. Catalog Statement

Theatre Arts 183 is a practical application of theatre arts technical support. Through lecture and laboratory experiences, students gain experience in the application of production responsibilities in the areas of stage management, house management, construction, scenery, properties, costume, lighting, sound, and running crews for the genre of contemporary theatre.

Total Lecture/Demonstration Units: 1.0

Total Laboratory Units: 1.0 – 3.0

Total Course Units: 2.0 – 4.0

Total Lecture/Demonstration Hours: 16.0

Total Laboratory Hours: 48.0 – 144.0

Total Faculty Contact Hours: 64.0 - 160.0

Prerequisite: None.

Note: Students are expected to be available for rehearsals and performances of GCC productions. Units earned are based on the number of hours and type of project completed.

II. Course Entry Expectations

Skill Level Ranges: Reading 5; Writing 5; Listening/Speaking 5; Math 2.

III. Course Exit Standards

Upon successful completion of the required coursework, the student will be able to:

1. demonstrate and employ basic skills to address the technical demands of a theatrical production in contemporary theatre;
2. execution of assignments and responsibilities in technical rehearsals, during production run, and strike;
3. analyze and differentiate the characteristics of a contemporary theatre production from other forms.

IV. Course Content

Total Faculty Contact Hours = 64 - 160

- A. Technical Theatre Collaboration in a Contemporary Theatre Genre Lecture 16 hours
1. Assignment to production and performance responsibilities
 2. Script analysis and discussion of a contemporary theatre genre

3. Preparation for production including necessary theatrical technique
 - a. Interpretation and implementation of production designs
 - b. Duties and responsibilities of technical support for dance, music and theatrical productions
4. Production requirements in contemporary theatre performance
 - a. Backstage equipment and personal safety
 - b. House safety and fire codes
 - c. Control booth operation safety
 1. Lights
 2. Sound
 3. Projection equipment
 4. Basic technical theatre terminology
5. Creation and maintenance of basic production elements
 - a. Scenery ground plan and elevations
 - b. Lighting plot and dimmer hook ups
 - c. Sound plot and riser diagram
 - d. Cue sheets

B. Assigned Production Duties

Lab 48 - 144 hours

1. Collaborative responsibilities
 - a. Director
 - b. Designers
 - c. Crew supervisors
2. Stage management
 - a. Stage manager
 - b. Assistant stage manager
 - c. Master electrician
 - d. Property master
 - e. Set crew chief
3. Running a production
 - a. Lighting crew
 1. Board operator
 2. Follow spot operator
 - b. Sound crew
 1. Board operator
 2. Audio recorder
 - c. Property crew
 1. Property buyer
 2. Property constructor
 3. Property organizer
 - d. Set crew
 1. Fly system operator
 2. Set piece s hifter

V. **Methods of Instruction**

The following methods of instruction may be used in the course:

1. lecture demonstrations in each area;

2. laboratory practice;
3. presentation;
4. student application of focused area as applied to contemporary theatre.

VI. Out of Class Assignments

The following out of class assignments may be used in the course:

1. individual projects (e.g. a written prompt book, or cue sheet);
2. critique (e.g. written critique of a contemporary play used for production);
3. written assignment (e.g. a self-evaluation of a crew experience).

VII. Methods of Evaluation

The following methods of evaluation may be used in the course:

1. instructor evaluation of skill demonstrations;
2. practical examinations of technical theatre terminology or skills.

VIII. Textbook

Lord, William. *Stagecraft 1: A Complete Guide to Backstage Work*. 3rd edition. Colorado Springs: Merriweather Publications. 2000. Print.
12th Grade Textbook Reading Level. ISBN-13: 978-1-56608-062-0

Campbell, Drew. *Technical Theater for Nontechnical People*. 2nd edition. New York: Skyhorse Publishing Co. 2004. Print.
13th Grade Textbook Reading Level. ISBN-10 1566080622

Campbell, Drew. *Technical Theater for Nontechnical People*. 2nd edition. New York: Skyhorse Publishing Co. 2012. Electronic Book Text.
13th Grade Textbook Reading Level. ISBN 978-1-102-80436-9

Instructor handouts

Production scripts (e.g. *August, Osage County*; *Dog Sees God*; *The Shape of Things*)

IX. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the required coursework, the student will be able to:

1. demonstrate a general knowledge of all technical areas as applied to contemporary theatre;
2. interpret and implement written instructions, schedules, and drawings from the production designers from a contemporary theatre genre;
3. analyze a script from the contemporary theatre genre and identify differences from other genres and mediums;
4. define general technical theatre terminology.