

COURSE OUTLINE

**Theatre Arts 181 (C-ID Number: THTR 192)**  
**Technical Theatre in Classical Production (C-ID Title: Technical Theatre in Production)**

**I. Catalog Statement**

Theatre Arts 181 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 classical theatre genre.

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

**IV. Course Content**

**Total Faculty Contact Hours = 64 - 160**

- A. Technical Theatre Collaboration in a Classical Theatre Genre                      Lecture 16 hours
1. Assignment to production and performance responsibilities
  2. Script analysis and discussion of a classical 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 classical theatrical productions
  4. Production requirements in musical 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 shifter

## **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 classical 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 classical script used for production);
3. written assignment (e.g. self-evaluation of 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;
3. final critique or assessment of crew assignments and fulfillment of hours.

## **VIII. Textbook**

Lord, William. *Stagecraft I: A Complete Guide to Backstage Work*. 3rd edition. Colorado Springs: Merriweather Publications. 2000. Print.

12<sup>th</sup> Grade Textbook Reading Level. ISBN-13: 978-1-56608-062-0

Campbell, Drew. *Technical Theater for Nontechnical People*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. New York: Skyhorse Publishing Co. 2004. Print.

13<sup>th</sup> Grade Textbook Reading Level. ISBN-10 1566080622

Campbell, Drew. *Technical Theater for Nontechnical People*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. New York: Skyhorse Publishing Co. 2012. Electronic Book Text.

13<sup>th</sup> Grade Textbook Reading Level. ISBN 978-1-102-80436-9

Instructor handouts

Production scripts (e.g. *Hamlet*; *Lysistrata*; *The Miser*)

## **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;
2. interpret and implement written instructions, schedules, and drawings from the production designers from a classical theatre genre;
3. analyze a script from the classical theatre genre and identify differences from other genres and mediums;
4. define general technical theatre terminology.

