

Bergen Community College
Fine & Performing Arts Department

THR-131 - Stagecraft & Lighting

Syllabus & Student Guide

Date of Most Recent Syllabus Revision: July, 2018
Course Typically Offered: Fall X Spring ___ Every Semester ___ Other ___
Syllabus last reviewed by: BCC General Education Committee
Curriculum Committee _____

Basic Information About Course and Instructor

Semester and Year:
Course and Section Number:
Meeting Times and Locations:
Instructor:
Office Location:
Phone:
Departmental Secretary:
Office Hours:
Email Address:

Course Description: This course introduces the student to the theory and practice of stagecraft. It includes study in scene design, practice in construction of sets, and the setting and control of lighting. [Lecture [2.00] Laboratory [2.00].] 3 credits

Text: Illustrated Theatre Production Guide; John Holloway; Focal Press. 3rd Edition, 2014

Course Objectives: After completing this course students will

1. Be familiar with the range of tools used in the construction of scenery and stage lighting
2. Be familiar with the materials used in scenery construction and lighting
3. Have a working experience in the construction and finishing of scenery from design to finished product

4. Have a working experience in all operations necessary to realize a theatrical lighting design
5. Identify and define the general terms used in technical theatre and their applications.
6. Have a working experience in the running operations of a live theatre production
7. Have a thorough knowledge of the standards and practices required in the operation of a theatre including accepted industry safety standards.

In support of the above-mentioned goals, the course will include reading, writing, listening, and discussion assignments from the textbook and from theatre productions. In support of practical application of class material there will also be substantial hand-on activities in workshop and current entertainment events. Students are encouraged to take active student roles in the college's theatre productions.

Critical Thinking: Students will, through classroom discussion and actual shop or production situations, be encouraged to think about and apply the concepts involved in the design, construction of scenery, and realization of stage lighting.

Writing Activity: Through in class examinations students will be required to communicate the information and processes discussed in class in written form.

Grade Evaluation:

Exams ¹	30%
Successful Crew Work on BCC Productions ²	25%
Two Reaction Papers ³	20%
Homework ⁴	10%
Class Participation ⁵	15%
Total:	100%

¹ 3 Exams (5%, 10%) + Final Exam (15%)

² Students are expected to work on BCC productions. Work schedules will be posted for you to sign up.

Due to the hands on nature of this class it is required that all students work hours in addition to scheduled class hours.

Note: Workshop and production work is not only evaluated on time, but on the efficient use of that time and the quality of the work completed.

³ Reaction Papers will be assigned for each of the two BCC theatre productions.

All written assignments must be typed and completed on time.

⁴ Homework includes textbook readings; take home quizzes, and other assignments.

⁵ Participation: You are expected to participate in this class. You should come to class with any homework assignments completed and be prepared to ask questions and share your ideas. Students who do not participate or come to class unprepared will lose credit towards their final grade.

Criteria for Evaluation:

- ✓ on time and consistent attendance in class and assigned crew calls
- ✓ production work will be evaluated by the time worked and the quality of the work completed; **a log of all production/crew hours is required**
- ✓ evidence of studying text through class participation, homework assignments, and hands-on demonstration in class
- ✓ on time completion of all assigned work (both written and hands-on)
- ✓ passing grades on quizzes and exams

Safety: It is imperative that everyone in the class be mindful of everyone's safety. Power tools will be used in the theatre shop and so it is important to always be cautious and careful. Work clothing will be required, including hard covered shoes or boots -- absolutely no sandals. Everyone will be required to wear safety goggles and ear muffs or plugs. No necklaces or loose fitting garments can be worn around power tools. When working ground crew for a lighting hang, you must wear a hard hat. The mantra is: Safety first...Safety first...Safety first...Safety first...Safety first...Safety first...Safety first...Safety first...Safety first...Safety first...Safety first...

LATENESS: It is understood that there are times that unforeseen circumstances result in being late for class. On the other hand, students who are chronically late disrupt and negatively affect participation by other class members.

Chronic lateness will negatively affect your class participation and homework grade. This will result in a reduction of your Final Grade!

Attendance Policy:

The **BCC Attendance Policy** states that all students are expected to attend punctually every scheduled meeting of each course in which they are registered. **You are allowed two (2) unexcused absences.** More than two unexcused absences will result in a grade reduction. Six or more unexcused absences will result in a failing grade. **You are required to sign an attendance sheet at the beginning of each class session.**

Ask questions: We are always available to answer questions, address concerns, or explain the information presented in class or the textbook.

Academic Integrity

According to the BCC Catalog, each student is responsible for completing his/her own work.

Violations of academic integrity occur whenever a student:

- Uses unauthorized assistance in any academic work.
- Examples of this violation include, but are not limited to instances where a student:

- copies from another student's exam
- uses notes, books, electronic devices or other aids of any kind during an exam when doing so is prohibited
- steals an exam or possesses a stolen copy of any exam
- Gives unauthorized assistance to another student.
- Examples of this violation include instances when a student:
 - completes a graded academic activity or takes an exam for someone else
 - gives answers to or shares answers with another student before or during an exam or other graded academic activity
 - shares answers during an exam by using a system of signals
 - Fabricates data in support of an academic assignment.
- A student violates academic integrity when he or she:
 - cites sources that do not exist
 - cites sources that were not used
 - submits any academic assignment which contains falsified or fabricated data or results
- Inappropriately or unethically uses technological means to gain academic advantage
- Instances of this violation occur when a student:
 - inappropriately or unethically acquires material via the internet or by any other means
 - uses any devices (electronic or hidden) for communication or unauthorized retrieval of information during an exam
- Commits plagiarism

Plagiarism is defined as the act of taking someone else's words, opinions, or ideas and claiming them as one's own.

Examples of plagiarism include instances in which a student:

- knowingly represents the work of others as his/her own
- represents previously completed academic work as current
- submits a paper or other academic work for credit which includes words, ideas, data or creative work of others without acknowledging the source
- uses another author's exact words without enclosing them in quotation marks and citing them appropriately
- paraphrases or summarizes another student's words without citing the source appropriately

Violations of academic integrity in this class may result a failing grade for the semester!

Students committing their first and any subsequent violations of academic integrity will be referred to the Vice President for Student Affairs who make take additional sanctions and/or refer the student to the Student Judicial Board for appropriate action.

BOTTOM LINE: Do not cheat!

Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment will not be tolerated in any form and includes, but is not limited to:

- comments or actions that are sexually explicit in nature such that they may have the effect of creating a hostile classroom environment, including comments made in email messages or discussions in the online course.
- inappropriate, unwanted, offensive physical or verbal sexual advances and comment, including comments made in email messages or discussions in the online course.
- solicitation of sexual activity or other sex-linked behavior by promise of rewards, including comments made in email messages or discussions in the online course.
- gross sexual imposition such as touching, fondling, grabbing or assault

Sexual harassment complaints should be made to the Manager of Training and Compliance (Room A-330, phone number (201) 612- 5331).

If I observe sexual harassment, I will make my report to the Manager of Training and Compliance and to the Vice President for Student Affairs for appropriate action.

Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities relevant to their academic success should contact the Office of Specialized Services (OSS), where professionals are available to provide the appropriate assistance.

The services they offer include sign language interpreters, electronic readers, print enlargers and Braille printers, scribes, note takers, alternative testing arrangements, counseling, and support groups.

You can contact the Office of Specialized Services in Room L-115 or call (201) 612-5270.

Academic Support Services

Bergen Community College provides many services for students that you should take advantage of them.

The Henry and Edith Cerullo Learning Assistance Center (CLAC)

- Tutoring Center (L-125)
- Writing Center (L-125)
- Math & Science Walk-In Center (L-131)
- English Language Resources Center (C-212)
- Testing & Tutoring at the Meadowlands Campus (LYN-202)

The award-winning Cerullo Learning Assistance Center offers the following free tutorial services to currently enrolled Bergen Community College students.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One-on-One Appointments • Drop-in Assistance • Writing Walk-In • Reading Comprehension • Supplemental Instruction (SI) • In-Class/In-Lab Tutoring | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study Groups • Permanent Appointments • Online Tutoring: <i>Smarthinking</i> • Workshops • Intercultural Conversation Partners (ICP) |
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Along with helping you with specific subjects, the CLAC also can help you improve your academic self-confidence!

You can visit the CLAC in **Room L-125 in the Pitkin Education Center**, or call **201-879-7489**.

The BCC Library

Bergen Community College has an excellent library with outstanding staff. In addition to the physical materials (books, magazines, videos, etc.) available in the library students with a current ID number can access a broad range of electronic databases by going to the library website at:

<http://www.bergen.edu/library>

I recommend you take a brief tour of the Library Home Page to acquaint yourself with all of the resources they make available to students.