

WACO, TEXAS

**COURSE SYLLABUS AND**

**INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

**STAGECRAFT II DRAM 2331 - 01**

**KATHLEEN LAUNDY CHRIS COLE**

An Equal Opportunity Institution

**Course Description**:

This course is an introduction to design and its processes, with an emphasis on theatre and film. Students will learn to appropriately critique and articulate their observations about design. Students will learn to work creatively with other designers and gain a comprehension of the different facets of theatrical design.

Students are asked to participate in different ways throughout this course including, research, design, critical thinking and scholarship

**Expectations:**

• Students are responsible for all information given in class (both spoken and written) and all assignments.

• Assignments distributed in class will be posted on Blackboard as will any other pertinent course documents.

• All work will be submitted typed in hardcopy form unless otherwise stated on the syllabus. No work will be accepted via email.

• All assignments will be proofread for spelling and grammatical errors, as well as proper paragraph and paper structure when appropriate.

• If you are absent or tardy, you are responsible for contacting the instructor to find out what you missed and how to be prepared for the next class period.

• Students are required to attend ALL Department of Theatre Program productions.

**Goals:**

• You will begin to develop your own design aesthetic.

• You will use tools and vocabulary from each design discipline throughout the semester to develop design projects.

• You will begin to look at design as part of your daily life and recognize how design choices are made and why.

• You will gain a basic understanding of the tools of the designer and how to use them to create a design.

• You will be able to discuss design by referring to design elements and choices.

• You will be able to analyze an event and the characters involved.

• You will be able to visually represent your analysis through costume, lighting, and scenic design.

**Prerequisites and/or Corequisites**:

DRAM 1342 Intro to Costuming

DRAM 1330 Stagecraft I

**Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:**

The lecture section of this course meets Fridays 9-12. The lab section of this course requires that the student work an additional 48 hours over the course of the semester building costumes or scenery for that semester’s productions. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec/3 lab)

**Instructor Information:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Kathleen Laundy | Christopher Cole |
| klaundy@mclennan.edu | ccole@mclennan.edu |
| 254.299.8191 | 254.299.8118 |
| MTA 105F | MTA 105C |
|  | TTH 11-12 and by appt. (Appointment is preferred) |

Other Instruction Information: We are always available by email and during lab hours.

**Required Text & Materials**:

*The Tempest* – Shakespeare

*The Chairs-* Eugene Ionesco

*Arcadia* – Tom Stoppard

*Marisol*- Jose Rivera

*\** [**Click Here for the Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC’s Blackboard**](http://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/teaching-commons/requirements)

(**www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/teaching-commons/requirements**) Click on the link above for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC’s Blackboard learning management system.

**Required Texts:**

The Chairs by Eugene Ionesco

Arcadia by Tom Stoppard

Marisol by Jose Rivera

The Tempest by William Shakespeare

**Required Supplies:**

* Sketchbook – at least 9”x12” (new), NOT tape bound
* Pencils you are comfortable with (Non-Mechanical) Recommended – 2B, 4B, and 2H
* X-acto knife with number 11 blades
* Graphite drawing pencils (Non-Mechanical) Recommended- 2B, 4B and 2H
* Metal straight edge (ruler) with cork back
* Architect scale rule

**Other Supplies:**

Throughout this course you will need various art supplies, and color copies or printouts. In many cases you will be at liberty to choose the media you would like to work with. Art supplies can get expensive very quickly and often the visual feast provided at an art supply store woos you into purchasing more than you need. As the course advances supplies can be bought intermittently and based on an as needed basis.

Recommended Supplies (as needed for projects)

Graphite drawing pencils, 2H (not mechanical)

Kneaded art eraser

Pencil sharpener

Black core foam core

Elmers white glue

Watercolor paper (11”x15”), 4-10 sheets

Newsprint sketchbook (9”x12”)

Graphite drawing pencils in 2B, 4B, 6B, H, 2H

Bristol board

Black core presentation board (aka museum board, Letramax, mounting board)

Mat board

Cardboard or cutting mat for cutting with x-acto knife

Spray adhesive (super 77)

Straight pins

Spray paint

Clay

Modeling paste

Sandpaper

Pastels

Paper or board for rendering

Prisma color pencils

Watercolor or gouache paint

Acrylic paint

Paint brushes

**Methods of Teaching and Learning:**

9:00-9:15 – Sketching

9:15 – Lecture

10:15 –Break

10:20 – Lecture OR Hands on

11:20 – Break

11:25 – Critique Practice

11:55- Questions and Wrap UP

The lecture section of this course will provide fundamental information in production analysis, history, and design for the theatre through drawing, lectures, projects, and power point presentations.

The lab section of this course is designed to teach the theatre student basic design skills through projects and demonstrations, and provide fundamental training in theatrical production through work on MCC productions. In addition, the student will gain experience in the organization and execution of a running crew by participating during an actual production.

**COURSE OUTLINE:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Date** | **Core Topic** | **Assignment** | **Projects DUE** | **Production Info** |
| 1 | 1/19 | Syllabus ,Elements of Design |  |  |  |
| 2 | 1/26 | Critical Review Process/Concept | Visualize a Song |  |  |
| 3 | 2/3 | Visualize a Song Critique/Scene Design Process/Model building | Read The Chairs  Chairs Project | Visualize a Song |  |
| 4 | 2/10 | Scene Design Process/Images and Story Boards/Discuss Chairs |  | Have Read the Chairs |  |
| 5 | 2/17 | Script & Character Analysis/ |  |  |  |
| 6 | 2/24 | The Chairs Critique/ Costume Design | Read Arcadia | The Chairs Project | South Pacific |
| 7 | 3/2 | Costume Design/In Class Production Response/Discuss Arcadia | Arcadia Project/Production Response | Have Read Arcadia/ Production Response |  |
|  | 3/9 | Spring Break |  |  |  |
| 8 | 3/16 | Costume Design |  |  |  |
| 9 | 3/23 | Costume Design/Arcadia Critique | Read Marisol/ Marisol Project | Arcadia Project |  |
|  | 3/30 | Good Friday |  |  |  |
| 10 | 4/6 | Lighting Design/Discuss Marisol |  | Have Marisol Read |  |
| 11 | 4/13 | Sound Design |  |  |  |
| 12 | 4/20 | Marisol Critique/Final Preparation |  | Marisol Project |  |
| 13 | 4/27 | Group Work and Discussion |  |  | The Wind in the Willows |
| 14 | 5/4 | Final Exam Critique/In Class Production Response |  | Tempest Group Project |  |
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This schedule is subject to change depending on the requirements of the specific season’s production needs. Students will be notified of any changes by posting the information in Blackboard and announcements made in class.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Assignment** | **Points Possible** | | Visualizing a Song Project | 100 | | (Scene Design) | 100 | | (Costume Design) | 100 | | (Sound & Lighting) | 100 | | In Class Show Response (2 @50 EA) | 100 | | (Final Project) | 200 | | Class Participation | 100 | | Lab Hours | 200 | | Total | 1000 | |
| **Breakdown of Final Grade:**  **Grading Scale:**   * + - 1000-900 = A     - 899-800 = B     - 799-700 = C     - 699-600 = D     - Below 599 = F   • A (900-1000) - “A” work demonstrates significant development throughout each project and the course as a whole. You participate daily as an invested student/scholar/designer. Your work is turned in on time, complete, appropriate to the assignment, and demonstrates thoughtful application of the materials covered in class. Your work demonstrates thoughtful preparation, and presentation and craftsmanship enhance the project. You can speak clearly and knowledgeably about your work and actively participate in the critique process.    • B (800-899) - “B” work demonstrates some development throughout each project and the course as a whole. You participate daily as a student. Your work is turned in on time, complete, appropriate to the assignment, and demonstrates application of the materials covered in class. You speak clearly and knowledgeably about your work.    • C (700-799) - “C” work demonstrates little development throughout each project and the course as a whole. Your work is turned in on time and complete. You participate during most class periods as a student. Your work meets the requirements of the course work.  • D (600-699)- “D” work demonstrates little or no development throughout each project and course as a whole. You participate little during class sessions. Your work does not meet the requirements of the course work. |

**CLASS ATTENDANCE:**

Absence Policy: Due to the studio nature of this course, attendance is mandatory at all scheduled classes and scheduled lab sessions. Each student is allowed 1 unexcused absence for the semester. Absences in excess of that number will result in the student’s final course grade being reduced by 50 points for each excessive absence

Excused Absences: The student is responsible for providing satisfactory evidence to the instructor to substantiate the reason for absence. Excused absence documentation is due within one week of the last date of absence. Among the reasons absences are considered excused by the university are the following:

• Participation in an activity appearing on the College authorized activity list.

• Death or major illness in a student’s immediate family.

• Illness of a dependent family member.

• Participation in legal proceedings or administrative procedures that require a student’s presence.

• Religious holy day.

• Injury or Illness that is too severe or contagious for the student to attend class.

• The instructor is under no obligation to provide an opportunity for the student to make up work missed because of an unexcused absence.

Disciplinary Absences: If you are asked to leave the class for a disciplinary reason, the removal from class will count as an unexcused absence. You will be asked to leave class if you are disruptive, inconsiderate or unprepared with required readings

**Tardiness Policy:**

Tardiness will be penalized. Two tardies will equal one unexcused absence. You are tardy after roll is called at the beginning of class. A tardy of more than 15 minutes becomes an absence.

• Students are responsible for all information given in class (both spoken and written) and all assignments.

• Assignments distributed in class will be posted on eCampus as will any other pertinent course documents.

• If you are absent or tardy, you are responsible for contacting the instructor to find out what you missed and how to be prepared for the next class period.

• Please be courteous to your instructor and fellow students by arriving on time.

• Attendance will be taken at Lab and Strike. Strike attendance will be taken at the end of strike so if you leave early you will be counted as not present.

**A Note on Content**

Theatre, historically and currently, deals with complex and controversial issues; it is often challenging and at times uncomfortable. It would therefore be impossible to offer a meaningful introduction to theatre that did not engage, at times, with potentially difficult issues including religion, gender, race, sexuality, class, violence and politics. Many of us will have different responses to the plays we read and attend, and that is an excellent thing; in our discussions, all thoughtfully and respectfully expressed viewpoints are welcome and encouraged. However, no one may be excused from reading, viewing, or discussing a play based on its content. Students who are concerned about the content of this class or their ability to complete the required work should talk to me.

**A Note about respect**

In this class, we will engage in discussion about theatrical productions, current events, historical views about race, sex, religion. As we engage in discussion remember that we are not always going to agree on a subject but that it is crucial that we remain respectful of others views even if we disagree. I will allow discussion and at times that may lead to CIVIL discourse. I will not tolerate disrespect of your fellow students or myself. If I find your comments to be disrespectful I will warn you, second you will be removed from class for the day, if it happens again or if I find your level of disrespect to be severe I will remove you from class and you will receive an F in the course. If you cannot articulate your thoughts in a respectful manner then it is probably best you keep those thoughts and comments to yourself.

**Communicating via E-mail:**

All Emails about class work or absences should be sent from your MCC email account. I will not open emails that do not come from a university account.

Please check your e-mail and your eCampus page frequently. These will be my primary modes of communication with you. Although e-mail is often used informally, you should observe the basics of written communication in professional emails.

To receive a response from me, I urge you to do the following:

1) Use a greeting [Dear Professor Cole or Professor Laundy],

2) Write in complete sentences.

3) Always sign your name and section number at the bottom of your message. I cannot always decipher your name from your email address.

I will not respond to emails asking for information already provided in the syllabus. If you do not hear back from me within 24 hours AND you have read the syllabus carefully and cannot find an answer, please re-send your email. I do not typically check or respond to email over the weekend or during university holidays.

*\** [**Click Here for the MCC Academic Integrity Statement**](http://www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity/)

# (www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity)

The link above will provide you with information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating.

*\** [**Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy**](http://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide-2014-15/policies)

# (www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide-2014-15/policies)

Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences. Your instructor may have guidelines specific to this course.

# Disabilities/ADA Statement

Any student who may require special arrangements in order to meet course requirements because of a disability should contact Disability Services as soon as possible to make necessary arrangements. Once that process is completed, appropriate verification from Disability Services will be provided to the student and instructor. Please note that instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification from Disability Services has been provided. For additional information, please visit [mclennan.edu/disability.](http://www.mclennan.edu/disability/)

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:

Laura Caruthers, Success Coach, Disability Services

disabilities@mclennan.edu

254-299-8122

Room 249D, Completion Center, in the Student Services Center

[*\** **Click Here for more information about Title IX**](http://www.mclennan.edu/titleix/)

# (www.mclennan.edu/titleix)

We care about your safety, and value an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. If you or someone you know experiences unwelcomed behavior, we are here to help. Individuals who would like to report an incident of sexual misconduct are encouraged to immediately contact the Title IX Coordinators at titleix@mclennan.edu or to call Dr. Drew Canham (Vice President for Student Success) at 2998645 or Missy Kittner (Director, Human Resources) at 299-8514. Individuals also may contact the MCC Police Department at 299-8911 or Counseling Services at MCC by calling 299-8210.

McLennan’s Title IX webpage [(http://www.mclennan.edu/titleix/)](http://www.mclennan.edu/titleix/) contains more information about definitions, reporting, confidentiality, resources, and what to do if you or someone you know is a victim of sexual misconduct, gender-based violence or the crimes of rape, acquaintance rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence or domestic violence.