

# BUTTE COLLEGE

## COURSE OUTLINE

### I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

#### **DRAM 22 - Introduction to Stage Lighting**

**3 Unit(s)**

**Prerequisite(s):** NONE

**Recommended Prep:** NONE

**Transfer Status:** CSU

34 hours Lecture

51 hours Lab

This course involves the study and execution of stage lighting with emphasis on equipment, control, color and their relationship to design. Students will engage in theoretical discussions and review artistic pursuit in lighting design, as well as participate in "hands-on" activities in a practical setting. (C-ID THTR 173).

### II. OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Identify, define and describe terminology commonly associated with theatrical lighting design and execution
- B. Identify the controllable qualities of theatrical lighting
- C. Identify the functions of theatrical lighting
- D. Recognize and explain the different types of drawings and paperwork commonly used in theatrical lighting design
- E. Calculate the capacity of electrical wire gage and safe current flow
- F. Demonstrate an understanding of the function of various theatrical lighting instruments
- G. Recall and practice safety information concerning electrical hazards
- H. Participate in the hanging, circuiting, focusing, and operation of theatrical lighting equipment
- I. Demonstrate an understanding of style, color, texture, angle and mood as they relate to theatrical lighting design
- J. Produce the paperwork necessary to implement a lighting design

### III. COURSE CONTENT

#### **A. Unit Titles/Suggested Time Schedule**

Lecture	
<u>Topics</u>	<u>Hours</u>
1. Introduction to designing with light	3.00
2. Electrical theory and practice	3.00
3. Lighting Equipment	4.00
4. Lighting design paperwork	3.00
5. Rehearsal and performance procedures	5.00
6. Color theory	3.00
7. Lighting angles	3.00
8. Advanced and in depth theories of lighting design	10.00
a. Dramas	
b. Comedies	
c. Musicals	
d. Dance concert lighting	
Total Hours	34.00

## Lab

<u>Topics</u>	<u>Hours</u>
1. Assist in the supervision of stage crews	7.00
2. Supervision of instrument and cable repair	7.00
3. Supervision of hanging, focusing and circuiting of lighting equipment for departmental productions	7.00
4. Practical applications of lighting design	7.00
5. Organizing and performing the duties of Master Electrician for departmental production	7.00
6. Organizing and performing the duties of Assistant Lighting Designer for Departmental Production	8.00
7. Designing the lighting for a departmental production	8.00
Total Hours	51.00

#### IV. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- A. Lecture
- B. Homework: Students are required to complete two hours of outside-of-class homework for each hour of lecture
- C. Discussion
- D. Demonstrations
- E. Group Activity

#### V. METHODS OF EVALUATION

- A. Quizzes
- B. Lab Projects
- C. Written Assignments
- D. Mid-term and final examinations

#### VI. EXAMPLES OF ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Reading Assignments
  - 1. Read the script of a play selected by the instructor to analyze the setting and scenes of the play.
  - 2. Read reviews and articles on lighting design in the trade journal "Live Design Magazine" or other publications(print or internet-based), and discuss readings.
- B. Writing Assignments
  - 1. Write a detailed analysis of requirements for the lighting elements of a play selected by the instructor.
  - 2. Write a critique of a live play production detailing the artistic design concepts of the lighting as well as the functionality of the lighting within the world of the particular production.
- C. Out-of-Class Assignments
  - 1. Attend at least two live performances of plays, musicals, or dance productions and be prepared to discuss the elements of lighting used to enhance the performance.
  - 2. Complete a basic lighting plot of an assigned play or production for class presentation.

#### VII. RECOMMENDED MATERIALS OF INSTRUCTION

Textbooks:

- A. Gillette, J. Michael.. Designing with Light. 5th Edition. Mayfield Publishing, 2007.
- B. Mort, Skip. The Stage Lighting - The Technicians Guide: An On-The-Job Reference Tool. Bloomsbury USA, 2011.

Materials Other Than Textbooks:

- A. Selected scripts according to the production
- B. Ground plans, models, light plot
- C. Color elevations, color renderings
- D. Scenic Design for Theatre (Gillette)

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