

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for THEA 48A

TECHNICAL THEATER IN PRODUCTION - BEGINNING

Effective: Fall 2015

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

THEA 48A — TECHNICAL THEATER IN PRODUCTION - BEGINNING — 3.00 units

Students will gain practical experience in the application of production responsibilities in any of the following: stage management, house management, construction, scenery, properties, costume, lighting, sound, and running crews. Enrollment is for the duration of the semester.

1.00 Units Lecture 2.00 Units Lab

Strongly Recommended

THEA 50 - Stagecraft
 with a minimum grade of C

Grading Methods:

Letter or P/NP

Discipline:

Family: Theater Tech

	MIN
Lecture Hours:	18.00
Lab Hours:	108.00
Total Hours:	126.00

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 1

III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

Before entering this course, it is strongly recommended that the student should be able to:

A. THEA50

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

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

- A. Demonstrate proficiency in the skills required for a technical theatre crew, specifically as they relate to backstage skills, running crew, costume crew, prop management, and general costume management and assistance.
- B. Employ basic skills to address the technical demands of a theatrical production, as a member of the backstage and/or pre-production crew.
- C. Execute assignment responsibilities in technical rehearsals, during production run, and strike.
- D. Work safely and effectively in one or more of the following areas of technical theater:
 1. Props construction
 2. Set construction
 3. Scenery painting
 4. Lighting equipment rigging
 5. Work on a running crew
 6. Costume construction

V. CONTENT:

- A. Assignment to production and performance responsibilities
- B. Preparation for production including necessary theatrical techniques.
- C. Identify and safely utilize appropriate tools to fulfill production requirements for performance.
- D. Basic technical theatre terminology.
- E. Recognize and demonstrate collaborative responsibilities with the director, designers, and crew supervisors.
- F. Demonstrate and apply basic skills in running a production.
- G. Create, maintain or construct basic production elements.
- H. Active participation in the creation of theatrical sets and props.
 1. Construction
 2. Painting
- I. Active participation in preparing lighting

1. Hanging, gelling and focusing lights
2. Electrical hook-ups
3. Recording of cues
- J. Participation in the running of a show
 1. Working on the running crew (set changers)
- K. Work on the strike (taking down) of the set and lights
- L. Active participation in costuming a show
 1. Building costumes
 2. Finding costumes
 3. Organizing the costumes
 4. Cleaning and return

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. Pre-work instruction on the handling of materials and tools 1. Techniques 2. Safety
- B. Hands-on instruction in the process of creating the scenery pieces, costumes and lighting
- C. Presence and supervision during performances.
- D. Hands-on instruction in running a lighting and sound board during rehearsals
- E. Pre-work instruction in the techniques and procedures of running a lighting or sound board

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. Constructing a theatrical "flat" for use in a play or musical
 1. Assembling the wood framework
 2. Attaching the canvas or luan
 3. Painting
 4. Creating the means of support
 5. Handling the piece on stage
- B. Building or gathering costumes materials for a specific costume to be used in production
- C. Hanging and Focusing a light, required for use in production
- D. Striking the set and costumes, post production

VIII. EVALUATION:

A. **Methods**

1. Quizzes
2. Projects
3. Class Participation
4. Class Work
5. Lab Activities
6. Other:
 - a. Evaluation and grading will be based on:
 1. the completion of assigned tasks;
 2. the level of diligence and timeliness in completing tasks;
 3. attitude plus the spirit of cooperation with staff and colleagues;
 4. safety observance.

B. **Frequency**

1. Quizzes on safety will be issued once
2. All other evaluations will be completed upon individual project completion

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

1. Carver, R. *Stagecraft Fundamentals Second Edition: A Guide and Reference for Theatrical Production*. 2 ed., Focal Press, 2012.
2. Sammler, Ben. *Technical Design Solutions for Theatre Volume 3.*, Focal Press , 2013.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS:

- A. Students will be required to own and utilize safety glasses and work boots.