



Fall 2018

**AET 347: Projection Design - Unique # 21034****TD 354T: Projection Design - Unique #26150**

Tuesday / Thursday, 9:30am – 11:00am PAC 3.204

**OVERVIEW**

Projections and imagery have been part of the theatrical language since the beginning of the 20th century. However, the technological innovations of the last two decades have created a vast array of new challenges and opportunities for visual storytellers and designers. This course will examine the history, technology, and aesthetics of projection and media, and will introduce the student to the processes and techniques used by projection & media designers.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is a lecture/lab course designed to introduce students to the field of projection design. The primary focus is on the process and techniques that produce and realize projection designs in live performance environments.

The approach to this end is threefold:

First, you will research and discuss the work of visual artists, designers, and directors who have influenced the field of projection design. This will be accomplished primarily through reading, research, class discussion and

Second, you will learn about the technology and techniques used for creating and installing projections. This includes projectors, lenses, playback system hardware and software, control systems, projection surfaces, projector placement, lens calculation, projection system design as well as basic editing and creation of media for this application.

We will make use of the resources of the PLAllab classroom (PAC.3.204) to explore the principles and equipment types involved in this field of work.

You will also be acquainted with the current equipment resources used for projection here at U.T.

Third, you will learn the process and workflow of the projection designer.

This component consists of lectures, discussions, lectures and conversations by guests artists and the creation of your own designs under guidance. These designs will be realized through the combinations of scaled-down representations of the chosen architectural spaces (model boxes) and the use of miniature projectors.

You will analyze one play and another piece of work that is either a musical or themed entertainment. You will develop imagery for use in those productions. Your work will be presented and critiqued in class to enhance the understanding of art and design theory and the development of technical, creative and analytical skills. Developing the imagery will draw not only upon your skills as an artist, but your skills as a designer and collaborator.

The instructor draws on his extensive experience in live entertainment to provide context and real-world examples for the topics and techniques discussed in this course. Professor Ortel's pioneering work has informed the methodologies taught in this class in the field of projection design over the last two decades.

### **LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

By the end of the semester, students will be able to:

- recognize and analyze a variety of projection principles;
- critically examine projection techniques;
- apply designs utilized for live performance;
- effectively participate in a collaborative design process; and
- create and implement a projection design

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

- Participation (15%): Students should come to class each day prepared to contribute to the day's conversation.
- Project 1 (25%): Design Process - "Measure for Measure": Create a written design concept, scene breakdown, and two basic design renderings.
- Critical Writing (5%): Write a single page, double-spaced paper in which you describe a live event attended that utilized projection. This paper should serve as a critical examination of both the "visuals" experienced and your interpretation or reaction.
- Project 2 (20%): Drafting your projection design for Measure for measure: Draft a complete projection plot, projection section, system diagram, surface diagram, equipment list, and budget. This project illustrates the student's understanding of VectorWorks and the technical requirements for a successfully implemented projection design.
- Project 3 (30%): Integration - "Three Penny Opera" or Digital Experience/ Themed Entertainment: Create original content for your design. The created content is to be played back through the use of projection playback software (Qlab) and projected inside a scale model onto surfaces you specify. You will

need to make judicious use of miniature projectors to realize your design. This project illustrates the student's understanding of the entire projection process from research to design and then to implementation.

- Attendance (5%): Attendance is taken during every class.

## CLASS POLICIES

### PREREQUISITES

This course also relies on research, daily preparation and homework. You will need to use the extensive UT library system, the internet, and any departmental or citywide resources available.

It will be necessary to have a working knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel (or some other spreadsheet program and word processor) as well as basic technical drawing skills (AutoCAD or Vectorworks). Familiarize yourself with the pdf format and the techniques that allow you to convert your documents into pdf files as many assignments have to be submitted in that format.

You will need to have access to a computer, a scanner, a copier, and a printer. You will need an external hard drive or USB stick to transfer your work and files between computers for assignments

Faulty equipment is not an excuse. Practice good e-habits and save, back-up or store your work so a quick transfer to another piece of equipment after system failure is possible.

### ATTENDANCE

Attendance is critical in the professional world and this class as our goal is to prepare for a successful professional career after you graduate.

- ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY- Tardiness and absence for this course will cause your total grade to fall. Design/Technology is an art form of collaboration and participation with fellow artists. Your inability to attend and participate will be viewed as a failure to complete an important facet of this course. Attendance will be taken at each class. EACH UNEXCUSED ABSENCE WILL DROP YOUR SEMESTER GRADE A WHOLE LETTER. THREE UNEXCUSED ABSENCES WILL RESULT IN A FAILING GRADE.
- Excused absences include:
  1. Absences documented in advance in writing with my prior approval (no third party advocates)
  2. Illness excused with a note from the doctor or infirmary
  3. Death, yours, mine or a close relative (funeral notice required)

THREE TARDYS = ONE UNEXCUSED ABSENCE (i.e. ONE LETTER GRADE DROP)

- All reading, research and homework assignments must be completed before the beginning of each class period. Follow the class schedule for these due dates. Failure to prepare or complete work as assigned will cause your otherwise stellar grade to plummet drastically.
- Neatness, scholarship, and presentation all count towards your final grade.

- You are responsible for making up missed work for excused absences. It is your responsibility to obtain assignments and lecture notes from one of your classmates.

This course relies heavily on research, daily preparation and homework. You will need to use the extensive UT library system, the internet, and any departmental or city wide resources available (such as museums, galleries, historical collections). It will be necessary to have a working knowledge of Word, Excel (or some other spreadsheet program) and Outlook (or some other calendar program). It will be necessary to have access to a computer, a scanner, a copier, and a printer for duplicating research and sketches. Faulty equipment is not an excuse. Practice good e-habits and save or store your work so a quick transfer to another piece of equipment after system failure will not be traumatic.

### **Course Communication**

The syllabus and assignments will be posted on the course Canvas site. All communication outside class hours is via canvas.

There are many students in this course, and it will help everyone if you post questions in the discussions area whenever possible. If you send me a private message via canvas, I will attempt to respond to messages within 24 hours on weekdays. I will skim posts in the Discussions myself, and comment when I think there is something interesting or something that needs to be discussed in class.

I will check my email two times a day: at noon and in the evening.

It is your responsibility to

1. Make yourself familiar with the canvas learning system. Start [here](#).
2. Make sure you can receive announcements and get notified about messages, assignment updates, announcements, etc. More info [here](#).

Pay attention to the canvas notification preferences.

3. Ask questions. Do not make assumptions.

### **Assignments**

• Assignments are explained in class and are available to view in Canvas. The big assignments are given in week one and eight of the semester and are described in class and on canvas. Smaller assignments may be made throughout the semester as the need arises. Often it becomes necessary to demonstrate a point or clarify an element of the process to assign a small homework exercise on a particular topic or skill. When this occurs these assignments become a part of your overall grade for class participation and collaboration.

• You are responsible for making up missed work for excused absences. It is your responsibility to obtain assignments and lecture notes from one of your classmates.

• It is your responsibility to ask and inquire if you are not clear about what is required or when.

### Assignment Deadlines

It is vital that you do not get behind in this class as all work builds upon previous work. As a general rule all projects, reading, research, and homework assignments must be completed before the beginning of each class period. However, many class assignments have a due date and time in the evening before class. That allows me to review your work and provide feedback as well as prepare for a discussion based on the submitted work during the next lesson. If you submit your assignment late, it will not be reviewed in class.

All work is due as specified in the assignment listed on canvas. Work not completed before the canvas deadline will be considered late.

Any work turned in late, regardless of the excuse, will result in a grade reduction of one full letter for each calendar date it is late (an A would become a B and so on).

In summary:

Every assignment has a due date and time.

I do accept work after that. However, assignments automatically lose **one full grade** for every day they are submitted late, and they will not be reviewed in class.

Any work turned in more than four calendar days late will receive an automatic F. If you are having difficulty completing your work on time, please speak to me privately so that I can work out an arrangement with you.

### Evaluation and grading

Neatness, scholarship, and presentation will all count towards your final grade. Communicating clearly by visual means is a part of the process.

YOU WILL BE GRADED ON:

- Reading, Discussion, Participation (15%)
- Critical Writing (5%)
- Project 1: Measure For Measure Design Project (25%)
- Project 2: Technical support documents for project 1 (20%)
- Project 3: Three Penny Opera or Digital Experience Design/ Themed Entertainment (30%)
- Attendance (5%)

This course does not have a final exam.

### Grading Scheme

**A** - Represents **outstanding** participation in all course activities. All assigned work must be completed on time and with a very high quality of demonstrated skill and technique. There is an evidence of significant development across all dimensions of learning. The result at this level demonstrates activity that goes *significantly* beyond the required course work in one or more areas.

**B** - Represents **excellent** participation in all course activities; all assigned work must be completed on time with consistently high quality in course work. There is an evidence of marked development across all dimensions of learning.

**C** - Represents **good** participation in all course activities; all assigned work completed, with generally good quality in course work. There is evidence of some development across all dimensions of learning.

**D** - Represents **uneven** participation in all course activities; some gaps in assigned work completed, with inconsistent quality in course work. The evidence of development across all dimensions of learning is unclear.

**F** - Represents **minimal** participation in all course activities; serious gaps in assigned work completed, or very low quality in course work. Development evidence is not available.

Please Note: If you are concerned about your grade – check in with us regularly so that we can determine where you're at, and what might need to be done to correct any problems. Do not wait until the end of the semester!

Canvas does show you your grades on any assignment that has been graded.

### Privacy

What we say about each other's work during this class should remain in the classroom. It will not be published in a blog or on any other personal websites, tweeted or posted on social networks.

### About services for students with disabilities:

The University of Texas provides appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more info, contact the Dean of Students at 471-6259, 471-4641 TTY

TEXTS

### Mobile devices

Mobile devices of any kind need to be silenced and put away. I do not want to hear any notifications (including vibrations) or sounds coming from them.

Texting and other cell phone-related activity is never appropriate during class

### Books required

William Shakespeare: *Measure For Measure*

Bertolt Brecht: *The Threepenny Opera*

Recommended: Theatre Svoboda (available at [realeyz.tv](http://realeyz.tv).)

reference online:

[www.projctn.com](http://www.projctn.com)

[www.projectorcentral.com](http://www.projectorcentral.com)

UTiM wiki: <https://wikis.utexas.edu/display/UTIM/UT+Integrated+Media+Home>

**Resources and equipment**

You may need to check out cameras and camera support from UTIM, the COFA library, or The Foundry. You will be responsible for their return in good shape.

You will need access to computers with movie and picture editing software.

These can be found in the TADL (WIN 1.138) on the ground floor outside the Brocket Theatre (15 iMACs with Adobe CC), The Foundry at the Fine Arts

Be sure to back everything up to a personal drives.



**University Policies****Religious Holy Days**

By UT Austin policy, you must notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, I will give you an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

**Q Drop Policy**

The State of Texas has enacted a law that limits the number of course drops for academic reasons to six (6). As stated in Senate Bill 1231:

“Beginning with the fall 2007 academic term, an institution of higher education may not permit an undergraduate student a total of more than six dropped courses, including any course a transfer student has dropped at another institution of higher education, unless the student shows good cause for dropping more than that number.”

**Documented Disability Statement**

Any student with a documented disability who requires academic accommodations should contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at (512) 471-6259 (voice) or 1-866-329-3986 (video phone). Faculty are not required to provide accommodations without an official accommodation letter from SSD. (Note to Faculty: Details of a student’s disability are confidential. Faculty should not ask questions related to a student’s condition or diagnosis when receiving an official accommodation letter.)

Please notify me as quickly as possible if the material being presented in class is not accessible (e.g., instructional videos need captioning, course packets are not readable for proper alternative text conversion, etc.).

Please notify me as early in the semester as possible if disability-related accommodations for field trips are required. Advanced notice will permit the arrangement of accommodations on the given day (e.g., transportation, site accessibility, etc.).

- Contact Services for Students with Disabilities at 471-6259 (voice) or 1-866-329-3986 (video phone) or reference SSD’s website for more disability-related information: [http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/for\\_cstudents.php](http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/for_cstudents.php) (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.

**Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL)**

If you are worried about someone who is acting differently, you may use the Behavior Concerns Advice Line to discuss by phone your concerns about another individual’s behavior. This service is provided through a partnership among the Office of the Dean of Students, the Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC), the Employee

Assistance Program (EAP), and The University of Texas Police Department (UTPD). Call 512-232-5050 or visit <http://www.utexas.edu/safety/bcal> (Links to an external site.)

### **Evacuation Information**

The following are the recommendations regarding emergency evacuation from the Office of Campus Safety and Security, 512-471-5767, <http://www.utexas.edu/safety/>

Occupants of buildings on The University of Texas at Austin campus are required to evacuate buildings when an alarm or alert is activated.

Alarm activation or announcement requires exiting and assembling outside, unless told otherwise by an official representative.

Familiarize yourself with all exit doors of each classroom and building you may occupy. Remember that the nearest exit door may not be the one you used when entering the building.

Students requiring assistance in evacuation shall inform their instructor in writing during the first week of class.

In the event of an evacuation, follow the instruction of faculty or class instructors. Do not re-enter a building unless given instructions by the following: Austin

Fire Department, The University of Texas at Austin  
Police Department, or Fire Prevention Services office.

Link to information regarding emergency evacuation routes and emergency procedures can be found at: [www.utexas.edu/emergency](http://www.utexas.edu/emergency)

### **Academic Integrity**

Each student in the course is expected to abide by the University of Texas Honor Code:

**“As a student of The University of Texas at Austin, I shall abide by the core values of the University and uphold academic integrity.”**

This means that work you produce on assignments, tests and exams is all your own work, unless it is assigned as group work. I will make it clear for each test, exam or assignment whether collaboration is encouraged or not.

**Always cite your sources.**

If you use words or ideas that are not your own (or that you have used in a previous class), you must make that clear otherwise you will be guilty of plagiarism and subject to academic disciplinary action, including failure of the course.

You are responsible for understanding UT's Academic Honesty Policy which can be found at the following web address: [http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/acint\\_student.php](http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/acint_student.php)

**University Resources for Students**

The university has numerous resources for students to provide assistance and support for your learning, use these to help you succeed in your classes.

**The Sanger Learning Center**

Did you know that more than one-third of UT undergraduate students use the Sanger Learning Center each year to improve their academic performance? All students are welcome to take advantage of Sanger Center's classes and workshops, private learning specialist appointments, peer academic coaching, and tutoring for more than 70 courses in 15 different subject areas. For more information, please visit <http://www.utexas.edu/ugs/slc> or call 512-471-3614 (JES A332).

**The University Writing Center**

The University Writing Center offers free, individualized, expert help with writing for any UT student, by appointment or on a drop-in basis. Consultants help students develop strategies to improve their writing. The assistance we provide is intended to foster students' resourcefulness and self-reliance. <http://uwc.utexas.edu/>

**Counseling and Mental Health Center**

The Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC) provides counseling, psychiatric, consultation, and prevention services that facilitate students' academic and life goals and enhance their personal growth and well-being. <http://cmhc.utexas.edu/>

**Student Emergency Services**

<http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/emergency/>

**ITS**

Need help with technology? <http://www.utexas.edu/its/>

**Libraries**

Need help searching for information? <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/>

**Canvas**

Canvas help is available 24/7

at <https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/633028/pages/student-tutorials>