

# THEATRE 266 SYLLABUS

## Drafting for the Theatre

9AM-Noon\* Monday - Friday

Armstrong Hall Technology Classroom G46

**Instructor:** Scott Olinger  
Office – Armstrong G44 (895-4233)  
Home – 319-361-6349  
email:solinger@cornellcollege.edu

**Office Hours:** Noon - 1 T, Th,  
and by appointment

The required text for this course is *Drafting for the Theatre*, by Dennis Dorn and Mark Shanda. It is available in the campus bookstore for you to purchase. A list of required supplies is furnished later in the syllabus. The online help text files for AutoCAD will also be helpful to consult and are available by clicking on the help menu within the program.

## EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

1. In the event of fire or a building evacuation, please exit through the north side of the building (the “front”) and gather as a group in the grass outside of Merner Hall.
2. In the event of a tornado or severe weather emergency, go to the greenroom hallway.
3. In the event of a medical emergency, call 911 (9-911 from a campus phone) and then call public safety at x4299. Send someone to wait at the front and rear entrances to the building to guide first responders to the classroom.
4. In the event of a violent weapons incident, lock and barricade doors, turn off lights, close window blinds, get low and stay behind cover (desks, walls, etc.). Silence cell phones and stay quiet. Stay put until notified by safety officials that it is safe to leave.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

Design requires a precise method of communication between those who would conceive and those who would implement. Although the rendering may be sufficient to convince the client of the overall appearance of a given project, more precision is needed to communicate with the carpenters and crafts persons who will construct. Drafting provides a clear and specific way of communicating the information.

In this class we will address the following goals (note the italicized College Educational Priorities):

1. Develop the *mechanical skills* of theatre drafting, utilizing AutoCAD 2018. We will utilize skills in both two dimensional and three dimensional modeling (*Reasoning, Knowledge*).

2. Develop proficiency in ***USITT graphic standards*** for drafting. The United States Institute for Theatre Technology is the most universally accepted governing body that has established standards for the entertainment industry (*Communication*).

3. Gain an understanding of ***the role of drafting*** as the ***primary means of communication*** between the designer and those who will execute the design (*Communication, Vocation*).

The learning objective of the Department of Theatre are as follows:

- ***Intercultural Literacy and Inquiry***

Students will analyze and critique the social and cultural context of historical and contemporary theatrical conventions using a range of scholarly methods.

- ***Knowledge and Application***

Students will develop an understanding of theatrical expression through creative application of knowledge in the areas of performance, management, directing, research, analysis, design and technology.

- ***Collaboration***

Students will engage in and support the collaborative nature of the production process and evaluate the artistic choices that contribute to the theatrical event.

- ***Vocation***

Students will discover and prepare for the range of theatrical opportunities and challenges that await them beyond their college experience.

- ***Well-Being***

Students will embrace partnership, empathy, and professionalism in an effort to promote the individual, civic, and social responsibilities necessary for a fulfilling life. In this course, we will focus on knowledge and application, collaboration, and vocation.

## **COURSE STRUCTURE**

THE 266 is a hands on lab course, designed to keep you working with the software constantly. We will begin by learning basic commands, and then complete small projects with them, leading the way to more complicated concepts, projects, and eventually three dimensional objects and full stage sets. Please keep in mind that AutoCAD is a massive program; there is no way we will cover all of its applications, nor will we utilize the program as engineers or architects might. There are also many ways in which things can be accomplished through the software; don't be surprised if later I show you shortcuts after we have learned a longer way around. Be aware that this lab is shared by both the

music and theatre department, and is the only lab on campus with this software package. It is not networked, so you cannot run it from your dorm room, or in another lab. The educational version of the software is available for download, but the specs required are significant. Please consult [www.autodesk.com](http://www.autodesk.com) to determine if your computer can handle the software. Plan ahead for usage of the labs. I will sign passes for you, but they will be revoked if you misuse the lab, or are discovered wandering around the theatre by Public Safety. Remember that this class sometimes has more students than machines, there are even more music students who will need the machines as well, and projects frequently take more time than you expect. Plan ahead or be prepared to suffer the consequences.

## CLASS ATTENDANCE

Attendance is mandatory and will be taken each day by the instructor. If you come in late, it is your responsibility to make sure the instructor recorded your attendance. Missing more than fifteen minutes of any class will be considered an absence. Repeated lateness will result in a shortening of this time. **Each absence will result in a loss of one letter grade for the course.** If you have an excused absence, contact the instructor immediately upon returning to class. Excused absences include illness (with valid doctor's excuse), school-sanctioned activities, death in the family, etc. Final approval of absence rests with instructor. **NOTE: Prolonged absences from class, excused or otherwise, will have a detrimental effect on your grade.**

A note on the 15th day course drop: students are only eligible to drop on the fifteenth day if the instructor feels that the student has made every effort to master the material and pass the course and has attended all class periods. A 15<sup>th</sup> day drop is NOT a chance to avoid a poor grade due to frequent absences, poor studying, and general poor habits on a student's part.

## ACADEMIC HONESTY

The following is reprinted from The Compass:

Cornell College expects all members of the Cornell community to act with academic integrity. An important aspect of academic integrity is respecting the work of others. A student is expected to explicitly acknowledge ideas, claims, observations, or data of others, unless generally known. When a piece of work is submitted for credit, a student is asserting that the submission is her or his work unless there is a citation of a specific source. If there is no appropriate acknowledgment of sources, whether intended or not, this may constitute a violation of the College's requirement for honesty in academic work and may be treated as a case of academic dishonesty. The procedures regarding how the College deals with cases of academic dishonesty appear in *The Compass*, our student handbook, under the heading "Honesty in Academic Work."

If you are found to be dishonest in your work, the instructor has the right to fail you on that assignment, or for the class in its entirety. Plagiarism will not be tolerated in any form. In this class, plagiarism refers directly to copying another student or designer's

drafting plates or passing of a drawing as your own. It does not refer to the drafting of another person's design or an object. Please be aware that electronic files can be traced to their conception and authenticated.

### GRADING

All grades based on this 100 point scale:

100 - 94	A
93 - 90	A-
89 - 87	B+
86 - 84	B
83 - 80	B-
79 - 77	C+
76 - 74	C
73 - 70	C-
69 - 60	D
59 - 0	F

Grades for the course will break down as follows:

- (6) Drafting lab assignments at 25 pts. each	150 points
- Midterm exam worth 100 points	100 points
- Midterm project worth 100 points	100 points
- Final exam worth 100 points	100 points
- Final project worth 150 points	150 points
<b>-Total points possible</b>	<b>600 points</b>

**The midterm and final exams are drafting obstacle courses, requiring you to solve a number of problems and complete functions within a set period of time (the final will be comprehensive). The midterm project will be a 2d drafting project requiring a groundplan, section, and elevation of a theatrical set. The final project will be a 3d model of a theatrical set. Specific information will be distributed later for each of these projects.**

## **ACCOMODATIONS**

Cornell College makes reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities. Students should notify the Coordinator of Academic Support and Advising and their course instructor of any disability related accommodations within the first three days of the term for which the accommodations are required, due to the fast pace of the block format. For more information on the documentation required to establish the need for accommodations and the process of requesting the accommodations, see <http://www.cornellcollege.edu/academic-support-and-advising/disabilities/index.shtml>.

Students seeking accommodation for religious observances are asked to contact the instructor during the first three days of the block to discuss a reasonable accommodation.

## **MISCELLANY**

The instructor will try to teach this class as much as possible from the ground up. If you do not understand any of the jargon used in class, please speak up immediately and I will clarify. Students come from diverse backgrounds - do not assume that everyone else knows or understands what was said and you are the only one who doesn't. PLEASE ask.

Professors have varied duties to the college, and teaching in the classroom is but one part of the job. Production work, committee assignments, departmental meetings and other such items fill the day quickly. There are times where the instructor may be hard to find – simply calling my office may not be enough to get me. You may need to come to the building and look onstage or in the shop. You will notice that my cell number is on this syllabus. Please text me there up to 11PM at night if you need to (and after 7:00 AM if needed). Although my schedule is very busy, I will make time to meet with you if you make the best effort to contact me. If all else fails, leave me an email with several times you can meet, remembering that it may take more time to respond. I promise to make time to meet with you, even if it's 1AM or 6AM, but you must make a good faith effort to reach me.

## **INCLEMENT WEATHER**

Unless the Dean of the College delays or cancels classes, individual faculty will determine whether classes meet based on their ability to come to campus safely. Faculty will notify students of class cancellations or alternative arrangements for learning during the inclement weather (Moodle assignments/readings, independent study, group work on campus, etc.) via established procedures.

In the event of inclement weather, such as a severe thunderstorm or tornado, listen to your radio for weather service reports. Weather bulletins will announce if the Linn County and/or Mount Vernon areas are under a severe thunderstorm or tornado watch or warning. A watch occurs when conditions exist which make a severe storm or tornado possible. A warning is issued when a severe storm is approaching or a tornado has been sighted. In the event of a tornado or other severe weather warning notification will be sent via the RAM Emergency System. When a warning is issued, take inside shelter

immediately. Seek the best possible shelter such as the lowest floor of the building, a small enclosed area in the center of the building, or a space without windows. Large open interior areas should be avoided. During a warning, building managers, Residence Life staff members, The Thomas Commons staff members and other College officials will provide building specific safety instructions. Students are expected to follow these directions for their own safety and for the safety of others.

In the event of heavy snow, listen to local news and radio broadcasts for information regarding class cancellations. Students may also view announcements via e-mail, on the College's web page, or contact the Thomas Commons Information Desk. Due to our residential campus, it is a rare occurrence that classes at Cornell are canceled due to snow. When snow is present on campus, Facilities Services makes a concerted effort to clear walkways and stairs immediately after snowfall while considering the possibility of continued snowfall. Due to this responsibility, assistance in removing snow from, on, or around vehicles cannot be provided.

### **LAB NOTES**

Please note the following rules of the lab:

- 1) Do not bring food or drink into the lab (sealed drink containers are permitted).
- 2) Do not download/install anything on the lab machines without approval.
- 3) Turn all lab machines off after use; this helps prevent some overheating issues and saves energy.
- 4) Save your work often, but never to the local (C:) drive. I will not give extensions for failure to save work regularly or in the correct location.
- 5) Do not block the door open to the lab.
- 6) Do not open the windows.
- 7) Be courteous in the lab; use headphones if you wish to listen to music. No headphones during class sessions unless you are given time to work on projects.

## CLASS SUPPLIES

I suggest a USB flash drive with at least 1GB capacity to back up and transport your work. (NOTE: You should save projects to the network H: drive, but you will likely need much more storage room for the bigger projects). **DO NOT SAVE ANY WORK TO THE C DRIVE – IT WILL BE ERASED AS SOON AS YOU LOG OUT!** You will need a tape measure for the Draw Your Room project on the fourth day. You will also need an architect's scale.

## CLASS SCHEDULE

This schedule is tentative; it is designed to allow flexibility dependent upon the learning curve of the class and more time to complete the complex final project. The class meetings are set although the content may shift somewhat; said shifts will be communicated in class. You are responsible for knowing the changes in the schedule.

			Content
Week One	Monday	9/24	Intro
	Tuesday	9/25	Orthographic Views
	Wednesday	9/26	Cont.
	Thursday	9/27	Section views
	Friday	9/28	Section Views Cont
Week Two	Monday	10/1	Draft the Room
	Tuesday	10/2	Midterm project intro
	Wednesday	10/3	Drafting for Lighting Design/Attributes
	Thursday	10/4	Layout/Viewports
	Friday	10/5	Midterm exam
Week Three	Monday	10/8	Intro to 3d
	Tuesday	10/9	3d solids
	Wednesday	10/10	Final project intro
	Thursday	10/11	Final project
	Friday	10/12	X-referencing
Week Four	Monday	10/15	Final Project
	Tuesday	10/16	Project Reviews
	Wednesday	10/17	Final exam