

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

Prerequisite

THEA 50 - Stagecraft
 with a minimum grade of C
 (May be taken concurrently)

Strongly Recommended

MATH 107 - Pre-Algebra
 with a minimum grade of C
 or

MATH 107B - Pre-Algebra B
 with a minimum grade of C

Grading Methods:

Letter or P/NP

Discipline:

- Drama/Theater Arts

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 the course a student should be able to:

A. THEA50

1. Recognize and use backstage and shop terminology, tools, materials and techniques.
2. Organize a basic scenic construction project, including reading plans, selecting materials, selecting tools, and working safely.
3. Analyze scenic production problems; evaluate alternatives and recommend solutions.
4. Work collaboratively with designers, technicians, and other theatre personnel.
5. Explain how the architecture and technical systems of a theater work;
6. Recognize crew organization, hang and focus lights, record a sound effect, or set up a microphone.
7. Describe the styles and explain the history of theatrical scenic design;
8. Construct basic stage scenery;
9. Mix and apply paint using scenic art methods;
10. Create renderings and scale drawings to express their creative ideas;
11. Operate a basic theater audio/visual systems;
12. Express an understanding of the basics of theater lighting, including color and mixing through design renderings, practical demonstration of instrument use, and verbal explanation;
13. Explain the basics of a theater sound systems;
14. Cooperate effectively as a member of a production and project team;
15. Conceptualize, plan, create and successfully present a portfolio project;
16. Describe the wide variety of career opportunities in technical theater and related fields.

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

A. MATH107

1. perform accurate computations with whole numbers, fractions and decimals, signed and unsigned, without using a calculator;
2. demonstrate a knowledge of ratios, proportions and percentages and their application;
3. demonstrate knowledge of geometric figures and their properties;
4. demonstrate a knowledge of the English and metric units of length, area, volume, mass, temperature and time;
5. calculate mean, median and mode from a set of data;
6. apply the concepts learned to specific real-life applications, such as, simple interest, business and finance, restaurants, bank statements, etc.

B. MATH107B

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:

Methods/Frequency

- A. Quizzes
Two, plus final
- B. Projects
Throughout the semester
- C. Class Participation
Throughout the semester
- D. Class Work
Throughout the semester
- E. Lab Activities
Throughout the semester

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

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

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS:

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