**Las Positas College**
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**Course Outline for THEA 40L**

**THEATER LIGHTING**

**Effective: Spring 2014**

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:
THEA 40L — THEATER LIGHTING — 2.00 units

Introduction to stage lighting design. Physics of light, color, electricity; components of basic lighting technology; comprehensive overview of the art of theater lighting design. Strongly recommended: Theater 40.

1.00 Units Lecture 1.00 Units Lab

**Strongly Recommended**
THEA 40 - Intro to Technical Theatre
with a minimum grade of C

**Grading Methods:**
Letter or P/NP

**Discipline:**

| | MIN |
|---|---|
| **Lecture Hours:** | 18.00 |
| **Lab Hours:** | 54.00 |
| **Total Hours:** | 72.00 |

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. THEA40
1. Explain how the architecture and technical systems of a theater work;
2. Describe the styles and explain the history of theatrical scenic design;
3. Construct basic stage scenery;
4. Create renderings and scale drawings to express their creative ideas;
5. Demonstrate an understanding of the basics of theater lighting, including color and mixing;
6. Demonstrate an understanding of the basics of theater audio/visual systems;
7. Cooperate effectively as a member of a production and project team;
8. Conceptualize, plan, create and successfully present a portfolio project;

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

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

A. Integrate basic lighting instruments, cabling, and hardware in a lighting design
B. Demonstrate an understanding of basic electricity, and lighting and rigging safety
C. Employ the theory of color, intensity, and timing in the techniques of basic theater lighting cues and effects
D. Apply basics of lighting design and graphic standards to create projects

V. CONTENT:
1. Elements of electricity; electrical safety
2. Rigging and laddder safety
3. Natural and artifical light sources
4. Color in light / light mixing and layering.
5. Transmission, reflection, refraction, absorption
6. Traditional stage lighting instruments
7. New innovations: moving heads, intelligent lights, LED, etc.
8. Special effects

9. Lighting equipment, hanging, cabling,
10. Circuiting and patching
11. Lighting design, design graphics
12. Lightboard patching, programming, and operation
13. Organization, planning and routine
14. Communication and co-operation

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:
- A. **Lab** -
- B. **Audio-visual Activity** -
- C. **Demonstration** -
- D. **Projects** - Individual lighting design projects.
- E. **Field Trips** - USITT Convention; Lighting Dimensions Show
- F. **Critique** - College performances; professional shows.
- G. **Guest Lecturers** - Professional lighting designers and companies.
- I. **Observation and Demonstration** - Hands on participation in lighting labs and design; Crew for LPC events (load-in, run shows, strike/clean after event)

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:
- A. Read the chapter on lighting instruments and be able to explain how an ellipsoidal instrument works and name it's function and parts.
- B. Read the chapter on light and angle for the actor and understand the placement of instruments.
- C. Draft to scale a lighting plot for perfromance on the LPC black box theater and the main stage.
- D. Patch and program the computer lighting system, and run the lighting cues.
- E. Hang, focus, color and circuit. according to a lighting plot.
- F. Evaluate other lighting designs outside LPC.

VIII. EVALUATION:

A. **Methods**

1. Exams/Tests
2. Quizzes
3. Portfolios
4. Oral Presentation
5. Projects
6. Simulation
7. Class Participation
8. Home Work
9. Lab Activities
10. Other:
    Addendance and classroom participation

B. **Frequency**

1. Exams/Tests & Quizzes -- 2 quizzes and one final
2. Portfolio – one present at end of term
3. Oral Presentation – present portfolio orally at end of term
4. Projects – minimum 2 per term
5. Simulation – throughout the term
6. Class Participation - daily
7. Home Work - weekly
8. Lab Activities -weekly
9. Addendance and Classroom Participation – daily

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:
1. Pilbrow, R *Stage Lighting, New ed.*., Van Nostrand, 1999.
2. "Lighting & Sound America." Lighting & Sound America 2013.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS:
- A. none
- B. none
- C. none
- D. Materials will be supplied to the students.