

Mt. San Jacinto College  
Integrated Course Outline of Record

Form B

|               |                |       |            |
|---------------|----------------|-------|------------|
| Submitted by: | Shezwae Powell | Date: | 12/17/2020 |
|---------------|----------------|-------|------------|

| Department   | Subject             | Course Number | Title      |
|--------------|---------------------|---------------|------------|
| Theater Arts | Theater Arts<br>THA | 117           | Stagecraft |

Units/Hours

Each lecture unit requires 1 hour per week of class time, and 2 hours per week of study outside of class.  
Each laboratory unit requires 3 hours per week of class time.  
Each activity unit requires 2 hours per week of class time and 1 hour per week of study outside of class.

| Lecture Units          | Lab Units          | Total Units         |
|------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 2.00                   | 1.00               | 3.00                |
| Lecture Contact Hours  | Lab Contact Hours  | Total Contact Hours |
| 32.00 - 36.00          | 48.00 - 54.00      | 80.00 - 90.00       |
| Lecture Homework Hours | Lab Homework Hours |                     |
| 64.00 - 72.00          | 0                  |                     |

Stand Alone:

|                    |
|--------------------|
| Program Applicable |
|--------------------|

AA/AS Degree General Ed Breadth Area(s):

|        |
|--------|
| -none- |
|--------|

General Education Justification:

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|--|
|  |
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Maximum Enrollment:  
Maximum Enrollment  
Justification:

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 16                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Course has safety or compliance factors which influence the enrollment cap “ check all that apply:<br>* Course has safety or health reasons that the class should have a non-standard enrollment cap.<br><br>Justification: THA 117 Stagecraft instructs students in the operation of hand and power tools as well as choosing the correct construction materials for completing a scenic design. In order to instruct students |

|                        |                                                                                                                   |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                        | in a safe manner and properly supervise student's use of construction materials, a lower class size is necessary. |
| <b>Grading Method:</b> | Letter Grade or P/NP                                                                                              |
| <b>TOP code:</b>       | 1006.00*                                                                                                          |

|                     |   |                                                                                           |
|---------------------|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Can be Taken</b> | 1 | <b>time(s) for credit</b> (max 4)                                                         |
|                     |   | - Visual or Performing Arts course that is required to meet major requirements for UC/CSU |
|                     |   | - Intercollegiate athletics course                                                        |
|                     |   | - Academic/vocational competition course                                                  |

**Catalog Description:**  
(Please do not refer to transferability or degree, certificate, or employment concentration applicability. Please only describe the course).  
(75 words or less in gray box below).

This course introduces the fundamentals of technical theater arts including scenic design, set construction, lighting and scenic painting. Students are taught the safe operation of hand and power tools and choosing the correct construction materials for a scenic design. Students will be given instruction in the working elements of a typical theater. Students may have the opportunity to construct, paint sets and set up lighting and sound equipment for MSJC Performing Arts productions.

**Schedule Description:**  
(Please do not refer to transferability or degree, certificate, or employment concentration applicability. Please only describe the course).  
(25 words or less in gray box below).

This course introduces the fundamentals of technical theater arts including scenic design, set construction, lighting, scenic painting needed to produce a theatrical production.

**Need for the course:**  
This course meets a requirement for the A.A. in Theater Arts degree, as well as the Certificate in Technical Theater. In it, students learn proper construction techniques and safe application, while using tools necessary to produce scenic design for theatrical production. Students also have the opportunity to contribute toward the building, painting, lighting etc., of a set for an MSJC production, assisting our Theater Technicians/Technical Directors for both campuses.

**Prerequisite(s):**  
Prerequisites go through a separate approval process. See Forms E1-E6 for details.  
(For further clarification, contact the Prerequisite Subcommittee)

-none-

**Corequisite(s):**  
Corequisites go through a separate approval process. See Forms E1-E6 for details.

-none-

**Recommend Preparation:**  
Recommended Preparation goes through a separate approval process. See Forms E1-E6 for details.

-none-

**Other Enrollment Criteria:**

-none-

Learning Objectives:

(please number each objective and express in behavioral terms)

Upon the completion of the course the student will be able to do the following:

- 1. Assess the safety issues that are prominent in every theatrical venue.
- 2. Demonstrate the correct and safe usage of hand and power tools.
- 3. Differentiate and explain the correct tool choice for individual projects.
- 4. Identify all facilities that make up a typical theatrical venue.
- 5. Inventory the proper materials and paint products used in theatrical production.
- 6. Analyze the various aspects of blueprints and be able to implement a scenic design from these documents.
- 7. Construct theatrical scenery using appropriate hand and power tools.
- 8. Describe production organization and management.
- 9. Identify general theatrical production elements, such as costume, masks, stages, staging, properties, sound, and lighting, as utilized by various cultures throughout history.
- 10. Become familiar with proper theatrical terminology particularly as relates to stage locations, job categories, and technical elements.

Course Content:

(please number the outline of main topics and subtopics)

- 1. Course overview and expectations
  - 1. Tour of building and discuss the appropriate decorum in the theater, scene shop, costume area and properties loft.
  - 2. Identify location of exit doors and fire extinguishers.
  - 3. Designate outside staging area in case of emergency egress.
- 2. Safety discussion regarding proper operation of all hand and power tools, view a safety video and pass a safety quiz.
- 3. Theatrical terminology
  - 1. Stage directions
  - 2. Masking units
  - 3. Rigging positions
  - 4. Production terms
- 4. Production Staff
  - 1. Director
  - 2. Design team
  - 3. Technical Director
  - 4. Master Carpenter
  - 5. Stage hands
- 5. Production Planning
  - 1. Script
  - 2. Design
  - 3. Construction
  - 4. Rehearsals
  - 5. Performances
  - 6. Post production
- 6. Drawings and Paperwork
  - 1. Synopsis
  - 2. Sketches
  - 3. Ground plans
  - 4. Section views
  - 5. Front elevations
  - 6. Color elevations

- 7. Orthographic projections
  - 8. Isometric drawings
  - 9. Oblique drawings
  - 10. Scale drawings
  - 11. Mechanical drafting
  - 12. CAD drafting
- 7. Safety procedures
  - 1. Protective clothing
  - 2. Ear protection
  - 3. Eye protection
  - 4. Ladders
  - 5. Lifts
  - 6. Work zones
  - 7. Hazard reporting procedures
- 8. The safe and proper procedure for operation of the following:
  - 1. Measuring devices
  - 2. Marking devices
  - 3. Hammers
  - 4. Cutting devices, hand, power and stationary
  - 5. Drilling devices, hand, power and stationary
  - 6. Clamping device
  - 7. Wrenches, hand, power and stationary
  - 8. Screwdrivers, hand, power and stationary
  - 9. Staplers, hand, power and stationary
  - 10. Nailing devices, hand and power
  - 11. Metal shaping devices
- 9. Proper and safe techniques of running scenery for a production
  - 1. Hanging hardware
  - 2. Mechanical scenery systems
  - 3. Wagons
  - 4. Revolving staging
- 10. Basic scenic painting techniques
- 11. Script breakdown
- 12. Brief History of Scenic Design

**Lab Content:**

(please number the outline of main topics and subtopics)

- 1. Hands-on experience with: Materials
  - 1. Lumber types and applications
  - 2. Lumber grading scales
  - 3. Press boards
  - 4. Steel
  - 5. Plastic
- 2. Hands-on experience with: Fasteners and hardware
  - 1. Fasteners
  - 2. Hardware for scenery construction
  - 3. Hardware for rigging
  - 4. Hardware for lashing
- 3. Construction Techniques
  - 1. Frames
  - 2. Joints
  - 3. Platforms
  - 4. Hard and soft flat construction

5. Doors and doorways
6. Windows
7. Steps
8. Ramps
9. Raked stages
10. Profiles and sweeps
11. Reveals and returns
12. Jacks
13. Stiffeners
4. Architectural trims and ornamentation
  1. Moldings
  2. Cornice, picture rails, base boards
  3. Theatrical trim applications
  4. Development and design of ornamental trims
5. Soft theatrical scenery
  1. Drapery
  2. Star drops
  3. Back drops
  4. Cyclorama
  5. Scrim drops
  6. Cut and netted drops
6. Knots and hitches
  1. Overhand knot
  2. Figure eight knot
  3. Square knot
  4. Sheetbend knot
  5. Bowline knot
  6. Half hitch
  7. Clove hitch
  8. Sunday hitch
7. Rigging systems
  1. Counterweight system
  2. Hemp spot line system
8. Scenery painting techniques
  1. Painter's elevations
  2. Size coat
  3. Prime coat
  4. Base coat
  5. Texturing
  6. Foliage
  7. Lining
  8. Stenciling
  9. Pouncing
9. Painting methods and equipment
  1. Horizontal painting (European)
  2. Vertical painting (English)
  3. Paint frame and boomerang
  4. Brush types and uses
  5. Other painting equipment
  6. Uses of dyes
  7. Use of flame proofing materials
10. Hands-on experience with lighting instruments

Methods of Instruction:

Methods of instruction may include, but are not limited to the following:

- **Method:** Lecture  
**Integration:** Lecture and presentation on theatrical terminology, production staff, and production planning.
- **Method:** Film/video Viewing and Discussion  
**Integration:** In-class video presentations on specific topics such as lighting and scenic painting, followed by instructor-guided discussion.
- **Method:** Observation and Demonstration  
**Integration:** Observation and demonstration of scenic construction techniques, such as building frames, joints, platforms, and three-dimensional scenery.
- **Method:** Activity  
**Integration:** Practical application of scenic materials and hardware though implementing a scenic design from a blueprint.
- **Method:** Directed Study  
**Integration:** Directed study of safety procedures and proper operation of tools and equipment found in a theatrical venue.
- **Method:** Homework  
**Integration:** Students will be assigned to read a play and devise a concept for a set design and/or groundplan.

Methods of Evaluation:

A student's grade shall be determined by the instructor using multiple measures of performance related to the course objectives. Methods of evaluation may include but are not limited to the following:

- **Method:** Projects  
**Integration:** Demonstrate safe operation of power tools in regards to building techniques, and identify the proper tools needed for a specific job in relation to set construction.
- **Method:** Class Work  
**Integration:** Analyze in-class the various aspects of blueprints and be able to implement a scenic design from these documents.
- **Method:** Quizzes  
**Integration:** Students will be evaluated on their ability to demonstrate and employ theater terminology in quizzes throughout the semester.
- **Method:** Class Participation  
**Integration:** Students will contribute toward the building, painting, etc., of a set for an MSJC production, assisting our Theater Technicians/Technical Directors for both campuses.
- **Method:** Homework  
**Integration:** Students will be evaluated on how completely and accurately they were able to break down an assigned script by assigning elements in the text to various sub-departments of a film or theatrical art department and identifying specific scenery requirements, props, costumes, lighting and sound cues called for by the playwright.

Examples of Assignments:

Students will be expected to understand and critique college level texts or the equivalent. Reading and writing, as well as out of class assignments are required. These assignments may include but are not limited to the following:

- 1) Using an architect's ruler, draft a 1/4" scale floorplan of a theatrical design. This flooplan must include proper page layout of the stage, center and plaster lines, and scenic elements.
- 2) Using proper materials, construct a theatrical "flat" within a 1/8th tolerance. Students must demonstrate proper operation of hand and power tools, construct the stiles, rails and toggle bar properly, cover and size base with muslin fabric, and apply a basecoat of paint to finish the flat.

- 3) Create a flowchart to illustrate the hierarchy of Production Staff, including Director, Technical Director, Design Team, Master Carpenter, and stage hands.
- 4) Demonstrate the safe and proper procedure for operation of cutting devices, including hand, power and stationary devices.
- 5) Students will read and breakdown a short script (TBD), assigning elements in the text to various sub-departments of a film or theatrical art department. Students will look for and identify specific scenery requirements, props, costumes, lighting and sound cues called for by the Playwright.
- 6) Students will use these same scripts from the assignment above to design a set. They will create elevation renderings and working construction drawings, combining the drawings with photo research to reference the design plans. (Students interested in extra credit are encouraged to build a set model.)

**Textbooks:**

- Gillette, J. Michael; Dionne, Rich (2020). *Theatrical Design and Production 8th edition* McGraw-Hill Education. ISBN: 1259922308
- Kogler Carver, Rita (2018). *Stagecraft Fundamentals: A Guide and Reference for Theatrical Production 3rd Edition* Routledge. ISBN: 978-0415790451

**Other Resources:**

**Minimum Qualification**

- Stagecraft