



THA-121: COSTUME CONSTRUCTION

Effective Term

Fall 2023

BOT Approval Date

12/15/2022

Discipline

THA - Theater Arts

Course Number

121

Course Title

Costume Construction

Short Title

Costume

Credit Status (CB 04)

D - Credit - Degree applicable

Units**Lecture Units**

2.00

Lab Units

1.00

Total Units

3.00

Hours**Lecture Contact Hours**

32-36

Out of Class Hours Lecture

64-72

Lab Contact Hours

48-54

Out of Class Hours Lab

0.00

Total Contact Hours

80 - 90

Total Out of Class Hours

64 - 72

Total Student Learning Hours

144 - 162

Is this an existing Extensive Lab?

No

**Do you want to propose this for Extensive Lab?**

No

Distance Education

No

C-ID (Admin Only)

C-ID THTR 174

Catalog Description

This course will introduce students to aspects of costume construction including sewing, fabric modification, garment alteration and the relationship between fibers and fabrics. Study also involves a survey of the social significance of costuming throughout history, including the political, cultural, economic and historical context of costuming from diverse voices. Other practical topics include silhouette, costume organization, wardrobe maintenance, millinery, costume props, accessories and theatrical production to provide the student with a broad base of knowledge of costuming.

Attach Supporting Documents

THA 121 Need for Course Supporting Doc.pdf

Codes**TOP Code (CB 03)**

1006.00* - *Technical Theater

CIP Code

50.0510 - Costume Design.

Student Accountability Model (SAM) Priority Code (CB 09)

D - Possibly Occupational

Noncredit Category (CB 22)

Y - Credit Course

Repeatability Code

No

Grading Option

Letter grade OR P/NP

Minimum Qualifications

Minimum Qualifications	And/Or
Drama/Theater Arts (Masters Required)	Or
Stagecraft	End

CSU Area(s)**IGETC Area(s)****Learning Objectives****Learning Objectives**

Learning Objective
1. Analyze the creative and practical aspects of costume from research to organization.
2. Consider the various functions of costume as they pertain to theatrical interpretations of drama.
3. Inspect and set up sewing machines and other equipment for safe use in the costume shop.
4. Differentiate what materials and notions are needed to build a particular costume.

5. Document through a flow chart the various personnel associated with costume design and construction and the scheduling, deadline and rehearsal process used for a given production.
6. Classify types of fabrics.
7. Differentiate between bias, warp and weft.
8. Demonstrate the ability to perform basic sewing construction techniques including: straight seam, french seam, flat fell seam, finished edge seam, clipping and grading of curved seams.
9. Contrast the differences, relative advantages and drawbacks between natural fibers and man-made fibers.
10. Demonstrate the ability to properly thread both domestic sewing machines and overlock serger machines.
11. Investigate, classify and identify costume styles of historical significance.
12. Develop an awareness of the political, cultural, economic and historical context of costuming from ethnically diverse voices.
13. Research the work of historically important costume designers, and their philosophical and sociological influences.

Learning Outcome Information

Course Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcome

Demonstrate safe use of costume shop equipment.

Define the function of costumes in a variety of theatrical styles.

Create a stitched garment from fabric.

Program Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcome

The student will develop an appreciation for theatre/film through critical analysis of the art form.

The student will develop knowledge regarding the cultural, artistic and expressive contexts of theater/film.

The student will develop an awareness of the political, cultural, economic and historical context of theatrical expression from ethnically diverse voices.

Institutional Learning Outcomes

Aesthetic Awareness: The student will identify and evaluate how aesthetic expression leads to an appreciation of social and cultural context as well as the values of art and nature.

Content

Course Lecture Content

1. Introduction to Costuming
 - a. Costuming in theater
 - b. Role of costume designer in theater from the period in history when costume accuracy became important to the present day.
 - c. Organizational flowchart
 - d. Costume design process
2. Survey of Major Cultural and Historical Periods of Theater Costumery
 - a. Ancient Greek and Roman Theater
 - b. Europe in the Middle Ages
 - c. Renaissance Europe
 - d. Asia and Southeast Asia
 - e. Modern Europe - Restoration through Romanticism
 - f. 19th Century to Present Day Realism
 - g. Modern Departures from Realism
4. Survey of Contemporary Costume Design and Diverse Voices
 - a. Regional and Broadway Theatre
 - b. Touring Theatre
 - c. Fringe and Community Theatre
 - d. Postmodern Theatre
 - e. Television
 - f. Film

5. Costume organization for production

- a. Costume plot
- b. Costume lists
- c. Function during rehearsal period
- d. Costume check lists
- e. Build/Pull/Buy lists

6. Introduction to Fabrics and Fibers

- a. Man-made fibers
- b. Natural fibers
- c. Warp and weft
- d. Knits

7. Costume Development

- a. Script analysis
- b. Historical and cultural research
- c. Costume renderings
- d. Practical and budgetary concerns
- e. Deadlines

Course Lab Content

1. Introduction to the Costume Shop

- a. Safety in the costume shop
- b. Costume shop etiquette
- c. Costume shop organization

2. Introduction to Costume Shop Equipment

- a. Safety practices
- b. Threading a sewing machine
- c. Threading a serger
- d. Daily maintenance

3. Introduction to Hand Sewing Techniques

- a. Safety practices
- b. Various stitches and their applications
- c. Stitching closures
- d. Types of thread

4. Introduction to Machine Sewing Techniques

- a. Safety practices
- b. Various stitches and their applications
- c. Various types of seams and their applications
- d. Clipping and grading seam allowances
- e. Finishing seams

5. Introduction to Garment Construction

- a. Commercial vs hand-drafted patterns
- b. Following instructions
- c. Pattern layout
- d. Cutting the pattern
- e. Stitching and finishing techniques
- f. Pattern creation

Methods of Instruction

Method

Activity

Integration

Following instructions for a commercial garment pattern, students will demonstrate the ability to perform basic sewing construction techniques.

Method

In-class Exercises

Integration

With guidance from the instructor, students will experiment with fabric care and fiber identification techniques, and classify types of fabrics.

Method

Individualized Instruction

Integration

Students will receive individualized instruction during lab or at pre-arranged times to properly thread both domestic sewing machines and overlock serger machines.

Method

Lab Activities

Integration

Students will demonstrate how to inspect and set up sewing machines and other equipment for safe use in the costume shop, and participate in a variety of sewing techniques.

Method

Lecture

Integration

Students will listen to and view lectures that promote an awareness of the political, cultural, economic and historical context of costuming from ethnically diverse voices.

Method

Live Performance Viewing

Integration

Students will attend a live performance and discuss the costume elements of the production in class, considering the various functions of costume as they pertain to theatrical interpretations of drama.

Method

Observation and Demonstration

Integration

Students will observe basic sewing construction techniques including straight seam, french seam, flat fell seam, finished edge seam, clipping and grading of curved seams, and demonstrate how to perform them properly.

Method

Projects

Integration

Student will create costume lists appropriate for the organization and maintenance of costumes for a play production, and differentiate what materials and notions are needed to build a particular costume.

Methods of Evaluation

Method

Class Performance

Integration

Students will differentiate what materials and notions are needed to build a particular costume, and complete the build in class. Students will be evaluated on their ability to incorporate the various sewing techniques and garment care skills.

Method

Exams/Tests

Integration

Tests will measure students knowledge of costume trends and formats from the major periods of theater history, and be evaluated on student's ability to classify and identify costume styles of historical significance.

Method

Papers

Integration

Papers will demonstrate students ability to consider the various functions of costume as they pertain to a specific theatrical interpretation of drama, and be evaluated for completeness, adherence to design concept, and sensitivity to social and cultural influences.

Method

Projects

Integration

Students will construct a complete garment and be evaluated on utilizing safe and approved construction techniques.

Method

Quizzes

Integration

Quizzes will evaluate students' comprehension of the safe use of costume studio equipment.

Method

Research Projects

Integration

A research project will measure students' ability to apply concepts learned, and be evaluated on the analysis of costuming from historically significant and culturally diverse perspectives.

Method

Self-Evaluation

Integration

A self-evaluation will be utilized to measure students' ability to synthesize material learned throughout the term of skills acquired as a theater practitioner.

Assignments

Assignment Type

Writing

In-class and/or outside of class

Outside of class

Formative or Summative

Formative

Assignment

Research one period costume from skin to outerwear, providing historical, social and political context; this written assignment should include images and bibliography.

Assignment Type

Reading

In-class and/or outside of class

In-class

Outside of class

Formative or Summative

Summative

Assignment

Research a contemporary costume designer of importance, focusing on designers from diverse social and cultural backgrounds. Present the findings to the class, and include examples of the designer's work and investigate how they were influenced by historical costuming techniques.

Assignment Type

Writing

In-class and/or outside of class

In-class

Formative or Summative

Summative

Assignment

Produce a complete costume and character analysis for an assigned play text. Taking into account the historical scope of the play and its social and cultural subjects, create a design that is appropriate to the needs of a contemporary production.

Assignment Type

Other

In-class and/or outside of class

In-class

Formative or Summative

Formative

Assignment

Practice basic sewing construction techniques including: straight seam, french seam, flat fell seam, finished edge seam, clipping and grading of curved seams.

Course Materials

Textbooks

Durbin, Holly P (2022). The Costume Designer's Toolkit: The Process of Creating Effective Design. 1st ed., Routledge. ISBN 9780367858285.

Cunningham, Rebecca (2009). The Magic Garment: Principles of Costume Design. Waveland Press. ISBN 1577666135.

Tortora, Phyllis G. and Marcketti, Sara B (2015). Survey of Historic Costume. 6th ed., Fairchild Books. ISBN 9781628921694.

Strand-Evans, Katherine (2015). Costume Construction. 2nd ed., Waveland Press. ISBN 978-1478611295.

Class Size Information

Class Size

32

Class Size Category

G - Large lab 32

Diversity and Inclusion

Explain how diversity and inclusion(e.g., gender, culture/race, sexuality, etc.) is infused into the course.

Language was added to the catalog description, learning objectives, and course content to include the political, cultural, economic and historical context of costuming from diverse voices. A summative assignment was also added, asking students to research contemporary costume designers with diverse social and cultural backgrounds.

Describe how assignments, instruction, evaluation, course content, and interactions are contextualized for diverse learners promoting an equitable course.

Course content was added to cover contemporary costume design and the diverse artists that contribute to the field. In doing so, we hope to engage learners by connecting to their interest in modern practice. By broadening the scope of study to contemporary costume design, we can highlight practitioners from diverse backgrounds and perspectives that been been historically underserved.

Interactions

Explain how the course will incorporate student-to-student interaction.

Students will collaborate and exchange ideas with one another in groups when researching contemporary costume designers. Student to Student contact will also be incorporated into this course by encouraging students to give feedback on each others' completed garments.

Explain how the course will incorporate instructor-to-student interaction.

The instructor will work closely with each student to ensure their safety and proper use of the sewing equipment. They will actively coach students on the skills necessary to complete each costume assignment. During lectures, the instructor may show visual examples, video, or perform demonstrations to the class.

Explain how the course will incorporate student-to-content interaction.

Through demonstration and hands-on practice, students will develop a familiarity with the practical tools of costume construction. Beyond the practical application, students will also learn about the historical context of costuming, and have an opportunity to research a contemporary costume designer from a diverse background that interests them.

Explain how the course will incorporate student-to-self interaction (metacognitive).

Students will complete a self-evaluation on completed sewing assignments, allowing them to record their progress in the course.

Key: 2857