

Scene Design 1

Spring 2011

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GOALS

As in the first semester, you will continue to develop your skills in idea development and the exploration of your creative pathways in storytelling and the fourth dimension. Other tools critical to careers in design will gain more prominence in our work together including:

- Collaboration, Studio Process: We will engage in four collaborations this semester:
 - ❖ Working with Peter Cooke on *Salome* by Strauss
 - ❖ Dramatic Writing students on new works
 - ❖ WQED TV Project
- Studio Process
 - ❖ *The Physicists* by Durrenmatt
- More in depth work with the studio aspects of the work of the Scene Designer
 - ❖ drafting package
 - ❖ storyboard
 - ❖ models
- Project Management
 - ❖ guiding a project through development to opening (in concert with forum) with selective project deliverables
 - ❖ juggling projects
- Presentation of both you and your work

PROJECTS

Although work in this course will be difficult and time consuming, the projects are designed to be intellectually and creatively stimulating. Time management is a must. Expect a difficult but rewarding semester from yourself.

Fall of Scene Design I was mostly about visual storytelling, establishing creative pathways, learning to explore your own imagination and establishing a repertoire of skill. During the second semester, you will learn to work quickly and to draw on creative resources. We will build upon our skills in idea creation by working in collaboration with other artists and by working more in depth on more complex projects.

READINGS AND COURSE MATERIALS

Dramatic Writer's pieces, as assigned

WQED pieces, as assigned

Salome-Richard Strauss

The Physicists-Durrenmatt

CLASSES

Classes will be in seminar form or studio form with an occasional short lecture. You **MUST** be in class to discuss your projects and to attend the skills sessions. The class time is imperative to give you perspective from your classmates and myself on the progress of your projects. It is important to see your work in progress; even at this stage in your academic careers, process is still more important than product.

GRADING

You will have four projects this semester, with the grade breakdown as follows:

***Salome* 30%**

New Play Project: 20%

TV Project 20%

***The Physicists* 20%**

Participation, class citizenship, attentiveness, constructive participation in critiques: 10%

For the semester:

99 to 100% A+

93 to 98 A

90 to 92 A-

87 to 89 B+

84 to 86 B

80 to 83 B-

77 to 79 C+

74 to 76 C

70 to 73 C-

67 to 69 D+

64 to 66 D

60 to 63 D-

Below 60 R

You will have a grading rubric for each project. You will receive those rubrics at or before the beginning of each project so that you know what the grading criteria are for each project. **PROJECTS NOT HANDED IN ON TIME WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** On the due date, you will hand in what you have finished and be graded on that. You may, however, continue working on the project and be RE-graded on the amendments. If you are designing a set for a show on the CMU production calendar, you may exchange one of your “paper projects” for your realized design, **ONLY** CMU Drama School projects will be included. There will be a requirement for produced projects of the handing in of a completed production notebook as well as artifacts of the rest of the process. I will, however, still expect a minimal amount of work on the paper project so that you can participate in class. How much and what will be determined on a case by case basis. You must arrange this with me **IN ADVANCE**. **I DO NOT GIVE INCOMPLETES.** ALL work will be due on the last day of classes.

ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY.

Three unexcused absences will result in failure of the course. Two will cause your grade to be lowered by one letter. An excused absence might be a family emergency or illness for which you have a doctor's note. Production is not an excused absence.

School of Drama and Scene Design One Grading Standards:

- A** Exceptional work that consistently exceeds the standard expected of students in the School of Drama
- B** Good work which meets the standard expected of students in the School of Drama
- C** Work below the standard expected in the School of Drama
- D** Work markedly below the standard of the School of Drama
- R** Failing Grade - any required course must be repeated

Please see the individual grading rubrics for each assignment to get more specific grading criteria for each project.