THEATRE PROJECTS-Design Topics

TIMES & LOCATION: TBD periodically throughout the semester.
Various locations

Instructor: Ben Kramer (He/Him/His)
Office: GFAB 229
Email: Benjamin.Kramer@sfasu.edu

Office Hours: Mondays 12:00PM-4:00PM

Email Communications: Unless issues are extremely time sensitive I will do my best to respond to all student emails during the next business day.

Objective:
This class is designed to allow students the opportunity to focus in depth on topics related to design and production skills in the professional theatre industry. Topics may include Production Management, Design History, Stage Properties & Production art, Special Effects, Model Making amongst others.

Materials:
Professor will provide a list at first meeting.

COURSE TOPICS:
- Topics will vary from student to student.

TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM:
- During any classroom discussions or demonstrations laptops and tablets should remain off.
- Phones can be used to record demonstrated techniques or to photograph your work. In all cases phones should remain silenced and kept in a safe place unless being used as noted previously.
  - If some circumstance arises that you must make or receive a phone call during class I ask that you step outside the room handle that business as quickly as possible.
- On classroom work days you may bring headphones/earbuds to listen to music while you work. If I can hear the music on your headphones/earbuds while standing next to you it’s too loud. Music must not be so loud that I cannot get your attention while speaking at a normal volume.
- You are only allowed to play video content regarding scale model techniques. Watching a “streamer” play a video game or letting other social media platforms roll through videos is not acceptable. Basically, if the video you’re watching isn’t about scale model building you don’t need to see it during class time. Post your photos to social media on your own time.
- No one should spend a majority of a work day in class watching videos. One or two short demonstrations is fine.
- Abuse of these rules will result in a class wide ban. So don’t ruin it for everyone.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

NOTE: When you hear theatre people say, “15 minutes early is on time. On time is late” it really does hold true throughout both the production and performance side of the industry. Punctuality is key. I understand that you have other obligations as a student and human trying to survive college. I will never hold it against you for showing up at five to an event scheduled to being at five. The important thing is that you should never keep people waiting.
- You are adults. You or someone you care about is spending money for you to be here. Don’t waste money.
- I will not be actively taking attendance. HOWEVER, assignments and directions will only be explained during class. So if for example, you miss the lecture/demonstration on drafting you will be responsible to figure that out on your own using a friend’s notes or the internet. Both of which may or may not be accurate.
- Absences exceeding the program policies (Maximum of 5 absences for Tuesdays/Thursday courses and 7 for Monday, Wednesday, Friday courses) will result in failure for the course as mandated by SFA.
- If you are not attending class to the point where I notice your absence I will email you and dock you participation grade.
- The ONLY reason I will re-demonstrate an assignment is if you provide me with a doctor’s note or email in advance and with enough notice as to why you will be missing an important lecture/demonstration.
- Classes that meet periodically you are expected to attend each scheduled meeting. Missing two meetings without valid reasoning will result in failing the course.

**Course Evaluations:** At the end of the semester you are encouraged but not required to fill out a course evaluation. You are not required to complete the evaluation and they are completely anonymous.

**Diversity and Inclusion Statement:** This class may engage in material covering a diverse range of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, and disability. While I encourage you to formulate and express your thoughts and opinions throughout the semester, discriminatory remarks will not be tolerated and may constitute disruptive behavior under the student code of conduct.

**Respect:** This is an art form. Each and every person will have different things they excel at. There will be days where we openly discuss the work you and your fellow students have created. Hurtful and disrespectful remarks during class discussions of other designer’s work will not be tolerated.

**Mental Health**
SFASU values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support student’s mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

**On-campus Resources:**
SFASU Counseling Services • [www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices](http://www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices)
Health and Wellness Hub (corner of E. College and Raguet) • 936-468-2401
SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic • [www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp)
Human Services Room 202 • 936-468-1041

**Crisis Resources:**
Burke 24-hour crisis line 1(800) 392-8343
Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1(800) 273-TALK (8255)
Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741

**Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)**
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic
chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

**Students with Disabilities**

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/).