Advanced Tools DRAM 4191

Professor: Gregory Condon  
Email: Gregory.condon@sfasu.edu  
Phone: 936-468-1333  
Office Hours: 9AM to 10:45 AM  
Course Time: 11 AM to 12:50 MWF  
Course Location: SFA Scene Shop

Place: Locations and times are dependent upon assignment for the course. Some course days will take place within our assigned classroom, the scene shop, or a performance venue.

Course Description:
This course will provide the student with basic knowledge and skills to manage all aspects of a technical production design and create a production book, with a focus on advanced and specialized skills. Throughout the course, the student will focus on 3D drafting, welding, advanced tool technique, and construction technique. Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to apply these skills to practical means for the execution of scenery for the theatre and technical production design as a Technical Director.

Pre-requisite Courses: Students must have successfully completed the following: DRAM 2335 Introduction to Technical Direction, DRAM 1330 / 1030 Stagecraft, and DRAM 2342 / 2042 Lighting Technology.

Note from Professor: Courses will be lecture, demonstration and tactile using the computer. Exemplars, short assignments, or projects will help clarify difficult concepts. Our week will be split between Tool work and AutoCAD. Please have your computer every day. A large part of being a Technical Director is knowing what questions to ask and having those questions ready when the opportunity presents itself. Please be ready to discuss every day.

Course Justification
DRAM 4335 (3 credits) spans 16 weeks and contains extensive projects that will enable students to present their knowledge and skills. Students are required to garner new skills in drafting software, specialized building skills, and personnel management. Students will produce a final project as a culminating experience that synthesizes the student learning outcomes for the course. The course typically meets 330 minutes a week in three 110-minute segments for 15 weeks, and also meets for a 2.5-hour final examination period. Generally, these activities average at a minimum 6 hours of work each week to prepare outside of 110 minutes of scheduled classroom contact hours. A general rule of thumb for planning your time commitments for this course is for every hour a student spends in a scheduled classroom contact hour or the online equivalent, students should spend at least two hours completing associated activities and assessments.

Contact Information
Students may ask questions by email or telephone. Appointments can be made outside of office hours pending availability. It is preferred that email be used for questions outside of class time. Do not expect that I will answer instantaneously, but know that all emails and phone messages should be answered within 24 business hours. I will only use your SFA email to contact you.

Please Note: I will not communicate with students over social media about class or assignment Concerns. I will not discuss grades over email. To discuss any concerns, please make an appointment with me.
Materials

- Student Version Autodesk ACAD 2016 or 18; USB Drive (1Gigabyte or bigger) or access to cloud based storage.
- Materials as needed for projects

Program Learning Outcomes (PLO’s) Supported in this Course:

(3) The student will be able to demonstrate collaborative and/or leadership competencies appropriate to participate or take a leadership role in an effective theatrical production (3)
(4) The student will demonstrate an understanding of the component areas of theatrical creation, process, production, performance, and study and their interrelationships.
(6) The student will demonstrate intermediate to advanced competence in one or more theatre specialization(s).

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO’s) for this course (supported PLO’s):

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

1. Gain hands-on experience in advanced build technique. (4,5)
2. Demonstrate competencies in various drafting techniques and software. (3,4,5)
3. Demonstrate the ability to budget and maintain the production process through various production types (3,4,5)
4. Demonstrate capability to operate specialized theatrical equipment used in pre-production and performances. (3,4,5)

Course Requirements

- Students must satisfy requirements of the given assignment.
- Shop Assignments
  - Students must complete 10 hours of tactile production work in the scene shop. This should be scheduled with the professor in the first two weeks of the course and be outside of any production lab or student employee contract hours in the Scene Shop.
- Course Assignments
  - Assignments are to be turned in via the D2L dropbox if digital or at the assigned location in the scene shop if tangible.

Grading Policy

Students are graded on an A-F basis. Students are graded by the Faculty and Staff based on professionalism and satisfaction of job performance. Some assignments require feedback from upper level student supervisors. This assessment includes attitude, attendance, promptness, proper dress code awareness, preparedness for duties, and satisfaction of hours completed.

Course Evaluations

Near the conclusion of each semester, students electronically evaluate courses. Evaluation data is used for a variety of important purposes including course/program improvement and planning. As you evaluate this course, please be thoughtful, thorough and accurate in completing the evaluation. Please know that the faculty is committed to excellence in teaching and continued improvement. Therefore, your response is critical! Although your instructor will be able to view the names of students who complete the survey, all ratings and comments are confidential and anonymous. They will not be available to the instructor until after final grades are posted.
Course Requirements

Grading Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Final Grading</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Projects / Assignments</td>
<td>60 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Shop Hours</td>
<td>10 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Midterm Project</td>
<td>10 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Final Project</td>
<td>15 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Participation</td>
<td>5%</td>
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(0 - 59) F

Grading Policy

Projects / Assignments 60%
Students will complete 8 projects throughout the semester including the following: 3D Drafting, Advanced Band Saw, Wood Lathe, CNC, Welding, Welding Cube, Shaper/Router Table, and 3D printing.

Shop Hours 10%
Students will be required to complete 10 hours of tactile work time in the Scene Shop. These hours must be worked out with the Technical Director in the first 2 weeks of the course. These hours cannot be double described with hours that coincide with a production lab / contract assignment or time as a student employee of the shop.

Midterm Welding Project 10%
Final welding project. Using scrap steel create a project/furniture for your use.

Final Project 15%
Students will combine the knowledge and skills they have garnered throughout the semester and projects completed to complete a final all encompassing project that will live in their portfolio. Students will have 3 weeks to complete this project.

Participation 5%
The majority of this course is tactile based learning. Students must be present in class and be 100% engaged with their learning in order to master the skill set they are learning on the equipment through the scene shop.
Policies

Appropriate Shop Dress

Bare feet or open toed (or heeled) shoes are NEVER allowed in the theatre work areas. Some course days may require climbing. Skirts and dresses should generally be avoided during the lab periods. Non-skid shoes should also be worn. Long hair should be tied up and dangling jewelry should not be worn.

COMPUTER ISSUES

D2L   936-468-1919   http://www.sfasu.edu/sfaonline
MySFA 936-468-1212

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE POLICY (School of Theatre):

A career in the fine arts demands dedication and discipline; preparation for this career requires conscientious development of effective work habits. To this end, regular and punctual attendance is expected for all classes, laboratories and other activities for which a student is registered or assigned.

I. It is University policy to excuse students from class attendance for certain reasons related to health, family emergencies, student working the University Series, and other situations of similar importance. Excused absences from theatre classes will only be granted upon presentation of written documentation from the teacher, sponsor or physician involved upon the first day of the student’s return. In the case of absences caused by university-sponsored events, inclusion in the university's public listing of such absences will constitute an official excuse. It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor that he/she has scheduled the planned official absence.

II. A total of seven excused and/or unexcused absences in Tuesday - Thursday classes or 10 excused and/or unexcused absences in Monday - Wednesday - Friday classes will result in the student receiving a failing grade. Excessive unexcused absences will affect a student’s grade.

III. The student will be allowed a maximum of two unexcused absences in Tuesday - Thursday classes or three unexcused absences in Monday - Wednesday - Friday classes.

IV. In the case of missed classes, the student will be held responsible for the successful completion of assigned work and/or projects. University Attendance Policy (excerpt): “…students are responsible for notifying their instructors in advance, when possible, for excusable absences… Students with acceptable excuses may be permitted to make up work for a maximum of three weeks’ worth of absences during a semester… depending on the nature of the missed work. Make up work must be completed as soon as possible after returning from an absence in accordance with the course syllabus.

Class Attendance Policy:

Missing more than half of a class period will be considered an unexcused absence. Unexcused absences in excess of what is permitted by the School Attendance Policy (above) will result in final grade penalties. If a pattern is established there will be a negative effect on your participation grade. Only religious holidays, sponsored school events, and documented medical or personal issues may qualify as excused absences upon the instructor’s discretion.
It is the student’s responsibility to obtain any missed notes from a dependable classmate. It is the responsibility of the student to check in with the instructor after class if s/he is tardy or arrives after attendance is taken.

**Diversity and Inclusion Statement**
This class engages material covering a diverse range of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, 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.

Your suggestions are encouraged and appreciated. Please let me know ways to improve the effectiveness of this course for your personally, or for other students or student groups.

**Late Work Policy:**
When an assignment’s scheduling affects other students (scenes with student actors and/or student audiences for example) it is never accepted late if the change of schedule might inconvenience or affect the work of others. Written work that must be completed in sequence to build for success on a complex project is never accepted late. Individual written assignments, such as critiques, may be accepted late at the instructor’s discretion, but the grade on the assignment will always be affected negatively (the later it is, the larger the penalty), and the instructor will always make it her top priority to be fair to students that submitted their work on time.

**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.

**Academic Integrity (A-9.1)**
Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty**
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp)
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/.

Mental Health Statement
SFASU values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support students' 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
3rd Floor Rusk Building
936-468-2401

SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic
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
## Course Calendar:

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Course Description</th>
<th>Assignment Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>• Introduction to Welding</td>
<td>Weld test</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>• 1st Welding Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>• Welding Cube Prep</td>
<td>1st welding Project Due</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
<td>• Introduction to Band Saw Techniques</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td>• Advanced Band Saw</td>
<td>Welding Cube Due</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td>• CNC Projects</td>
<td>Band Saw Assignment</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td>• Intro To Wood Lathe</td>
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<td>Week 8</td>
<td>• Wood Lathe</td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
<td>• Introduction to Welding</td>
<td>Wood Lathe Project</td>
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<td>Week 10</td>
<td>• Welding Project</td>
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<td>Week 11</td>
<td>• Welding Project Work</td>
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<td>Week 12</td>
<td>• Introduction to Shaper</td>
<td>Welding Midterm</td>
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<td>Week 13</td>
<td>• Shaper Continued</td>
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<td>Week 14</td>
<td>• 3D Printing Project</td>
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<td>Week 15</td>
<td>• Final Project Introduction</td>
<td>3D Printing Project Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finals Week</td>
<td>• Presentation of Final Project</td>
<td>Final Project</td>
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