THEA120. Practicum in Technical Production

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Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 12:00-1:00pm; or by appt.

Mandatory class meetings – you must attend the scheduled meetings in one of these sections:
• Section 01: Thursday, 4:30 – 5:45pm, SHS 113; Jan. 31, Feb. 7 & Feb. 14
• Section 02: Friday, 2:00 – 3:15pm, SHs 113; Feb. 1, Feb. 8 & Feb. 15

Catalog Description:
Practical experience in handling technical stagecraft problems, stage management, and crew management. Activity and participation in major productions. Four hours a week minimum required in workshop. A total of six undergraduate units may be taken.
Graded: Graded Student. Units: 1.0

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
Upon completion of this course, you must be able to:
1. Demonstrate professionalism as crew support for performance.
2. Develop your technical skills as part of the show run process.
3. Demonstrate proper run crew duties during live performances.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS/EVALUATION:
• STUDENT MUST MAINTAIN A 2.5 GRADE POINT AVERAGE IN ALL COURSES AT CSUS.

In order to create and maintain a positive learning and productive rehearsal and performance environment, it is imperative that you treat your cast members, and your production staff with respect. Therefore, disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Please remember to turn off all cell phones prior to rehearsal.

Rehearsal Process and Performance Process at Sacramento State in Faculty, Guest Artist, or Student works is a privilege and will be treated as such. Etiquette/ procedures are as follows:

- Must be on time to rehearsals and performances.
- Must be professional in work ethic and attitude, and all that entails, toward performers, directors, and other crew, -No talking, eating, chewing gum, cell phones, etc.
- Must call stage manager of production beforehand, if late or emergency conflict arises.
- After two absences during rehearsal process you will be dropped from crew unless worked out with Stage Manager beforehand.
- Lateness will not be tolerated, 2 late=1 absence.
- No animals or children at rehearsals.
- Performer/technician must be responsible as to how many shows in the Dept. he/she is committed to.
- Must dress appropriately at every rehearsal and performance: black pants and belt, long-sleeve black shirt (if has logo, turn inside out), black socks, black close toed shoes. If you are not back stage, or in the house, there are exceptions to this rule, but not many, and must be preapproved by the stage manager.
- Do not make a commitment if you have doubts, and unless you are serious

NO FOOD OR DRINK IS ALLOWED IN THE THEATRE AT ANY TIME!
**Attendance (50%)** You are required to make all technical rehearsals and show times. Any missed shows, rehearsal calls, or lateness, are unacceptable. Generally, theatre productions start Tech the week before a show opens with the all-day tech on Sunday from around 9am to 9pm, coming that first weekend of tech before the dress rehearsals the following Monday evening.

**Professionalism (50%).** You are expected to arrive on time and ready to work, if not at least ten (10) minutes early for all rehearsals and performances. Even if you have only a small job, be ready to go and be professional – that simply means you care about your performance as much as those on stage that rely on you! Dress appropriately for all rehearsals; present a consistent positive attitude toward all production team members, fellow cast members, and director; demonstrate initiative and willingness to work within and for the larger group ensemble or team dynamic throughout the production process. This may include rehearsing in addition to scheduled rehearsals and/or completing behind-the-scenes assignments to enhance the production.

Learn your job, and DON’T miss cues. Any mistake takes away from the performance and the audience won’t forgive or forget – neither will the performers or the Stage Manager. On the other hand, if you find a better/faster/smooth way or means to do your job, they will remember the good as well. One sure way to get a good grade in this class is to find ways to make the show run better.

Be ready for the unexpected as live performance is always live until the final curtain drops. Again, your fellow crew members and performers will always remember a helpful hand when things take an unexpected turn: crew assignments may seem simple, but only when done intelligently!

Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Please, turn off all cell phones, computers, personal electronic devices, and forget them until after your show is over – they are not allowed on during the rehearsal period or the run of the show – unless specifically stated by the STAGEMANAGER. Use of electronic devices during the run of a show or rehearsal is grounds for being dismissed from, or even failing, this class.

Lastly, safety is always first and last: if you feel that you are in danger of injury, or that another is or might be – from any source whether related to or unrelated to the show – stop and get help. Theatre should be a safe and enjoyable learning experience, and that requires you to make sure that it stays that way for all – crew, performers, and audience.

Rehearsal and performance opportunities at CSUS in Faculty, Guest Artist, or Student works are a privilege and will be treated as such.

**Costume/Wardrobe Crew:** The wardrobe crew is responsible for all the costumes in the show from first dress to final strike. This means maintaining and cleaning the costumes during the run of the show. They are expected to be at every performance, including all dress rehearsals and the photo shoot. Additional time for laundry and maintenance will be necessary beyond performance hours. These hours must be coordinated with the Stage Manager for access to the costume shop and laundry facilities.

**Crew Training:** The job assignment starts with the first day/evening of tech with the first all day tech (usually a Sunday) before first dress is the designated training date. The crew will be instructed on crewing etiquette, proper use of equipment, care of costumes, etc. They will familiarize themselves with the costumes, procedures, cues, and all the specific prop information needed for the show at this time and make up appropriate check-in sheets.

Generally, the Sunday before first dress is an all-day tech and workday. In addition to the training, the crew is expected to assist in the final preparations to the costumes prior to first dress. The day generally starts at 9 AM and ends at 9 PM.

**A potluck lunch is scheduled from 12 to 1 – everyone brings a dish.**
PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE POLICY
You may not arrive late to a performance. Absence from performance may result in a failing grade or at least an entire letter grade drop. You must contact the stage manager and directors a minimum of 2 hours in advance if you believe you will not be able to attend a performance for any reason.

GRADE BREAKDOWN
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