

Syllabus CTPR 534

Intermediate Production Design

2 Units

Prerequisite: CTPR 508

Instructor: Roland Rosenkranz

Course Objective: Learn and experience the process of Production Design as it applies to an overall knowledge of the cinematic arts.

Grades are based on: 60% Assignments & in-class projects
30% Final project & presentation
10% Class participation

Absences and tardiness may lower student's final grade. Class conflicts due to production, work or scheduling must be cleared with instructor prior to occurrence.

Office Hours: Thursdays 6-7PM by appointment. Instructor is also available via email and telephone throughout the semester.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Please note that schedule and content are subject to adjustments based upon guests' schedules and available times for studio visits.

Week 1 8/24 Course Overview

Discuss the responsibilities of a production designer.

Lectures on how the designer develops a concept, rulebook and visual metaphor.

Discuss concept of character as the basis for visual choices.

Turning a script into designable elements.

Assignment: Using instructor assigned script, students develop visual concept for mood board and class discussion.

Week 2 8/31 Dissecting a Script

Discussion of the Art Department Team: art director, set designer, illustrator, storyboard artist, art department coordinator and graphic designer, construction, set decorator, prop department, locations manager & staff.

Review Week 1 assignment. Discuss in class; critique from instructor.

Assignment: Using instructor assigned script, students develop a ground plan, research material and create mood & tone boards using texture, finishes wallpaper.

Week 3 9/7 SketchUp Class I

Class meets in lab. The lecture is devoted to SketchUp instruction.

Week 4 9/14 SketchUp Class II

Class meets in lab. The lecture is devoted to SketchUp instruction.

Week 5 9/21 Locations

GUEST: Location Manager

Discuss building sets vs. location.

Discuss the process of designing for a location.

Week 6 9/28 Blocking the Scene to Develop a Ground Plan

Class lecture about blocking and designing based on a script.

ASSIGNMENT: Using instructor assigned script, students create basic visual concept for entire script/story. Students find visual research and create mood boards for one scene.

Week 7 10/5 Director Plans/Groundplans/Stage Plans

Review Week 6 assignment. Discuss in class; critique from instructor.

ASSIGNMENT: Based on in-class critiques, students revise presentations for second review in Week 8.

Week 8 10/12 Elevations

Architectural style applied. How architecture informs story.

Review Week 7 revised assignment. Discuss in class; critique from instructor.

ASSIGNMENT: Using instructor assigned script, students create elevations of one scene.

Week 9 10/19 Field Trip

Class meets at active studio to view in-production show, art department, etc.

Week 10 10/26 The Construction Department

GUEST: Construction Coordinator

General lecture & discussion of construction budgeting and techniques.

ASSIGNMENT: Students research photos of appropriate set decoration and bring to class on a thumb drive for review in class.

Week 11 11/2 Set Decoration I

GUEST: Set Decorator

Lecture & discussion about furniture, lighting fixtures and drapery.

In class review of Week 10 set decoration assignment. Discuss palette- color, furniture style, line, fabrics and process

Week 12 11/9 Special effect department.

Discuss coordination/partnership between special effects, visual effects, and Design and the specific challenges and changes in production today.

Week 13 11/16 Backings & Green Screen

GUEST: Art Director

General discussion of use of various types of backings and green screen visual effect techniques to extend set or add backgrounds. Discuss final project. ASSIGNMENT

FOR THE FINAL PROJECT: select a script from the choices provided or present an alternative for approval. Final project requirements include designing one set, and one location including mood boards, SketchUp presentations, materials selection, and verbal in class presentation of the design. Each student discusses their chosen script, presents visuals, discusses the concepts and outlines their approach to be script. Discussion must include general analysis of script, color palette, tone, character, period and locations.

Week 14 11/23 Thanksgiving

.

Week 15 11/30

Budgeting. Prep and discussion for final project. Review progress, and discuss issues with regard to project process.

FINAL EXAM WEEK: 12/7/2017

Final Project presentation in class.

Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems

Academic Conduct:

Plagiarism – presenting someone else's ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in *SCampus* in Part B, Section 11, "Behavior Violating University Standards" <https://policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b/>. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in *SCampus* and university policies on scientific misconduct, <http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct>.

Support Systems:

Student Counseling Services (SCS) - (213) 740-7711 – 24/7 on call

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention. <https://engemannshc.usc.edu/counseling/>

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1-800-273-8255

Provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional

distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. <http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org>

Relationship & Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-4900 - 24/7 on call

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm. <https://engemannshc.usc.edu/rsvp/>

Sexual Assault Resource Center

For more information about how to get help or help a survivor, rights, reporting options, and additional resources, visit the website: <http://sarc.usc.edu/>

Office of Equity and Diversity (OED)/Title IX compliance – (213) 740-5086

Works with faculty, staff, visitors, applicants, and students around issues of protected class. <https://equity.usc.edu/>

Bias Assessment Response and Support

Incidents of bias, hate crimes and microaggressions need to be reported allowing for appropriate investigation and response. <https://studentaffairs.usc.edu/bias-assessment-response-support/>

Student Support & Advocacy – (213) 821-4710

Assists students and families in resolving complex issues adversely affecting their success as a student EX: personal, financial, and academic. <https://studentaffairs.usc.edu/ssa/>

Diversity at USC

Tabs for Events, Programs and Training, Task Force (including representatives for each school), Chronology, Participate, Resources for Students. <https://diversity.usc.edu/>