**USC**School of **Costume Construction - Theatre 231b**

Dramatic Arts Spring 2017 Section 62778D 3 Units

PED 114E

Mon, Wed 8:00-9:50am

Instructor: Charlotte Stratton

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Office hours: Fri. 8:00-9:50 am

**Course Description:**

Theory and practice in construction of costume. Emphasis on sewing and patterning skills used to create unique garments for theatrical or personal use. Previous sewing skills are not necessary.

**Objectives:**

Learn how to draft basic slopers and manipulate those slopers to create costumes.

Learn how to use the sewing machine for the construction of garments.

Learn how to identify and choose fabrics that are suitable for the garments you want to make.

**Required Texts:**

Vogue Sewing - Revised and Updated; paperback 2006

**Recommended Texts:**

Dana Willard, Fabrics A to Z: The Essential Guide to Choosing and Using Fabric for Sewing

M. Rohr, Pattern Drafting & Grading - Women's and Misses' Garment Design

**Exams and Assignments:**

In this course, students will be graded on 2 finished garments, 2 exams, patternmaking homework, and a series of sewing samples.

**Grading Criteria:**

10% Project 1 - Pajama pants

20% Sewing samples

20% Patternwork throughout the semester.

10% Midterm exam

20% Project 2 - Button-up shirt

20% Final exam

We will be doing sewing samples and pattern work during each class period that will be due at the end of class or at a given due date, most often at the beginning of the next class period.

These samples and pattern exercises are typically worth **10 pts. each**. 5 points are for accuracy and 5 points are for promptness.

The promptness points will be given as follows:

Beginning of class on due date - **5 pts.**

End of day on due date - **3 pts.**

The class after due date - **1 pt**.

Anytime thereafter - **0 pts**. for promptness will be given.

**Attendance, Tardies, and Absences:**

Be prepared for class by reading the pages in italics *before* coming to class. Class attendance is **expected** and **necessary** to complete the patterns, finished garments and projects required for this class. If you are absent, the work you missed must be completed during office hours on Fridays, 8-9:30 am. Students doing work of C- and below by midterm will receive mid-semester warnings.

**Course Outline: Theatre 231b**

Week 1 – Jan.9 Hooks, bars and snaps, and grommets. **Due Wed. Jan. 11.**

Intro to overlock. Overlock pieces for seam samples.

*Vogue Sewing - pp. 32-42, Fabric structure and basic weaves.*

*pp.286-287, Fasteners*

**\* For Wednesday: Bring 1" binder for classwork. Bring money for pajama pattern, New Look 6859, and shirt pattern, New Look 6232.**

Jan. 11 Turn in hooks, bars and snap samples.

*Vogue Sewing -**p. 92, Sewing machine and tension*

*pp. 162-163, Machine stitching, regular seam*

*pp. 169-170, French seam, flat-felled seam, topstitched seam, double topstitched seam*

Introduction to sewing machine. Practice straight and zig-zag stitching.

**Regular seam, double top-stitched seam,** **single top-stitched seam, flat-felled seam, French seam. Due Jan. 18.**

**Buy and wash fabric next week!**

Week 2 – Jan. 16 Martin Luther King Jr. B-day - holiday

Jan. 18 Turn in seam samples.

Draping demo. Drape bodice front and back. Transfer to brown paper. True seams. **Turn in at end of class.**

\*Have fabric washed and ready to cut on Monday.

**Sign up to cut pants on Monday, Jan. 23 or Wed. Jan. 25.**

Take measurements, chest and hip.

Week 3 – Jan. 23 **Centered zipper and lapped zipper sample. Due Jan. 30.**

*VS- pp.279-282, zippers*

Leave 2" at top and bottom of zippers for hems.

Group A - Cut out pajama pants.

Group B- Zipper samples.

Jan. 25 Group A - Zipper samples.

Group B - Cut out pajama pants.

Week 4 – Jan. 30 Turn in zipper samples.

Talk through sewing instructions.

**Make the following additions to the pattern:**

View A- After 4 - overlock pocket bottom.

between step 5 and 6 -overlock outseam, inseam and crotch.

View B - between step 1-2 - overlock crotch and inseam

between 4-5 - overlock side seams

after step 9 - overlock outside of pocket.

**Button and buttonhole samples. Due Feb. 1.**

*VS - p.276-277, buttons*

Begin sewing pants starting with buttonholes.

All views - Step 1. Interfacing spot for drawstring and make buttonholes.

View A - Steps 2-8. Pockets, side seams and crotch seam.

View B, C, D - Steps 2-10. Pockets, side seams and crotch seam.

Overlock crotch seams before sewing. Overlock side seams and inseam after sewing.

**Practice while sewing pants:**

threading machine, winding bobbin, changing feet, changing needle, changing thread.

Feb. 1 Turn in button and buttonhole samples.

**Hem samples. Cross-stitch, slip stitch, blindstitch, whipstitch, running stitch (basting), backstitch, prick stitch.** **Due Feb. 6.**

*VS - pp.159-160, Hand stitching*

*pp.288-293, Hems*

View A - Steps 9-15

View B, C, D - Steps 11-15.

Turn casing for elastic, insert elastic and drawstring. Hem.

**Finished pants due Feb.8 at the beginning of class.**

Week 5 – Feb. 6 Turn in hem samples.

Finish pant hems.

Feb. 8 **Turn in finished pants.**

Start drafting dress bodice- page 2 (revised edition) Size 16.

Start drafting bodice to your size.

Talk about adding SA.

Week 6 – Feb.13 Finish drafting bodice to your own measurements.

Draft sleeve - size 16.

Feb. 15 Draft sleeve - sized to your measurements.

*VS - pp.172-173 - bodice darts*

Cut out bodice and sleeve in muslin.

Week 7 – Feb. 20 President's Day - Holiday

Feb. 22 Sew bodice and sleeve.

*VS- pp.224-226 - Setting a sleeve*

Week 8 – Feb. 27 **Mid-term test**

Fit bodice shell with sleeve.

Alter paper pattern for adjustments.

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March 1 Draft skirt patterns.

p. 52 A-line and p. 53 flared

Week 9 – March 6 Bodice alterations using 1/2 scale sloper.

Dart manipulation; pivot method vs. slash and spread.

pg. 3 adding and moving darts.

Changing darts to tucks, pleats, and gathers.

March 8 **Turn in final block patterns.**

How to draft/add facings, CF button stand, cuffs, yokes.

Raglan sleeve. pg. 31- revised,14, 44 - 48 original

Empire waistlines. pg. 16-19

Draft collars;Peter pan, mandarin and convertible styles**.**

Original - pp. 49-50, revised p. 32

March 13-17 **Spring Break**

Week 10 – March 20 **Have fabric for shirt!**

Sleeve drafting and manipulation.

March 22 Drafting skirts, circle skirts, pleated, gathered.

Week 11 – March 27 Practice drafting from pictures.

March 29 Cut out shirts. Mark notches. Cut interfacing.

Week 12 – April 3 Steps 1-5. Stay-stitching and pockets.

April 5 Steps 6-11. Yoke.

Week 13 – April 10 Steps 12-19. Sleeve placket.

*VS- p. 235 - Shirt sleeve placket.*

April 12 Steps 20-23. Sleeve and side seams.

Week 14 – April 17 Steps 24-27. Cuffs and hem.

*VS- pp. 239-240 - Cuffs*

April 19 Steps 28-36. Front bands and collar.

*VS- p.222 - Collar with stand*

How to take a pattern off existing garment

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Week 15 – Apr. 24 Step 37. Buttons and buttonholes.

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. Apr. 26 Turn in finished shirt!

**Final-**  **Monday, May 8 11am-1 pm**

**Final exam.**

**Picture day!** Present all projects for semester.

Please bring pajamas, shirt, and all samples.

**Statement for Students with Disabilities**

Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me as early in the semester as possible. DSP is located in STU 301 and is open 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Website and contact information for DSP: http://sait.usc.edu/academicscupport/centerprograms/dsp/home\_index.html, (213) 740-0776

(phone), (213) 740-6948 (TDD only), (213) 740-8216 (FAX) ability@usc.edu.

**Statement on Academic Integrity**

USC seeks to maintain an optimal learning environment. General principles of academic honesty include the concept of respect for the intellectual property of others, the expectation that individual work will be submitted unless otherwise allowed by an instructor, and the obligations both to protect one's own academic work from misuse by others as well as to avoid using another's work as one's own. All students are expected to understand and abide by these principles. SCampus, the Student Guidebook, (www.usc.edu/scampus or http://scampus.usc.edu) contains the University Student Conduct Code (see University Governance, Section 11:00). while the recommended sanctions are located in Appendix A.

**Emergency Preparedness/Course Continuity in a Crisis**

In case of a declared emergency if travel to campus is not feasible, USC executive leadership will announce an electronic way for instructors to teach students in their residence halls or homes using a combination of Blackboard, teleconferencing,