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

Dramatic Arts Fall 2018 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 use the sewing machine for the construction of garments.

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

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

**Required Texts: some available in class**

Rosemary Ingham/Liz Covey, The Costume Technician’s Handbook; paperback 1992

**Recommended Texts:**

Reader’s Digest Complete Guide to Sewing; 1984 **or** Vogue Sewing - Revised and Updated; paperback 2006

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.

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:

Turned in at the end of class or on the given due date - **5 pts.** will be given.

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 sewing samples, pattern assignments, and finished garments 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 – Aug. 20 Hooks, bars and snaps. **Due Aug. 27**

Intro to overlock. Overlock pieces for seam samples.

*Vogue Sewing - pp.286-287, Fasteners*

*pp.32-36, Fabric Structure and basic weaves*

*pp.58-63, Choosing pattern size and understanding ease*

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

Aug. 22 *Vogue Sewing -**p. 92, Sewing machine and tension*

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

*p. 170, Topstitched seam, and double topstitched seam*

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

Regular seam, double top-stitched seam, single top-stitched seam samples.

Buy and wash fabric next week!

Week 2 – Aug. 27 French seam and flat-felled seam samples.

Centered zipper sample.

*Vogue Sewing- p. 169, French seam and flat-felled seam.*

*pp.279-281, Zippers*

Aug. 30 Lapped zipper sample.

Button and buttonhole sample. *VS - p.276-277, buttons*

\*Have fabric washed and ready to cut on Wednesday, Sept. 5.

**Additional class will be held Sept. 4 or 6 for cutting pants out if class is larger than 6.**

Week 3 – Sept. 3 **Labor Day**

Sept. 5 Cut out pajama pants. Mark notches.

Week 4 – Sept. 10 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.

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: Quiz on Sept. 17:**

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

Sept. 12 Hem samples. Cross-stitch, slip stitch, blindstitch, whipstitch, running stitch (basting), backstitch, prick stitch.

*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 Sept. 19 at the beginning of class.**

Week 5 – Sept. 17 **Quiz on threading machine, winding bobbin, changing feet, changing needle, changing thread.**

Finish pant hems.

Sept. 29 **Finished pants due.**

Draping demonstration.

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

Start drafting bodice to your size.

Week 6 – Sept. 24 Finish drafting bodice to your own measurements or to the measurements of your choice.

Discussion of laying pattern out, adding SA, marking for construction.

How to sew darts. *VS - pp.172-173 - bodice darts*

Sept. 26 Draft sleeve - size 16.

Draft sleeve - sized to your measurements or to the measurements of your choice.

How to set a sleeve. *VS- pp.224-226 - Setting a sleeve.*

Week 7 – Oct. 1 Fitting the bodice. Discussion of alterations and how to fit a muslin mock-up.

Oct. 3 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.

Week 8 – Oct. 8 **Mid-term test**

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

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

Empire waistlines. pg. 16-19

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Oct. 10 Draft collars;Peter pan, mandarin and convertible styles**.**

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

Week 9 – Oct. 15 Draft skirt patterns.

p. 52 A-line and p. 53 flared

Oct. 17Skirt pattern manipulation.

Drafting skirts, circle skirts, pleated, gathered.

Week 10 – Oct. 22 Practice drafting from pictures.

**Have fabric for FINAL project - shirt!**

Wash and press it in the shop outside of class time.

Have it ready to cut next class period.

Oct. 24 Cut out shirts. Mark notches. Cut interfacing.

Week 11 – Oct. 29 Steps 1-5. Stay-stitching and pockets.

Oct.31 Steps 6-11. Yoke.

Week 12 – Nov. 5 Steps 12-19. Sleeve placket.

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

Nov. 7 Steps 20-23. Sleeve and side seams.

Week 13 – Nov. 12 Steps 24-27. Cuffs and hem.

*VS- pp. 239-240 - Cuffs*

Nov. 14 Steps 28-36. Front bands and collar.

*VS- p.222 - Collar with stand*

Week 14 – Nov. 19 Step 37. Buttons and buttonholes.

Nov. 21 How to take a pattern off existing garment.

Week 15 – Nov. 26 Final review. Fabrics, sewing techniques, pattern drafting.

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. Nov. 27 **Finished shirt due today.**

**Final-**  **Wednesday, Dec. 5 8-10 am**

**Final exam.**

**Final shirts will be returned and we will take pictures.**

**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,