

USC School of Dramatic Arts

Theatre 241 Methods & Materials
Spring 2020—Thursday—2-3:50pm
Location: GFS212/Bing Design Lab



Instructor: Sibyl Wickersheimer

Office: JEF 200

Office Hours: Typ, 1 hour prior to class or as scheduled with student individual. Office hours are by appointment only.

Please always make an appointment prior to coming to office hours.

Contact Info: swicker@usc.edu

Course Description

Experience both Cutting-edge and traditional methods and materials to enhance the planning stages and the realization of theatrical design.

Learning Objectives

- Students will expand their knowledge and proficiency of theatrical materials, artistic craft, and current digital technology used to aid the design process and enhance communication of their designs. By deepening their understanding of the basic materials, methods and techniques utilized within the industry of entertainment design students can better strategize fabrication needs during the design and production process

Required Readings and Supplementary Materials

Purchase:

Digital Single Lens Reflex (DSLR) camera

Designer Drafting and Visualization, 2nd Edition by Patricia Woodbridge

Introduction to Theatrical Design & Production, 7th Edition by Gillette

For Reference:

Drawing & Rendering for Theatre by Clare P. Rowe

Model Making: Conceive, Create and Convince by Arjan Karssen & Bernard Otte

Model Making: Materials & Methods by David Neat

Online References

LinkedInLearning tutorials

Blackboard links to resources in Class Content Folder

Rosebrand website: [curtain finishes](#), [curtain types](#)

PBS:Art 21 <http://www.pbs.org/program/art21/>

Eco Sets www.ecosetconsulting.com

The Green Theater www.thegreentheater.org

Broadway Green Alliance www.broadwaygreen.com

The Center for Sustainable Practice in the Arts www.sustainablepractice.org

Supplies (to be discussed per week, no need to purchase all at once)

Sketchbook/notebook

Various building supplies per project will include paper, foam core, Bristol board, matte board, plexi, brass rods, etc.

Grading Criteria and Assessment of Assignments

FILE NAMING SHOULD FOLLOW THIS PROTOCOL: 241_S2020_Assignment_Name.filetype

Work in class will be project-based work. All projects will be graded using a point system. Assigned readings will be expected to be completed for the following class session.

No late assignments, projects, exams, papers, or exercises shall be accepted unless advance extensions have been arranged between the student and the teacher or unless exceptional circumstances occur. Grades will be lowered by at least one letter grade if they are not turned in by the assigned deadline.

If your work in class is unsatisfactory, you will be warned about your grade when midterm grades are due. I am available to discuss your progress in class. I encourage you to make an appointment to meet with me at least once during the semester. **Cell phones must be turned off and put away during classes. Please take notes on paper or laptops/tablets.**

The final course grade is based on the following scale:

A	95-100
A-	90-94
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
F	59 and below

Point values are assigned to individual projects/assignments.

Final grades will be based on points accumulated (90% of final grade) as well as class participation and attendance (10% of final grade). There shall be no unexcused absences

Grading Scale for SDA: **A** indicates work of excellent quality; **B** of good quality; **C** of average quality; **D** of below average quality; and **F** indicates inadequate work.

Assignment Submission Policy

Assignments will be brought to class and turned in to the instructor during class sessions. For assignments that are digital files, the student upload the file(s) to the class Google Drive folder. Files names should have the following format: 241_S2020_Assignment_Name.filetype

Assignments/Quizzes

Photoshop Exercises & Paint Elevations	10pts	
Soft Goods & Theatrical Fabric Quiz	10pts	
InDesign Project Props Research Package	10pts	
Production Photography	20pts	
Digital Fabrication project	10pts	
Manual Fabrication project	10pts	
Final Project	30pts	
	part 1	Prelim Design, Research , 3d Model or rendering, orthographic drawing, materials list, steps, etc
	part 2	real size, physical mock up
	part 3	Finished item

100pts TOTAL

Final Examination Date:**Thursday, May 7, 2-4pm PRESENTATION OF FINAL PROJECT**

Final projects must include digital fabrications techniques, hand fabrication techniques, surface treatment and use at least 2 different materials.

	WEEKLY SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE!!!!	
Week 1 Jan. 16	Show & Tell, Course Intro Paper Pleating Exercise	Read: Gillette p. 479-486, Read: all Rosebrand Theatrical Fabrics resources
Week 2 Jan. 23	Draping exercise in class, stapling fullness Pleating & folding to achieve shapes	Read: Art of Manipulating Fabric
Week 3 Jan. 30	Theatrical Fabric Lecture curtain finishes , curtain types	Assign: Rowe, Ch. 17 & 18
Week 4 Feb. 6	Fabrics Quiz Photoshop tutorials	Read: Rowe, Ch. 19 & 21 Complete exercises in Rowe
Week 5 Feb. 13	Photoshop Work TBD – online class!!	Assign: Paint Elevation Read: Large Format Printing Article
	Extra help sessions TBD	Due prior to Feb 20 : Paint Elevation, upload to Google Dr
Week 6 Feb. 20	Digital Photography – bring DSLR cameras	Assign: Props Research, start taking photos with cameras, Production Photographs, Dress Reh of Othello in BING 2/24-26
Week 7 Feb. 27	MEET IN BING DESIGN LAB Props Research & Deliverables Use Adobe InDesign to create props research document.	InDesign tutorial in class. Assign: Props Package pdf document
Week 8 March 5	Digital Photography – bring DSLR cameras Print Production Photographs	Due: Props Package pdf document Assign: Production Photographs, Camino Real in MCC -DressReh 3/2-3/3
Week 9 March 12	Lecture: Digital Fabrication Techniques Laser Cutter Demo	Read: Woodbridge Ch.16, Digital Design Read: TD&T article on Digital Design Discuss Final Project...
Week 10 March 19	NO Class – Spring Break	
Week 11 March 26	MEET IN SCENE SHOP CNC CUTTER DEMO	Due: Production Photographs (take2) Assign: Research and design of Final Project Read: TD&T article on Digital Design Secret Garden in BING- DressReh 3/30&31 Fuente Ovejuna in SDT- DressReh 3/30&31

Week 12 April 2	MEET IN BING DESIGN LAB – Rhino 3d demo	Assign: Research, Rendering or Drawing of Final Project Dress Reh this week in SDT
Week 13 April 9	Building from 3d Model/Orthographic Drawings MEET IN BING DESIGN LAB	Assign: Orthographic Drawings, Revisions, and File Prep Dress Reh this week in Massman
Week 14 April 16	Discuss necessary revisions of physical models. File Prep for Laser Cutting and CNC Cutting.	Due: 1:1 Physical mock up 3Sisters in SDT -DressReh 4/20&21
Week 15 April 23	3d printing Demo MEET IN SCENE SHOP	Assign: Print 3d object Due: Production photographs (take 3), upload
Week 16 April 30	3d Printing/CNC work MEET IN SCENE SHOP	Assign/Due: Print 3d object
FINAL EXAM May 7 2pm	Present Final Projects	Due: Final Project

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EXTRA-CURRICULAR COMMITMENTS AND ISPS

Should you choose to participate in any extra-curricular project, such as an Independent Student Production, the SDA administration and faculty will not make allowances or exceptions for absences in class, missed or delayed assignments, home work that is required as preparation for class, or lack of participation in class resulting from your extra-curricular involvement.

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” 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>.

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 (or to TA) 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 for DSP and contact information: (213) 740-0776 (Phone), (213) 740-6948 (TDD only), (213) 740-8216 (FAX) ability@usc.edu.

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, and other technologies. See the university’s site on Campus Safety and Emergency Preparedness.

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. 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. www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Relationship and 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. 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: 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. 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. studentaffairs.usc.edu/bias-assessment-response-support

The Office of Disability Services and Programs

Provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange relevant accommodations. dsp.usc.edu

Student Support and Advocacy – (213) 821-4710

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

Diversity at USC

Information on events, programs and training, the Diversity Task Force (including representatives for each school), chronology, participation, and various resources for students. diversity.usc.edu

USC Emergency Information

Provides safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible. emergency.usc.edu

USC Department of Public Safety – UPC: (213) 740-4321 – HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24-hour emergency or to report a crime.

Provides overall safety to USC community. dps.usc.edu