Syllabus CTPR 534
Intermediate Production Design
2 Units   Fall 2020
Prerequisite: CTPR 508
Instructor: Nathan Ogilvie
SA: Cheyenne Peerson

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: 55% Assignments & in-class projects
                                 30% Final Project & presentation
                                 15% Class participation

Students are expected to be on time and prepared for each class. Two absences will result in a student's grade being lowered by one full letter (IE: A becomes B). A third absence will result in a student's grade being lowered by one, additional full letter (IE: B becomes C). A student's grade will be lowered by one full letter for each additional absence. Two late class arrivals equate to one full absence.

If a student misses class due to an emergency, the student must contact the professor prior to class or contact the Production Office at 213-740-3317.

Office Hours: Thursdays 6-7PM by appointment. Instructor is also available via email 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   8/20 Course Overview & Dissecting a Script
Discuss the responsibilities of a production designer, communication, & design principles. Turning a script into designable elements.
ASSIGNMENT: Using selected script, students create set list, identify main characters, theme, visual keys.

Week 2   8/27 Developing a Visual Concept
Review Week 1 assignment. Discuss in class; critique from instructor.
Discuss creating a visual concept for the script and establishing composition, chroma, and chiaroscuro themes for a script.
ASSIGNMENT: Using selected script, students create create mood board and title graphic.

Week 3   9/3   Visual Research and Presentation
Review Week 2 assignment. Discuss in class; Peer review in class.
Discuss effective image research and creation of strong presentations.
ASSIGNMENT: Using selected script, students create varied research portfolio.

Week 4   9/10   Location or Stage
Review Week 3 assignment. Discuss in class; critique from instructor.
Discuss considerations and preparations for creating a set on location or on stage.
ASSIGNMENT: Using selected set from script, students create a location presentation.

Week 5   9/17   Blocking the Scene to Develop a Ground Plan
Review Week 4 assignment. critique from instructor.
Discuss blocking and designing based on a script analysis.
ASSIGNMENT: Using selected set from script, students plan character action.

Week 6   9/24   SketchUp Class I
The lecture is devoted to SketchUp instruction.
ASSIGNMENT: Setup SketchUp workspace

Week 7   10/1 SketchUp Class II
The lecture is devoted to SketchUp instruction.
ASSIGNMENT: Print document to scale

Week 8   10/8 Visual Composition - Drawing to create
Review Week 7 assignment. Discuss in class; critique from instructor.
Discuss creating drawings and renderings to communicate the set. Discuss architectural styles. How architecture informs story.
ASSIGNMENT: Using a set from selected script, students develop a ground plan, elevation, and perspective drawing.

Week 9 10/15 Materials and Textures
Review Week 8 assignment. Discuss in class; critique from instructor.
Discuss wall and floor treatments. Examine how surfaces interact with architecture to create an environment. Discuss graphics and illustration with in a set.
ASSIGNMENT: Based off a set from selected script, students create material boards.

Week 10   10/22 Set Decoration
Review Week 9 assignment. Discuss in class; critique from instructor.
GUEST: Set Decorator
Lecture & discussion about furniture, lighting fixtures and drapery.
ASSIGNMENT: Using a set from assigned script, students research and present set decoration choices.

WEEK 11   10/22 The Departments
Review Week 10 assignment. Discuss in class; critique from instructor.
General lecture & discussion of the Art Department Team: art director, set designer, illustrator, storyboard artist, art dept coordinator & graphic designer, construction, set decorator, prop department, locations manager & staff.
Discussion of scheduling, and budgeting visual work.
ASSIGNMENT: Students select final project script and complete assignment revisions.

Week 12   11/5 Visit a Set
Virtual tour working soundstage and discussion with the production designer.
ASSIGNMENT: Students create set list and set breakdown for selected set from final project script.

Week 13   11/12   VFX, SFX, and backdrops
                        FINAL PROJECT ASSIGNMENT
Review semester assignments. Discuss in class; critique from instructor.
Discuss the challenges and approaches to take when working with Special Effects and
Visual Effects.
GUEST: VFX producer

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 and SketchUp drawings, materials board,
and verbal in-class presentation of the design. Each student discusses their chosen
script, presents visuals, discusses the concepts and outlines their approach to the
script. Presentation must include brief analysis of script, color palette, tone, character,
period and locations.

FINAL EXAM WEEK:
Final Project presentations.

Online Sessions

This class has a "camera-on" policy. All students should show themselves during class,
You are encouraged to use virtual backgrounds to address privacy concerns and
earphones or headsets to improve audio quality. Accommodations are available to
students who contact me directly with reasonable requests.

Asynchronous Learning

All class sessions will be Zoom recorded and made available for asynchronous viewing
until end of the grading period in early December. Students enrolled in this course from
outside the U.S. Pacific Time Zone will still be expected to participate in real time
assuming that the official class time falls between 7am and 10pm in their time zones.
 Wherever possible faculty will be understanding and make accommodations to ease
the inconvenience of asynchronous learning.

Students from outside the U.S. Pacific Time Zone for whom the class falls between the
hours of 10pm and 7am may still be required to complete certain components of the
course synchronously. These components will be announced at the beginning of the
semester and students with concerns about meeting these requirements should discuss
them with their faculty at that time.

Technological Proficiency and Hardware/Software Required

This class will use SketchUp Pro to develop understanding of design concepts and
complete assignments. Students need to install the software on their computer.
Students may use the software in the computer labs when they are available.

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, policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct.

SUPPORT SYSTEMS:

Counseling and Mental Health - (213) 740-9355 – 24/7 on call
studenthealth.usc.edu/counseling

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

Student Health Leave Coordinator – 213-821-4710
Located in the USC Support and Advocacy office, the Health Leave Coordinator processes requests for health leaves of absence and advocates for students taking such leaves when needed.
https://policy.usc.edu/student-health-leave-absence/

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1 (800) 273-8255 – 24/7 on call
suicidepreventionlifeline.org
Free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention and Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-9355(WELL), press "0" after hours – 24/7 on call
studenthealth.usc.edu/sexual-assault
Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm.

Office of Equity and Diversity (OED)- (213) 740-5086 | Title IX – (213) 821-8298
equity.usc.edu, titleix.usc.edu
Information about how to get help or help someone affected by harassment or discrimination, rights of protected classes, reporting options, and additional resources for students, faculty, staff, visitors, and applicants. The university prohibits discrimination or harassment based on the following *protected characteristics*: race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, physical disability, medical condition, mental disability, marital status, pregnancy, veteran status, genetic information, and any other characteristic which may be specified in applicable laws and governmental regulations. The university also prohibits sexual assault, non-consensual sexual contact, sexual misconduct, intimate partner violence, stalking, malicious dissuasion, retaliation, and violation of interim measures.

Reporting Incidents of Bias or Harassment - (213) 740-5086 or (213) 821-8298
usc-advocate.symplicity.com/care_report
Avenue to report incidents of bias, hate crimes, and microaggressions to the Office of Equity and Diversity |Title IX for appropriate investigation, supportive measures, and response.

The Office of Disability Services and Programs - (213) 740-0776
dsp.usc.edu
Support and accommodations for students with disabilities. Services include assistance in providing readers/notetakers/interpreters, special accommodations for test taking needs, assistance with architectural barriers, assistive technology, and support for individual needs.

Campus Support & Intervention - (213) 821-4710
campussupport.usc.edu

Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.

Diversity at USC - (213) 740-2101
diversity.usc.edu
Information on events, programs and training, the Provost's Diversity and Inclusion Council, Diversity Liaisons for each academic school, chronology, participation, and various resources for students.

USC Emergency - UPC: (213) 740-4321, HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24/7 on call
dps.usc.edu, emergency.usc.edu
Emergency assistance and avenue to report a crime. Latest updates regarding safety, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible.

USC Department of Public Safety - UPC: (213) 740-6000, HSC: (323) 442-120 – 24/7 on call
dps.usc.edu
Non-emergency assistance or information.

Office of the Ombuds - (213) 821-9556 (UPC) / (323-442-0382 (HSC)
ombuds.usc.edu
A safe and confidential place to share your USC-related issues with a University Ombuds who will work with you to explore options or paths to manage your concern.

PLEASE NOTE
FOOD AND BEVERAGES (OTHER THAN WATER) ARE NOT PERMITTED IN ANY INSTRUCTIONAL SPACES IN THE CINEMATIC ARTS COMPLEX