EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION
THEATRE
School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Department of Theatre
FA / THEA 2141 3.0 SECTION A
INTRODUCTION TO DESIGN FOR THEATRE
FALL 2019 / WINTER 2020

Last Modified Date: 08/06/2019

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION
Introduces the basic principles of theatrical design dealing with aesthetics and the design process explored through lectures and exercises. The history of scenography and contemporary aspects of stage design is also studied. Open to majors and non-majors. Course credit exclusion: FA/THEA 2141 3.00 (prior to Fall 2010).

INSTRUCTOR(S)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Section / Format / Term</th>
<th>Contact Email</th>
<th>Contact Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Przybylski, Teresa</td>
<td>Sec. A / STD 0 / Y</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SPECIAL FEATURES

Course: THEA 2141 3.0 INTRODUCTION TO DESIGN FOR THEATRE

Term: Fall/Winter 2019-2020

Prerequisite / Co-requisite:
Prerequisite: FA/THEA 1100 3.00 and FA/THEA 1110 3.00 or permission of the course director. Open to majors and non-majors.

Course Instructor:
Teresa Przybylski
Consultations: Tuesdays 11:30– 1:30, CFT 314 or by appointment

Time and Location:
Time Wednesdays 8:30– 11:30, ACW 106

Special Features
This course introduces the basic principles of theatrical design, performing arts aesthetics and the design process, explored through lectures and practical exercises. The history of scenography and contemporary aspects of stage design is also studied.

This course has two distinctive components: examination of theoretical design issues and hands on design work on projects.

Fall term: series of lectures, and design projects will explore creative and design process, history and practice of scenography with the emphasis on the contemporary approaches and basics concepts of design.
Students will be asked to present their research and design projects in the class.

**Winter term:** will contain work on individual research, design, critique and assessment of other students work, writing essays on design subjects.

The work on projects is presented and discussed on line and in the classroom.

Students will do portion of the design work in the studio during class.

Course director will be commenting on student’s progress during studio classes and on line. There are five classes during the winter semester. The classes will be conducted in the regular class room or in the studio.

**Topics and Concepts**

**FALL TERM lectures and projects schedule**

All projects are to be handed in the class

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept 4</td>
<td>Lecture 1</td>
<td><strong>Course Introduction</strong></td>
<td>Project 1 handed out</td>
<td>Presentation topic A handed out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 11</td>
<td>Lecture 2</td>
<td><strong>Class Work</strong></td>
<td>Project 2 handed</td>
<td>Presentation topic B handed out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Class presentation A</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 18</td>
<td>Lecture 3</td>
<td><strong>History, Concepts</strong></td>
<td>Project 1 due</td>
<td>Topics for Class Presentation B hand out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 25</td>
<td>Lecture 4</td>
<td><strong>Class Presentation B</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Project 3 handed out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 2</td>
<td>Lecture 5</td>
<td><strong>Tools of Design</strong></td>
<td>Project 2 due</td>
<td>Project 4 handed out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 9</td>
<td>Lecture 6</td>
<td><strong>Space, Photos, Guest</strong></td>
<td>Project 3 due</td>
<td>Project 5 handed out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 16</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fall reading Week</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 23</td>
<td>Lecture 7</td>
<td><strong>Costume - Studio Work</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Project 4 due</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Project 6 handed out

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Project Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 30</td>
<td>Lecture 8</td>
<td>Film Production Design</td>
<td><strong>Project 5 due</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 6</td>
<td>Lecture 9</td>
<td>Set, Model - Studio Work</td>
<td><strong>Project 6 due</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Project 7 handed out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 13</td>
<td>Lecture 10</td>
<td>Design Process, Projects Review</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 27</td>
<td>Lecture 11</td>
<td>Class Presentation Project 7</td>
<td><strong>Project 7 due</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dec. 3  Fall classes end

---

### WINTER TERM lecture schedule

All *Projects* including *Drawings* are to be handed in **online on Moodle**

There is a “check in class” where you will bring your work in progress for consultation – this in addition to the online submission.

The outlines of Projects and Drawings for the Winter course are posted on Moodle

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Project Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No class</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Individual</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Study</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 15</td>
<td>Lecture 12</td>
<td>Theatrical Space</td>
<td><strong>Project 8 due online</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Project 10 preliminary handed out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Project 11 Preliminary handed out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 22</td>
<td>Lecture 13</td>
<td>Multimedia</td>
<td><strong>Project 9 due online</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
January
29     No class

Individual Study

**Drawing**
2 due on line

**Feb 5**     **Lecture 14**     **Presentations**     Project 12 Final handed out

Feb 12     No class

Individual Study

**Drawing**
3 due on line

Feb 1     No class

Reading Week

**Drawing**
4 due on line

Jan 26     **Lecture 15**     **Check in**     **Project 10 Preliminary Set Due on line**

March 4     **Lecture 16**     **Check in**     **Project 11 Prelim Costume Due on line**

March 11     No class

Individual Study

**Drawing**
5 due on line
March 18       No Class
Individual Study
Project
12 Final
due on line

March 25       Lecture 17       Course Conclusion       Participation in the Opening SBD

April 1
TBA

Project
13 due on line

April 5
Winter classes end

Course Text / Readings:
Additional readings may be assigned or recommended during the course.

Required Texts:

Other reading materials for the Design Projects will be announced during the duration of the Course.

Recommended texts:
Scene Design and Stage Lighting, W Oren Parker, R. Craig Wolf, Dick Block, Wadsworth/Thomson Learning, 2003
Designer Drafting for the Entertainment World, Wolldbridge Patricia. Focal Press

These books are only a few of the many that should be referred to and/or collected for your design library.
Additional readings may be assigned or recommended during the course.

**Learning Outcomes with Examples**

**Learning objectives of the course:**
- To analyze basic theories of design
- To analyze basic theories of design for performing arts
- To examine steps of the creative process
- To examine steps of the design process for performing arts production
- To learn about history of the performing arts design and film design
- To learn about history of architecture of a performing space
- To analyze contemporary design trends
- To learn about practical creative tools for the theatre design projects
- To learn practical methods of the design presentation
- To develop confidence in transferring design ideas into informative presentation
- To develop critical eye in assessing design work
- To develop ability to discuss and write about design ideas and issues
- To develop a design portfolio

**Graded Assessment**

**Fall Term**
- Project 1 Process 5 %
- Project 2 Composition 5 %
- Project 3 Poster 5 %
- Project 4 Wagon 5 %
- Project 5 Mondrian 10 %
- Project 6 Clown 10 %
- Project 7 Designers pass/fail

**Winter term**
- Project 8 Film 5 %
- Project 9 Research 10 %
- Project 10 Set Preliminary 10 %
- Project 11 Costume Preliminary 10 %
- Project 12 Final 20 %
- Project 13 Review pass/ fail
- Drawings 5 %

**Attendance/Participation**

**Missing Class Penalty:** for each missing class points will be deducted from the final 100 % mark.
1 absence = 1 point, 2 absences = 3 points, 3 absences = 6 points, 4 = 10 points , 5 = 15 points off.
Exceptions to the missing class penalty for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may be entertained by the Course Instructor but will require supporting documentation notice from the student.

**Assignment Submission:** Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. Accordingly, assignments for this course must be received on the due date specified for the assignment. Assignments are to be handed in during the class on the due day or posted online at the end of the due day.

**Lateness Penalty:** Assignments received later than the due date will be penalized by deduction of 1% per day, from the day that the assignment is due (from the 100% mark).

Exceptions to the lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may be considered by the Course Instructor but will require supporting documentation (e.g., a doctor’s letter).

**Missed Tests:** Students with a documented reason for missing a course test, such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., which is confirmed by supporting documentation (e.g., doctor’s letter) may request accommodation from the Course Instructor. Student will be given alternative time to make up the test.

Further extensions or accommodation will require students to submit a formal petition to the Faculty.

**Archives:** Projects created in this course may be stored in the Production/Design Area archives and used in student’s exhibitions as well as a teaching tool.

**Supplies required:**

Materials from “Drawing for the Theatre” could be used in this course.

- Note book
- Drawing pencils - HB, B, Graphite sticks
- Drawing Paper
- Eraser – gum
- Glue
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Flash light
- Model making tools
- Access to digital camera
- Access to internet
- Access to computer

Detailed information regarding supplies, techniques and project requirements will be provided during the first class.

1. **Additional Information**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term F</th>
<th>Term Y</th>
<th>Term FF</th>
<th>Term A</th>
<th>Term W</th>
<th>Term WW</th>
<th>Term B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Grading, Assignment Submission, Lateness Penalties and Missed Tests

Grading: The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ = 7, C+ = 5, etc.). Assignments and tests will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 90, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.) (For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar - http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/pdfs/ug2004cal/calug04_5_acadinfo.pdf)

Students may take a limited number of courses for degree credit on an ungraded (pass/fail) basis. For full information on this option see Alternative Grading Option in the Faculty of Fine Arts section of the Undergraduate Calendar: http://www.yorku.ca/rocal/pdfs/ug2004cal/calug04_5_acadinfo.pdf

ATTENDANCE:

Full and prompt attendance is an absolute requirement. The Department does not differentiate between excused and unexcused absences. All classes are mandatory. Failure to attend all classes will result in either academic penalty or a request that the student withdraw from the class. Any student who is absent or late without prior arrangement with the Instructor for an excused absence (at the Instructor’s discretion) may have for each lateness or absence a half letter grade deducted (that’s 4 points out of 100) from his/her final grade.

Failure to attend classes or not to submit work on line will result in either academic penalty or request to withdraw from the course

IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS:

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Curriculum & Academic Standards webpage (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents) http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate_cte_main_pages/ccas.htm
• York’s Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures/Academic Integrity Website
• Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants
• Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, systemic, learning and psychiatric disabilities
• Student Conduct Standards
• Religious Observance Accommodation

Academic Honesty and Integrity:

York students are required to maintain high standards of academic integrity and are subject to the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty (http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/legislation/senate/acadhone.htm).

There is also an academic integrity website with complete information about academic honesty. Students are expected to review the materials on the Academic Integrity website
Access/Disability:

York provides services for students with disabilities (including physical, medical, learning and psychiatric disabilities) needing accommodation related to teaching and evaluation methods/materials.

It is the student's responsibility to register with disability services as early as possible to ensure that appropriate academic accommodation can be provided with advance notice. You are encouraged to schedule a time early in the term to meet with each professor to discuss your accommodation needs. Failure to make these arrangements may jeopardize your opportunity to receive academic accommodations.

Additional information is available at www.yorku.ca/disabilityservices or from disability service providers:
- Learning and Psychiatric Disabilities Programs - Counselling & Development Centre: 130 BSB, 416-736-5297, www.yorku.ca/cdc

Ethics Review Process:

York students are subject to the York University Policy for the Ethics Review Process for Research Involving Human Participants. In particular, students proposing to undertake research involving human participants (e.g., interviewing the director of a company or government agency, having students complete a questionnaire, etc.) are required to submit an Application for Ethical Approval of Research Involving Human Participants at least one month before you plan to begin the research. If you are in doubt as to whether this requirement applies to you, contact your Course Director immediately.

Religious Observance Accommodation:

York University is committed to respecting the religious beliefs and practices of all members of the community, and making accommodations for observances of special significance to adherents. Should any of the dates specified in this syllabus for an in-class test or examination pose such a conflict for you, contact the Course Director within the first three weeks of class. Similarly, should an assignment to be completed in a lab, practicum placement, workshop, etc., scheduled later in the term pose such a conflict, contact the Course director immediately. Please note that to arrange an alternative date or time for an examination scheduled in the formal examination periods (December and April/May), students must complete an Examination Accommodation Form, which can be obtained from Student Client Services, Student Services Centre or online at http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/exam_accommodation.pdf

Student Conduct:

Students and instructors are expected to maintain a professional relationship characterized by courtesy and mutual respect and to refrain from actions disruptive to such a relationship. Moreover, it is the responsibility of the instructor to maintain an appropriate academic atmosphere in the classroom, and the responsibility of the student to cooperate in that endeavour. Further, the instructor is the best person to decide, in the first instance, whether such an atmosphere is present in the class. A statement of the policy and procedures involving disruptive and/or harassing behaviour by students in academic situations is available on the York website http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/legislation/senate/harass.htm

Please note that this information is subject to periodic update. For the most current information, please go to the CCAS webpage (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents):

Degree Status – BA and BFA:

Students accepted into Theatre, are entering as Honours BA Theatre Majors. The first year is a program common to ALL Theatre students. At the end of first year there is a selection process (either by audition or
interview) to stream into the various areas of interest, or students may remain in the program as Theatre Studies students. Those in Theatre Studies taking Playwriting and/or Creative Ensemble can pursue an Honours BA or BFA. Students who proceed in Production/Design, or Acting, should complete a Change of Degree form to switch from BA Honours to BFA, which can be obtained from the Program Assistant (Room 318 CFT). All students proceeding into second year in Theatre will choose and/or seek admission to an area of concentration, which will define the requirements (more or less rigorous and exclusive) that will govern the selection of courses available to them.

Policy Regarding Loss, Damage and Theft of Personal Equipment and Belongings:
The Faculty of Fine Arts at York University will not be held responsible for the loss, damage or theft of personal equipment or any other personal belongings that are left in studios, classrooms, storage areas or any other space within the Faculty. It is each individual’s responsibility to take care of their own property. Under no circumstances will the Faculty incur liability for loss, damage or theft of such property.

Please take all reasonable measures to protect your personal belongings. If you do experience loss, damage or theft of personal property, please report it immediately to the Department of Security Services at 736-5333 or extension 33333.

Sexual Harassment Guidelines:
Please refer to the Sexual Harassment guidelines in the Department of Theatre Handbook.

STUDIO BOOKING POLICY:
SITE SPECIFIC PROJECTS:
All site-specific theatre projects anywhere on campus must be cleared by the course director, York University’s Security Services, and the department or governing body of the proposed site. This request should come in writing with at least 3 weeks advance notice.

For all site specific work, the course director must send an email to: security@yorku.ca outlining where & when the work is to take place.

For all Fine Arts buildings, the request should go to Tom Hodgson, Facilities Manager: thodgson@yorku.ca

All other public spaces on Campus require contact with the Office of Temporary Use of University Space. http://www.yorku.ca/vpa/tempspace.htm

The course director will need to fill out the “Temporary Use of University Space Application and Notification Form” and submit it 2 weeks in advance.

ROOM BOOKING POLICY: Rehearsals for mainstage productions take precedence when assigning rooms, followed by faculty assigned work. Personal projects, including playGround, will be considered only if space allows. First-year Theatre majors are not eligible to book studios.

Adopt professional standards by agreeing on a rehearsal schedule with group members and by having one group member do the arranging of the space in advance. Please ensure that the floors and walls are clean. All garbage must be removed. Please treat the studios with respect.

The studios are available only within the following hours: Mon-Fri 8:00am-10:00pm and Sat- Sun 10:00am-6:00pm

All spaces must be booked one week in advance and will be accepted only until 4:00pm on Thursday the previous week.
Requests will be confirmed Friday by 4:00pm.

Requests must be sent by e-mail only to rehearse@yorku.ca

Include your full name, student ID, program, brief explanation of what the space will be used for and what kind of space you need (studio / classroom / big / small).

Requests must be submitted each week for a room unless special arrangements have been made.

You cannot “claim” a space by writing in your name or the course name in an empty slot on the weekly schedules posted outside each space (exception – Light Lab CFT 153). Spaces must be returned to neutral at the end of each booking session. There will be a picture of what “neutral” is in each studio. The sign-off sheet must be checked and signed at the end of your studio time. If you enter a space and find it not “neutral”, please e-mail rehearse@yorku.ca.

Anything left behind in the spaces after your booking will be thrown out.

Procedures for use of studios after-hours: These procedures are designed to enhance the safety of authorized students when working alone in one of our studios after-hours - Monday through Friday from 11:00pm to 6:30am, and Saturday/Sunday from 10:00pm to 8:00am.

An After-Hours Use form will be completed and emailed to University Security at: scc@yorku.ca; Be advised of the University’s emergency protocols (e.g. contact 911 in the event of a life threatening situation) and University Security’s urgent number (416.736.5333);

Contact University Security non-urgent number - 416.650.8000 - upon arrival and departure.

SITE-SPECIFIC PROJECTS: All site-specific theatre projects anywhere on campus must be cleared by the course director, York University’s Security Services, and the department or governing body of the proposed site. This request should be made in writing at least three weeks in advance of the date required.

All public spaces on Campus require contact with the Office of Temporary Use of University Space - http://tuus.info.yorku.ca/space-room-reservations-forms/

**Please note:** At no time shall any form of replica, prop, or real weapon (handguns, rifles, shotguns, swords, daggers, knives, etc) be used in any site specific work.

---

Many courses utilize Moodle, York University’s course website system. If your course is using Moodle, click here to access it.

Moodle @ York University