

# TPA 5085C 1 Design Seminar

2 Credits – TR 12-1:20 – PAC T244A

Instructor: Vandy Wood

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Office Hours: T 9:30-11:30, W 12-2, TR 9:30-11:30 (by confirmed appointment).

## Course Description:

Design Seminar will provide students with advanced design experience in an environment focused on the collaborative aspects of design for theatre. This course supports a focus on a design area of the student's choice.

## Course Objectives:

This course addresses more challenging content than level 1 design classes, and assumes students will perform at a higher level.

Students are expected to be able to:

Communicate and collaborate effectively with the other members of the artistic and production teams; Conduct advanced Visual Research; Properly document sources using the current MLA format; Analyze a play for scenery, lighting, costume or sound requirements; Analyze a play conceptually to apply to a design; Demonstrate ability to organize thoughts and state ideas in an organized fashion through classroom presentations; Create visual materials to support designs; Write a production statement that explains artistic choices; Provide feedback to peer work with justification; Demonstrate ability to process criticism productively; Participate in Group projects; Determine the effectiveness of design choices; apply cultural, historical, social, global, and/or personal contexts to the design of a play

## Course Prerequisites:

## Required Texts:

None.

Select readings from Rosemary Ingham's *From Page to Stage*, Pam Howard's *What is Scenography*, Gillette's *Designing With Light*, and Shelley's *A Practical Guide to Stage Lighting* will be assigned.

You will also be required to obtain copies of all scripts related to design projects and to read any related material provided for the course.

## Attendance and Participation:

You are expected to attend scheduled class meetings and to contribute to discussions.

## Attendance Policy:

UCF honors religious holidays for all faiths so please plan your schedules so that you can complete the assignments. Late work will not be accepted.

## Assignments:

Weekly sketches and assignments: Complete 6 sketches each week (guidelines will be

provided during course intro)

Additional exercises related to projects will be assigned.

### **Projects:**

There will be 4 major design projects (A schedule, project requirement sheet, and rubric will be created in class for each project):

- 1 Design Project 1
- 2 Design Project 2
- 3 Design Project 3
- 4 Final Design Project – Original Research Portfolio – (Dramaturgical Portfolio and Generative Practice with Research Methods Class) For this project you will pair up with 2 Research Methods students. (Collaborative Practices)

### **Grading:**

There are 100 possible points in this class. I will use a traditional 100 point grading scale with plus/minus rankings: 100%-93% = A; 92%-90% = A-; 89%-87% B+; 86%-83% = B; 82%-80% = B; 79%-77% = C+; 76%-73% = C, 72%-70%= C-; etc.

Weekly Sketches and Assignments: 15

Design Projects 1-3: (20 each) 60

Final Design Project: 25

Total: 100

### **Financial Aid Alert:**

As of Fall 2014, all faculty are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, please complete the assignment in Webcourses by the end of the first week of classes or as soon as possible after adding the course, but no later than August 28, 2018. Failure to do so may result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid.

### **Required Technology:**

You will need to have access to a computer with an internet connection and access to webcourses.

### **Evaluation and Grading:**

I will use a traditional 100 point grading scale with plus/minus rankings:

100%-93% = A; 92%-90% = A-; 89%-87% B+; 86%-83% = B;

82%-80% = B; 79%-77% = C+; 76%-73% = C, 72%-70%= C-; etc.

### **Course Schedule/Calendar (subject to change):**

Tues. 8-21: Introduction, Assignment 1

Thurs. 8-23: Work on Assignment 1

Tues. 8-28: Work on Assignment 1 - Sketches

Thurs. 8-30: Project 1 intro

Tues. 9-4: Work on Project 1 – Sketches – Group Meeting Research Methods M263 – (50 Min 12:30)

Thurs. 9-6: TBA

Tues. 9-11: Project 2 Intro - Sketches

Thurs. 9-13: Work on Project 2

Tues. 9-18: Work on Project 2 - Sketches

Thurs. 9-20: Work on Project 2

Tues. 9-25: Work on Project 2 - Sketches

Thurs. 9-27: Work on Project 2

Tues. 10-2: Present Project 2 - Sketches

Wed. 10-4: Project 3 Intro – Work on Project 3

Tues. 10-9: Work on Project 3 - Sketches

Thurs. 10-11: Work on Project 3 – Group Meeting RM M263 – (50 Min 12:30)

Tues. 10-16: Work on Project 3 - Sketches

Thurs. 10-18: Work on Project 3

Tues. 10-23: Work on Project 3 - Sketches

Thurs. 10-25: Work on Project 3

Tues. 10-30: Work on Project 3 - Sketches

Thurs. 11-1: Present Project 3

Tues. 11-6: Final Project Intro - Sketches

Thurs. 11-8: Work on Final Projects

Tues. 11-13: Work on Final Projects - Sketches

Thurs. 11-15: Work on Final Projects – Group Meeting RM M263 – (50 Min 12:30)

Tues. 11-20: Work on Final Projects – Sketches – (No Formal Class)

Thurs. 11-22: No Class

Tues. 11-27: Work on Final Projects - Sketches

Thurs. 11-29: Work on Final Projects – Turn in Sketches

Thurs. 12-6: 10-12:50 -Final Exam – Present Final Projects – Blackbox Theatre

## **Policies:**

### **UCF Creed**

Integrity, scholarship, community, creativity, and excellence are the core values that guide our conduct, performance, and decisions.

#### **Integrity**

I will practice and defend academic and personal honesty.

#### **Scholarship**

I will cherish and honor learning as a fundamental purpose of my membership in the UCF community.

#### **Community**

I will promote an open and supportive campus environment by respecting the rights and contributions of every individual.

#### **Creativity**

I will use my talents to enrich the human experience.

#### **Excellence**

I will strive toward the highest standards of performance in any endeavor I undertake.

### **Ethics statement**

As reflected in the UCF creed, integrity and scholarship are core values that should guide our conduct and decisions as members of the UCF community. Plagiarism and cheating contradict these values, and so are very serious academic offenses. Penalties can include a failing grade in an assignment or in the course, or suspension or expulsion from the university. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with and follow the University's Rules of Conduct (see <http://www.osc.sdes.ucf.edu/>).

### **Academic Integrity/Plagiarism**

Many incidents of plagiarism result from students' lack of understanding about what constitutes plagiarism. However, you are expected to familiarize yourself with UCF's policy on plagiarism. All work you submit must be your own scholarly and creative efforts. UCF's Golden Rule defines plagiarism as follows: **"whereby another's work is used or appropriated without any indication of the source, thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is the student's own."**

Similarly, please see an Ethics statement.

### **Responses to Academic Dishonesty, Plagiarism, or Cheating**

UCF faculty members have a responsibility for your education and the value of a UCF degree, and so seek to prevent unethical behavior and when necessary respond to infringements of academic integrity. Penalties can include a failing grade in an assignment or in the course, suspension or expulsion from the university, and/or a "Z Designation" on a student's official transcript indicating academic dishonesty, where the final grade for this course will be preceded by the letter Z. For more information about the Z Designation, see <http://z.ucf.edu/>.

For more information about UCF's Rules of Conduct, see <http://www.osc.sdes.ucf.edu/>.

### **Course Accessibility Statement**

It is my goal that this class be an accessible and welcoming experience for all students, including those with disabilities that may impact learning in this class. If anyone believes the design of this course poses barriers to effectively participating and/or demonstrating learning in this course, please meet with me (with or without a Student Accessibility Services (SAS) accommodation letter) to discuss reasonable options or adjustments. During our discussion, I may suggest the possibility/necessity of your contacting SAS (Ferrell Commons 185; 407-823-2371; [sas@ucf.edu](mailto:sas@ucf.edu)) to talk about academic accommodations. You are welcome to talk to me at any point in the semester about course design concerns, but it is always best if we can talk at least one week prior to the need for any modifications.

### **Webcourses**

Webcourses is an online course management system (accessed through [my.ucf.edu](http://my.ucf.edu) and then the "Online Course Tools" tab) which will be used as a medium for turning in assignments and a forum for communicating with your teammates. Under the "Discussion" section, you will have a designated forum section. My recommendation is to check Webcourses every 2-3 days for updates from your teammates or myself.

## Student Grades

Graded tests and materials in this course will be returned individually only by request. You can access your scores at any time using the Grades section of Webcourses@UCF.

## Technology/Software Requirements

Students will be expected to have access to a computer frequently, as all writing assignments used will be typed out and not handwritten. The software you use to write your assignments is irrelevant, as long as you follow my writing guidelines outlined later in my syllabus. I recommend to have access to a computer weekly.

## Internet Usage

You will be expected to have daily access to the internet and email, since I will be emailing you constantly about assignment updates, additions and changes. All students at UCF are required to obtain a [Knight's Email account](#) and check it regularly for official university communications. If you do not own a computer, there are computer accessible to you in all UCF's computer labs, and most computer labs have computers connected to the internet. For further information on computer labs, please see the following website: [http://registrar.sdes.ucf.edu/webguide/index\\_quickfind.aspx](http://registrar.sdes.ucf.edu/webguide/index_quickfind.aspx).

## University Course Requirements

This course may count as a GEP Humanities requirement and a Diversity requirement for some majors. For more information about GEP and Diversity requirements, please see the current course catalog (<http://www.ucf.edu/catalog/current/>) for Diversity and GEP course requirements.

## Diversity and Inclusion

The University of Central Florida considers the diversity of its students, faculty, and staff to be a strength and critical to its educational mission. UCF expects every member of the university community to contribute to an inclusive and respectful culture for all in its classrooms, work environments, and at campus events. Dimensions of diversity can include sex, race, age, national origin, ethnicity, gender identity and expression, intellectual and physical ability, sexual orientation, income, faith and non-faith perspectives, socio-economic class, political ideology, education, primary language, family status, military experience, cognitive style, and communication style. The individual intersection of these experiences and characteristics must be valued in our community.

Title IX prohibits sex discrimination, including sexual misconduct, sexual violence, sexual harassment, and retaliation. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find resources available to support the victim, including confidential resources and information concerning reporting options at [www.shield.ucf.edu](http://www.shield.ucf.edu) and <http://cares.sdes.ucf.edu/>.

If there are aspects of the design, instruction, and/or experiences within this course that result in barriers to your inclusion or accurate assessment of achievement, please notify the instructor as soon as possible and/or contact Student Accessibility Services.

For more information on diversity and inclusion, Title IX, accessibility, or UCF's complaint processes contact:

- Title IX – EO/AA - <http://www.eeo.ucf.edu/> & [askanadvocate@ucf.edu](mailto:askanadvocate@ucf.edu)
- Disability Accommodation – Student Accessibility Services - <http://sas.sdes.ucf.edu/> & [sas@ucf.edu](mailto:sas@ucf.edu)
- Diversity and Inclusion Training and Events – [diversity.ucf.edu](http://diversity.ucf.edu)
- Student Bias Grievances – Just Knights response team - <http://jkrt.sdes.ucf.edu/>
- UCF Compliance and Ethics Office - <http://compliance.ucf.edu/> & [complianceandethics@ucf.edu](mailto:complianceandethics@ucf.edu)
- Ombuds Office - <http://www.ombuds.ucf.edu>

## Online Learning

Online learning is not for everyone; some people may not be able to manage a course that does not meet face to face to learn. Online learning requires lots of planning and self-pacing so that you may be successful in my course. Since I will be covering a significant amount of material over the semester, I would highly

recommend treating this course like a regular lecture course, and keeping up with lectures and assignments. Late work will not be accepted so be sure to do your assignments before each Sunday at 11:59PM.

## **University Writing Center**

University Writing Center

Colbourn Hall 105

Satellite Locations: Main Library, Rosen Library, Online

407-823-2197

<http://uwc.cah.ucf.edu/>

The University Writing Center (UWC) offers writing support to students from first-year to graduate in every discipline. Tutors provide help at every stage of the writing process, including understanding assignments, researching, drafting, revising, incorporating sources, and learning to proofread and edit. The UWC's purpose is not merely to fix or edit papers, but to teach writing strategies that can be applied to any writing situation. Consultations are available for individuals and small groups. You may schedule a 45-minute appointment by clicking the *Success Resources* tab on Webcourses, calling the UWC at 407-823-2197, or through the UWC website.

## **Email (Knightsmail) Policy**

In this class our official mode of communication is through email located inside Webcourses. All communication between student and instructor and between student and student should be respectful and professional. It is the student's responsibility to check the "coursemail" tool frequently. You may also wish to create a Knight's Email account at [www.knightsemail.ucf.edu](http://www.knightsemail.ucf.edu) for separate official communication from the university.

## **UCF Cares**

During your UCF career, you may experience challenges including struggles with academics, finances, or your personal well-being. UCF has a multitude of resources available to all students. Please visit [UCFCares.com](http://UCFCares.com) ([Links to an external site.](#))[Links to an external site.](#) if you are seeking resources and support, or if you are worried about a friend or classmate. Free services and information are included for a variety of student concerns, including but not limited to alcohol use, bias incidents, mental health concerns, and financial challenges. You can also e-mail [ucfcares@ucf.edu](mailto:ucfcares@ucf.edu) with questions or for additional assistance. You can reach a UCF Cares staff member between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. by calling 407-823-5607. If you are in immediate distress, please call Counseling and Psychological Services to speak directly with a counselor 24/7 at 407-823-2811, or please call 911.

## **Religious Observances**

It is my intention to encourage students of all faiths to observe religious holidays. Please plan your weeks to avoid conflicts. If it is not possible to complete a module without conflicting with a religious holiday, please contact me at least one week prior to the beginning of the week in question.

**This Syllabus is Subject to Revision**