THEA 2145 - Introduction to Theatrical Costuming

Semester/Year: Spring 2016

Lecture Hours: 1    Lab Hours: 4    Credit Hours: 3

Class Time: 10:00 – 11:50    Days: T, TH    Room: KT 121

Instructor’s Name: Anna Grywalski

Instructor's Contact Information: 614-205-5620 (Cell Phone)
Office Phone: 268-2614 (Office & Costume Shop)
Email: annagrywalski@caspercollege.edu

Office Hours: 11:00am-1:00pm M and W, 12:00pm-1:00pm T and TH Please make private appointments for additional help with drawings or projects

Course Description: (1L, 4LB) (3CR) [E] Will introduce all aspects of stage costuming: design, and the integrating of the costume with scenery, make-up, and lighting. The focus will be toward the practical construction of costumes and may include practical laboratory work on college productions.

Statement of Prerequisites: None

Goal: To expand the student’s ability in the construction skills, creative artistry, and collaborative process involved in theatrical costuming.

Outcomes: Upon completion of this course, the student will be familiar with the following areas that are essential to the theatrical costumer:

1. Basic hand sewing techniques. Demonstrate ability to baste, cross stitch, slip stitch, whip stitch, and other hand sewing styles. Successfully attach hooks, buttons, snaps and other closures.
2. Operation of domestic sewing machines including ability to thread the machine and wind bobbin, maintain even stitching, change stitch size and style. Operate serger/overlock machines, and industrial iron.
3. Basic sewing and fabric vocabulary. Demonstrate knowledge of terms such as grain, bias, give, and ease.
4. Ability to create and follow a basic pattern
5. Ability to produce paperwork, analyses and research involved in the costume design process
6. Basic rendering skills to communicate costume design ideas
7. Demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultures and historical perspectives
8. Appreciate aesthetic and creative activities

Course Objectives: To acquire an understanding and appreciation of the contributions of costume design to a theatrical production. To acquire the knowledge and vocabulary necessary for evaluating the costume design and construction of a production. To learn how the costume designer and costume technicians function as part of a collaborative production team. To acquire basic costume construction skills as a means of understanding and appreciating the role of the costume shop in mounting a production.
Methodology: Lectures, Reading Assignments, Demonstrations, Practical Exercises and Projects.

Evaluation Criteria:
Sewing Sampler Project, Bodice Construction Project, Midterm Exam and Final Exam are all worth 100 points.
The Character Contrast Project will be worth 50 pts.
Each progressive section of the Design project will be worth 20 points. The final designs and presentation will be worth 100 points.
Projects will be graded on neatness, accuracy, and creativity. Let’s face it, I am a stickler for perfection when it comes to sewing.
Attendance in this class is vital. Students who have 3 absences may be asked to withdraw.
No late work or makeup work will be accepted, so please don’t ask.

BONUS!! If you are on time and prepared for EVERY class, you will get a 15 point bonus!!

Casper College may collect samples of student work demonstrating achievement of the above outcomes. Any personally identifying information will be removed from student work.

Required Text, Readings, and Materials:
The Costume Technician’s Handbook, 3rd Ed. by Rosemary Ingham and Liz Covey
A copy of the play for our design project, TBD
Sharp pencils and erasers
Art supplies such as colored pencils, markers, drawing paper, binder, and sheet protectors for Design project
3 yards of muslin fabric, 36” wide cheapest kind, additional decorative fabric
Not required, but some of you may want to invest in your own pair of fabric shears and c-thru ruler.
Otherwise all other sewing supplies will be provided from the costume shop.

Class Policies: Last Date to Change to Audit Status or to Withdraw with a W Grade:
Institutional Withdrawal deadline April 14

Student Rights and Responsibilities: Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College Student.

Chain of Command: If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor to attempt to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take the matter through the appropriate chain of command starting with the Department Head/Program Director, the Dean, and lastly the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Academic Dishonesty: (Cheating & Plagiarism) Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the Casper College Student Code of Conduct for more information on this topic.

Official Means of Communication: Casper College faculty and staff will employ the student's assigned Casper College email account as a primary method of communication. Students are responsible to check their account regularly. This is also, where you will find course evaluation links during course evaluation periods.

ADA Accommodations Policy: If you need academic accommodations because of a disability, please inform me as soon as possible. See me privately after class, or during my office hours. To
request academic accommodations, students must first consult with the college’s Disability Services Counselor located in the Gateway Building, Room 344, (307) 268-2557, bheuer@caspercollege.edu. The Disability Services Counselor is responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting accommodations, determining eligibility for accommodations, and helping students request and use appropriate accommodations.

**Schedule of Activities**

Jan. 19- Syllabus and Costume Shop Orientation  
Jan. 21- Fabric intro and tools basics, hand sewing stitches. Read Chapter 1, and Chapter 3  
Jan. 28- Closures  
Feb. 2- Closures  
Feb. 4- The Sewing machine, parts and functions, machine sewing exercises. Read Chapter 5 from “Machine Stitching” to “Trimming, Grading, Clipping and Notching Seams.”  
Feb. 9- Machine sewing exercises, serging  
Feb. 11- Seam finishes, grading, clipping, marking. Continue Reading Chapter 5 through the “Darts” section.  
Feb. 16- Paper patterns  
Feb. 18- Sewing Sampler Project Due  
Feb. 23- Measurements and begin bodice project. Read Chapter 4.  
Feb. 25- Bodice project  
Mar. 1- Bodice project  
Mar. 3- Bodice project  
Mar. 8- Bodice Project Due  
Mar. 10- Midterm Exam, Assign Design projects  
**Mar. 15- Spring Break Woo Hoo!**  
**Mar. 17- Spring Break Woo Hoo!**  
Mar. 22- The Costume Design Process, Research, Discuss Character Contrast Project.  
Mar. 24- The Elements of Design, Discuss rendering and Project  
Mar. 29- Functions of Costume Design  
Mar. 31- Drawing and rendering techniques  
Apr. 5- Character Contrast Project Due  
Apr. 7- Have play read and prepare to discuss  
Apr. 12- Discuss Final Design Project  
Apr. 14- Character analysis check  
Apr. 19- Drawing and rendering techniques, Research check  
Apr. 21- Drawing and rendering techniques  
Apr. 26- Costume in collaboration and job hierarchy, Concept statement check  
Apr. 28- The Costume design profession, Drawing check  
May 3- Design Projects due, Presentations  
May 5- Presentations  

**Final Wednesday May 11, 3:10-5:10**  

**Schedule and projects subject to change at the discretion of instructor**