

THEA 492: Costume Construction

MWF 9-9:50

Fall 2010

Instructor: Billy Wilburn

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Office Hours: TTH 9:00 – 11:00,

W 10:00-11:00, or

or by appointment

Costume Shop: 688-6062

Description of Course

Sewing and patterning methods used in theatrical costuming, covering the basics and beyond, using different machinery, stitching techniques, and patterning types.

Course Objectives

This course is designed to give both basic and advanced costume technology. At the end of this course the successful student will be able to:

- Identify the costume shop personnel
- Understand the organization of the costume shop
- Recognize and understand the safe use of costume shop materials, tools and equipment
- Identify the grainline of fabric
- Understand the steps of a theatrical costume
- Demonstrate a command of hand and machine stitching
- Take accurate measurements of the body
- Read and use a commercial pattern and envelope
- Understand a variety of patterning techniques

Required Text/Materials

Ingham and Covey, *The Costume Technician's Handbook*, Heinemann Drama, ISBN 0-325-00477-3

\$60.00 lab fee which supplies you with the following:

Muslin, thread, marking implements, scissors, rulers, use of machines, notions, needles, craft paper, course pack, etc...

Stitch sampler:

3" 3-ring binder

Page protectors

2-6" zippers

Cardstock for mounting samples

“Fit Model” for certain projects (you cannot be your own model, you may use a different model for each project if desired, complete measurements will be needed; model must be available to you for fittings, some of which must be during class time)

Recommended Texts (copies available for use in costume shop)

Jaffe Draping for Fashion Design
Hill and Bucknell The Evolution of Fashion
Ingham and Covey Costume Technician's Handbook
Shaeffer Couture Sewing Techniques
Cunnigham Basic Sewing for Costume Construction
Holkeboer Patterns for Theatrical Costumes
Janet Arnold Patterns of Fashion

Projects/Assignments

Class will focus in three major construction technique areas:

Sewing Basics

Hand, machine sewing, and tools of the trade.

Patterning

Commercial pattern project
Pattern enlargement/alteration

Draping

Project 1
Project 2

Final project will be a full period garment

Production Assignment

This is to get involved with the university shows so you can see in a real world setting how a costume technician and costume shop runs. For this project you will be graded based on attendance and participation. You will be required to work 22 hours in the costume shop (2 hours a week). This work can be, but is not limited to, costume construction, hand sewing, costume crafts, organization, etc. You will schedule the day that you would like to work and are expect to be there the same day and time every week. You cannot make up a missed day but you may work ahead and complete your hours early.

Attendance

- Attendance is mandatory. Being present and receptive to the information and discussions in class is essential to the successful completion of this course. Each absence past two (2) will result in the lowering of you semester grade by .25 of a grade point for each day.
- Much of the work can be completed in class, however there will be a need to work outside of class in order to meet due dates.
- Late work will not be accepted.
- Late arrivals will be noted and every three (3) late markings will equal one absence.

Schedule *all reading assignments are to be done in advance*

Week	Date	Topic	Reading/Assignment
1	1/15	Introduction	
2	1/18	Tools of the trade	
	1/20	Tools of the trade	Tools – quiz 1
	1/22	Hand Sewing – Stitches	Pg 175-186
3	1/25	Hand Sewing – Closures	
	1/27	Machine Sewing	Hand stitches due – quiz 2 Pg 186-229
	1/29	Machine Sewing	Machine – quiz 3
4	2/1	Machine Sewing	
	2/3	Machine Sewing	
	2/5	Fabric	Machine sewing due – quiz 4 Pg 61-96
5	2/8	Fabric	
	2/10	Body Measurements	Fabric project due
	2/12	Commercial Patterns	
6	2/15	President’s Day – No School	
	2/17	Commercial Project	Commercial pattern – quiz 5
	2/19	Commercial Project	
7	2/22	Commercial Project	
	2/24	Commercial Project	Commercial Project due
	2/26	Pattern Development	Pg 122-127, 140-145
8	3/1	Pattern Development	
	3/3	Pattern Enlargement/Alteration	Pattern Development due – quiz 6
	3/5	Pattern Enlargement/Alteration	
9	3/8	Spring Break – No Classes	
	3/10	Spring Break – No Classes	
	3/12	Spring Break – No Classes	
10	3/15	Pattern Enlargement/Alteration	
	3/17	Pattern Enlargement/Alteration	
	3/19	Pattern Enlargement/Alteration	
11	3/22	Pattern Enlargement/Alteration	Enlargement/Alteration due
	3/24	Draping	Pg 132-137
	3/26	Draping Project 1	
12	3/29	Draping Project 1	
	3/31	Draping Project 1	Draping Project 1 due
	4/2	Easter – No Classes	
13	4/5	Easter – No Classes	
	4/7	Draping Project 2	
	4/9	Draping Project 2	
14	4/12	Draping Project 2	
	4/14	Draping Project 2	
	4/16	Draping Project 2	Draping Project 2 due
15	4/19	Final Project	

	4/21	Final Project	
	4/23	Final Project	
16	4/26	Final Project	
	4/28	Final Project	
	4/30	Final Project	

Final Exam: Friday, May 7th 9:00-10:40

Grading	Percentage	Points
Quizzes (5 @ 10 pts.)	10%	50
Fabric project	10%	50
Commercial project	10%	50
Enlargement/alteration project	10%	50
Draping project 1	10%	50
Draping project 2	10%	50
Production Assignment	20%	100
Final project	20%	100
Total	100%	1000

Grading Scale

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- 400-500 = A
 - 300-400 = B
 - 200-300 = C
 - 100-200 = D
 - 00-100 = F

ADA

If you are a person with a disability and anticipate needing any type of accommodation in order to participate in this class, please inform me and make the appropriate arrangements with the Office of Disability Services (ODS). The Office of Disability Services is located in Room 125, Wintrode Student Center. To schedule an appointment, call (605) 688-4504 and request to speak with the Coordinator of Disability Services.

Freedom in Learning

Students are responsible for learning the content of any course of study in which they are enrolled. Under the Board of Regents and university policy, student academic performance shall be evaluated solely on an academic basis and students should be free to take reasoned exception to the data or views offered in any course of study. Students who believe that academic evaluation is unrelated to academic standards but is related instead to judgment of their personal opinion or conduct should first contact the instructor of the course. If the student remains unsatisfied, the student may contact the department head and/or dean of the college which offers the class to initiate a review of the evaluation.