

Example syllabus for:

Theatre: Introduction to Lighting Design

Spring 2008 – 3 credits

10-11:20am. M/W

Instructor: Jody LS Tidwell

Office:

Phone:

Department of theatre Statement of Mission

The Department of Theatre prepares the student for a career in the theatre and encourages personal and creative growth.....(depends on college or university).

Disabilities:

Students with Special Needs.....(See college or university policy).

Course Description, Objectives:

This is an introduction to lighting design. The objective of the course is to gain a better understanding of the overall process of lighting design and the fundamental principles. Basic theatrical lighting equipment and lighting design methods in various practical applications will be explored. A final project will test all of the knowledge gained throughout the semester.

Texts:

Since these required and recommended texts may also be used for required reading in other lighting classes, you may want to acquire and keep these texts.

Required Reading:

Gillette, Michael J. **Designing With Light**. New York: The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., 2003.

McCandless, Stanley. **A Method of Lighting the Stage**. New York: Theatre Arts Books, 1958.

Handouts from:

Essig, Linda. **Lighting and the Design Idea**. Toronto: Wadsworth, Inc., 2005

Recommended Reading:

Pilbrow, Richard. **Stage Lighting Design – The Art, The Craft, The Life**. New York: Design Press, 1997.

Web Resources:

<http://www.mts.net/~william5/history/hol.htm>

<http://members.aol.com/lumiara/en/index.html>

<http://www.northern.edu/wild/LiteDes/ldhist.htm>

<http://dram358f06.pbwiki.com/Jean+Rosenthal>

Attendance:

Regular attendance is required. One letter grade will be deducted for each class missed after 3 unexcused absences. 3 unexcused tardies equals an absence.

Required Participation: Each student must participate in one light hang and one light focus during the course of the semester. (May be the same or different shows – times vary – plan your schedule and get approval early!)

Late Papers/Projects:

Dates due are due dates. Late is 1/3 letter grade lower for each day late. Saturday and Sunday are included as one day each. (Example: Due on Friday, handed in on Monday is 3 days late equals 1 letter grade late – A becomes a B, etc.)

Academic Honesty: A dishonest assignment cannot receive credit. A student caught in any form of academic dishonesty may be: 1. Given a zero for the assignment. 2. Allowed to resubmit the assignment as determined. 3. Assigned a reduced grade for the assignment and/or course. 4. Dropped from the course. 5. Failed for the course.

Other:

Cell phones, pagers, beepers must be deactivated when you enter the classroom. Exceptions are officers of the law, doctors, and expectant spouses.

Missed in-class work due to unexcused absences cannot be made up. Missed projects due to excused absences must be made up within one week's time or the grade of zero will be entered. Assignments due are still due on the required day unless an excused absence is given.

Assignments:

Attend one production/written evaluation of a lighting design:

Submit an evaluation of a lighting designers work by watching a production and writing a short (1 pg max) evaluation of the work – due by Dec. 10th. Include ticket stub & program.

Project 1: Lighting Morgue Each week bring to class one photo, magazine advertisement, or printed web photo (*not from a theatrical production!*) that will be used for the lighting morgues. Each photo must be accompanied by a written (2-3 sentences) evaluation/statement of the lighting. We will share these in class each week.

Project 2: Lighting instruments – basic instrument hanging, output and practical use of them.

Project 3: In class **light lab project** with partner. A quick set-up showing theories of lighting design and locations of lights, acting areas, and theory behind it.

Project 4: Complete lighting design script analysis & scene breakdown.

Project 5: Complete lighting designers Q-worksheets & concept statement

Project 6: Complete in class drafting of light plot, section, color key, symbol key.

Project 7: Complete instrument schedule, channel schedule.

Project 8: Complete paperwork including cue sheets.

Project 9: Complete supporting paperwork, color cut list.

Final Project: Thayer lighting project and final presentation.

Grading:	Points
Project #1 – Morgue (8 photos and explanation 10 pts each)	80
Project #2 – Lighting Instruments	25
Project #3 – Light Lab Project	50
Project #4 – Script analysis & scene breakdown	50
Project #5 – Lighting designers Q-worksheets, concept statement	75
Project #6 – Drafting light plot, section	100
Project #7 – Instrument schedule, channel schedule	50
Project #8 – Color cut list, magic sheet	45
Final Project – Thayer lighting project	200
Attendance/promptness/class participation	100
Light Hang/ Focus	150
See one production and written evaluation of Lighting Design	<u>75</u>
Total possible	1000 points

Grade Scale – A 900+, B 800+, C 700+, D 600+, F 0-599

Course Outline:

Date:	Topic:	Assignment Due:
Sept. 5	Wed Course introduction, discussion, morgue details	
10	Mon Introduction to Designing with light Key and modeling	Gillette 1-11, 164-173, 181-191
12	Wed Design Process, Image of Light, theory, the production team Begin Project # 1- Morgue	Gillette 174-180, 12-21 1st morgue photo
17	Mon McCandless method and other methods	McCandless
19	Wed Electricity	Gillette 22-40 2nd morgue photo
24	Mon Project # 2: Lighting Instruments	Gillette 41-77
26	Wed Cont. with lighting instruments	Gillette 41-77 3rd morgue photo
Oct. 1	Mon Cables and connectors	Gillette 78-88
3	Wed Dimmers, circuits	Gillette 89-106
8	Mon Native American Day – no class	

10	Wed	Project # 3: Light Lab Project lighting theory	4th morgue photo
15	Mon	Color	Gillette 135-150 5th morgue photo
17	Wed	Color	cont.
22	Mon	Light board – cue writing	6th morgue photo
24	Wed	Light board – cue writing	cont.
29	Mon	Script analysis & scene breakdown Project #4: Script analysis and scene breakdown	refer back to chapt. 11 7th morgue photo
31	Wed	Lighting designers Q-worksheets Project #5: Q Worksheets, concept statement	
Nov. 5	Mon	Drafting light plot Project #6 – Drafting light plot (use in final project)	Gillette 192-226
7	Wed	Drafting section Project #6 – Drafting section (use in final project)	continued Gillette 192-226
12	Mon	Veteran’s Day No class	
14	Wed	In class work Project #7 –Instrument schedule, channel schedule	8th morgue photo
19	Mon	In class work Project #8 – Color cut list, magic sheet	
21	Wed	In class work Due: Project #1: Morgue at end of class time	
26	Mon	Discuss final project and components of project	
28	Wed	Music choice due for final project	
Dec. 3	Mon	Show progress on analysis and concept for final project	
5	Wed	Progress on final project	
10	Mon	In class work, questions final project	
12	Wed	In class work, questions on final project	

Finals time class period – **Due: Final Project**