

Preliminary Web Course Description

*Please note: This is a preliminary web course description only. The department reserves the right to change without notice any information in this description. The final, binding course outline will be distributed in the first class of the semester.

School of English and Theatre Studies

Course Code: THST 2240	Course Title: Introduction to Design	Date of Offering: WINTER 2017
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Course Instructor: Pat Flood	Course Format: Lecture/Lab
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Brief Course Synopsis:

This class is intended as a foundation course where students can learn the basic language and techniques of theatrical design in order to further develop this understanding in advanced design courses. It has also been created to expose the language of design to future teachers, performers and theatre practitioners.

Although basic design elements of composition, colour, line, perspective and technical drawing will be covered, the focus of this course is the communication of meaning in a text: understanding how a designer collaborates and communicates with the audience, actors, directors and technicians in order to produce meaning in the theatre. This production of meaning involves in-depth reading and analysis of the script, intuitive and intellectual response to this analysis and the questioning of assumptions regarding interpretation, staging and visual choices at every step of the way.

Methods of Evaluation and Weight:

Assignment 1: Objects and meaning	5%	
Assignment 2: Line and Scale exercises		5%
Assignment 3: Preliminary design		15%
Assignment 4: Colour and paint exercises	10%	
Assignment 5: Costume preliminaries		15%
Assignment 6: Ground plan	15%	
Assignment 7: Light and Sound Analysis		10%

Final Project: 25%

Note** This is a preliminary breakdown of assignments and weight. The final version of this will be handed out the first day of class.

Texts and/or Resources Required (e.g. Internet access, specific textbook title, lab kit, etc.)

The play scripts for this course can be found online through the library's ARES site or via the link posted on CourseLink. Additional materials will be handed out in class or posted online

Other information that you wish share about the course (optional):

The major cost of this class is in materials required to do the design exercises. A list of materials will be handed out and also available on *CourseLink*. All materials are available at Wyndham Art supplies in downtown Guelph or at any major art supply store. As the majority of students in the program have also taken this course or other design courses, you may be able to purchase some materials second hand.