

**UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA: School of Theatre + Dance**

TPA2202C: *Stagecraft*

Syllabus – Fall 2023

**CLASS:**

Tuesday/Thursday, period 4, 10:40 AM – 11:30 AM, C-218 (design studio of Nadine McGuire Pavilion)

**LAB:**

Friday, periods 7-9, 1:55 PM – 4:55PM, G-017 (scene shop of Nadine McGuire Pavilion)

**FINAL:**

Final Exam: Final project is due and must be presented during lab, Friday, December 1.

**INSTRUCTOR:**

Rob Leach                      rleach@ufl.edu                      352-273-0542

**OFFICE HOURS:**

Tuesday/Thursday, 9:00-10:00 AM, Nadine McGuire Pavilion, room G-016.

**OBJECTIVES:**

This course introduces technical theatre production, primarily scenic, through classroom discussions and physical projects. Students will learn materials, techniques, and tools basic to the execution of technical elements and will explore associated trades and specialized equipment of the entertainment industry.

**REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

**TOOLS:**

Pen or pencil

16' (minimum length) steel tape measure

Safety glasses, impact rated to ANSI Z87.1 standard, and stamped accordingly. If the glasses don't have this rating on them (i.e. only have it on the package), please don't buy that pair. Please bring all tools to every lab and class.

**IN-PERSON ATTIRE:**

Work clothes: pants (such as jeans or khakis), sleeved shirt, and closed-toe/closed-heel shoes; long hair must be tied back; personal accessories must be removed (i.e., dangling necklaces, wallet chains, watches...). You will be asked to leave and marked absent if you do not have proper attire. Do not wear ear buds in the scene shop.

**SCHEDULE:**

Assignments will be posted on Canvas. Project assignments are due at the start of the class associated with their due date. Please check Canvas regularly to make sure you are not getting behind on your projects. Lab time will be dedicated to specific projects, but students might need to invest more time outside of the lab for their projects; please note weekly posted shop times.

Sunday, October 29th, at 4:30 PM, you are required to attend strike for *The Prom*. This is an essential event in this class.

Semester week	day	date	class #	topic	assigned	due
1	Thursday	Aug 24	1	Introduction, Canvas, syllabus	required materials	
	Friday	Aug 25	lab 1	PPE, shop introduction, tools		

week	day	date	class #	topic	assigned	due
2	Tuesday	Aug 29	2	measurement and scale	scale project	
	Thursday	Aug 31	3	lumber stick goods		
	Friday	Sept 1	lab 2	tools continued		required materials
3	Tuesday	Sept 5	4	lumber sheet goods	clove hitch	
	Thursday	Sept 7	5	the cut list	apple box	scale project
	Friday	Sept 8	lab 3	apple box		
			<i>POTUS</i> opens tonight: congratulations cast and crew!			
4	Tuesday	Sept 12	6	scenic design	tool box	
	Thursday	Sept 14	7	drawings		
			<i>Dust</i> opens tonight: congratulations cast and crew!			
	Friday	Sept 15	lab 4	apple box		clove hitch
5	Tuesday	Sept 19	8	flats and related	flat frame	
	Thursday	Sept 21	9	flats, handling flats	right inside bowline	apple box
	Friday	Sept 22	lab 5	flat project		
6	Tuesday	Sept 26	10	nuts and bolts		
	Thursday	Sept 28	11	theatre hardware		
	Friday	Sept 29	lab 6	flat project		
7	Tuesday	Oct 3	12	paint		
	Thursday	Oct 5	13	wheels		flat frame
	Friday	Oct 6	NO LAB	Happy Homecoming weekend		
8	Tuesday	Oct 10	14	paint demo: flat project	paint project	
	Thursday	Oct 12	15	platforms and legs		
	Friday	Oct 13	lab 7	paint		bowline
9	Tuesday	Oct 17	16	platforms and legs	figure 8	
	Thursday	Oct 19	17	platforms and legs		
	Friday	Oct 20	lab 8	paint		
		<i>The Prom</i> opens tonight: congratulations cast and crew!				
10	Tuesday	Oct 24	18	triscuit project	triscuit	
	Thursday	Oct 26	19	wagons and scaffolds		paint project
	Friday	Oct 27	lab 9	triscuit		
	<b>Sunday</b>	Oct 29		Prom strike @ 4:30		

week	day	date	class #	topic	assigned	due
11	Tuesday	Oct 31	20	fly rail		
	Thursday	Nov 2	21	rigging		
	Friday	Nov 3	lab 10	triscuit		figure 8
12	Tuesday	Nov 7	22	production personnel		
	Thursday	Nov 9	23	props		triscuit
	Friday	Nov 10	NO LAB	Veterans Day observed		
13	Tuesday	Nov 14	24	fire safety		
	Thursday	Nov 16	25	electricity		All knots
	Friday	Nov 17	lab 11	TBA		
			Staged reading tonight: break a leg cast!			
14	Tuesday	Nov 21	26	soft goods		tool box
		Nov 22-25	Thanksgiving break			
15	Tuesday	Nov 28	27	professional gigs		
	Thursday	Nov 30	28	project discussions		
	Friday	Dec 1	lab 12	project presentations		interpretation
			<i>Agbedidi</i> opens tonight: congratulations cast and crew!			
16	Tuesday	Dec 5	29	beyond the class		
	CLASSES END DECEMBER 6					

**Evaluation:**

Students will be evaluated through attendance, participation and professional attitude, successful completion of construction projects, a research project, execution and presentation of a final project, with a possible quiz or two, and a practical knot test. Grades will be calculated by tallying earned points; I anticipate approximately 2000 possible points. The following is a *guide* to point distribution, but will not be completely accurate until the end of the semester to reflect actual quizzes and completed projects. Unexcused absences will result in a minimum of a loss of points; lack of participation in class and lab sessions will likewise reduce attendance points. All projects include a category of professionalism.

Scale	25		Tool box	150
Apple box	100		Triscuit	150
Flat	100		Interpretation	200
Paint	100		Class attendance	560 (20/class)
Knots	25		Lab attendance	600 (50/lab)

The final course grade is based on the following percentages (your total points divided by total possible points)

A	94-100%	B-	80-83%	D+	67-69%
A-	90-93%	C+	77-79%	D	64-66%
B+	87-89%	C	74-76%	D-	60-63%
B	84-86%	C-	70-73%	E	0-59%

#### **ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

Theatre is a collaborative environment that demands continual support. Your successful completion of this course is based on discussion and participation in class and lab sessions. Attendance is vital. One (1) unexcused absence from class will be permitted without penalty. Two (2) late arrivals and/or early departures = (1) absence. Three unexcused lab absences will result in a failing grade in this class.

#### **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:**

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center. [Click here to get started with the Disability Resource Center](#). It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

#### **UF GRADING POLICIES:**

Earned grades will align with UF policies; information can be found at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/#gradestext-otp1>

#### **PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT:**

Please take care of yourself mentally and physically. Accept responsibility for your successes and failures. Earn your grade. Adhere to university policies. Respect your peers, facilities, and the staff and faculty of the school. Submit work that shows your pride in the process and your product.

#### **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:**

The Honor Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. [Click here to read the Honor Code](#). Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

#### **ELECTRONICS and VIDEO:**

While personal electronics can be useful for class purposes, using devices to contact others should only be done for emergencies; calls and texts/messaging should be initiated/answered outside of class/lab.

#### **COURSE EVALUATION:**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. [Click here for guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner](#). Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via [ufl.bluera.com/ufl/](http://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/). [Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students here](#). I do appreciate personal comments that you can provide during class, or ideas about making content more relevant.