

SYLLABUS

TH617: Projection Design, Section 001, Spring 2020

Tuesdays, Thursdays 9:30AM-10:45AM (3 cr.) @ RJ139

Instructor: Matt Reynolds, 205-348-8032, mcreynolds1@ua.edu

Office Hours: Mondays 10-11AM or by appointment @ RJ229

PREREQUISITES: None. Experience in drafting and design.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Lecture, discussion, and projects, training in theatrical projection design; 3 cr. Provide the graduate level design & technical student an in-depth understanding of the design methods of stage projection, including workflow; generation/acquisition of imagery; visual effects; video production; video systems; hardware; surfaces; and control.

REQUIRED MATERIALS: Digital Media, Projection Design & Technology For Theatre by Alex Oliszewski and Daniel Fine (ISBN 978-1138-954342). The computer lab will allow access to the necessary programs (Photoshop, After Effects, Premiere, QLab, Watchout) but students may benefit from gaining access to these programs on their personal computers (allowing for manufacturer-recommended RAM and storage). Recommended texts: Media Design and Technology for Live Entertainment: Essential Tools for Video Presentation by Davin E. Gaddy (ISBN 978-1138-216211) and QLab 4: Projects in Video, Audio, and Lighting Control by Jeromy Hopgood (ISBN 978-1138-036413).

CLASS OBJECTIVES: The professor will discuss and demonstrate theatrical projection terminology, workflow, design techniques, implementation, and paperwork.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: Students will utilize key creative programs to achieve artistic goals. Students will display professional behavior in learning and presentation. Students will execute vital calculations and coordinate technical paperwork. Students who succeed in this course should be able to fulfill the duties of a Projection Designer at the University level.

COURSE TOPICS:

Digital Media History, Careers, Skills
Microsoft PowerPoint, Excel, Word
Adobe Photoshop
Collaboration
Workflow
Adobe AfterEffects
Design Principles & Media Attributes
Content & Video Production

Adobe Premiere
Animation & Effects
Figure 53 QLab
Video Signals & Media Servers
Projectors
Dataton Watchout
Surfaces & Cameras
Networks & Sensors

CLASS GUIDELINES: It is required to comport yourselves with the utmost work ethic and attitude. This means you must arrive on time, with your materials. You must display a positive attitude and attentiveness to your surroundings and instructions. You may lose points and/or be dismissed from class for infractions including but not limited to: improper use of electronic devices, failure to bring necessary materials, exhaustion, illness, intoxication, or poor attitude. Check your UA email daily.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Students are allowed 3 unexcused absences after the first full week of classes without penalty. Each subsequent absence will incur a 50-point grade penalty up to 150 points. Three tardies (less than 10 minutes late) will constitute an absence. Please email me if you expect to be late or miss class.

ELASTICITY STATEMENT: The instructor will make every effort to follow the guidelines of this syllabus as listed; however, the instructor reserves the right to amend this document as the need arises. In such instances, the instructor will notify students in class and/or via email and will endeavor to provide reasonable time for students to adjust to any changes.

GRADING	Points (1000 total)	
Professionalism	150	Attendance, positive attitude, attentiveness, punctuality, work ethic.
Photoshop Project	100	Alter and combine images to create a new composition. Show process.
AfterEffects Project	100	Create dynamic visual effects to support a visual story.
Video/Premiere Project	100	Record, edit, and render a 1-minute film.
QLab Project	100	Create a series of visual cues on a mapped surface.
Watchout Project	100	Create a series of visual cues using edge-blended projectors.
Paperwork Project	100	Draft a system diagram, groundplan, and section.
Calculations Project	50	Calculate throw distance, surface size, lens, brightness, pixel size.
Final Project	200	Design an unrealized production, include production concept, projection concept, research imagery, <i>descriptive</i> cue list, system diagram, groundplan & section, and (minimum) five-cue demonstration. Present at the final exam time.

GRADE POINT BREAKDOWN

>90%	80-89.9%	75-79.9%	70-74.9%	<70%
4.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	0.0
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(F)

A final grade of I (incomplete) is given for passable work that could not be completed due to circumstances beyond the student’s control. The I grade cannot be used to avoid a student receiving a D or F grade.

POLICY ON MISSED EXAMS & CLASSWORK: *There will be no “extra credit” offered.* Late work will be docked 5% of the assignment total for each week it is late, up to 15% off the assignment total. Proof of valid excused absences (e.g. doctor’s note) is required to turn in makeup work without penalty. Office hours are available to retake tests and gain clarification on class topics, not to reteach missed class time.

Emergency Contact Information: UA's primary communication tool for sending out information is through its web site at www.ua.edu. In the event of an emergency, students should consult this site for further directions. Additional course information will be posted using Blackboard Learn.

Severe Weather Guidelines: The guiding principle at The University of Alabama is to promote the personal safety of our students, faculty and staff during severe weather events. It is impossible to develop policies which anticipate every weather-related emergency. These guidelines are intended to provide additional assistance for responding to severe weather on campus.

UA is a residential campus with many students living on or near campus. In general, classes will remain in session until the National Weather Service issues safety warnings for the city of Tuscaloosa. Clearly, some students and faculty commute from adjacent counties. These counties may experience weather related problems not encountered in Tuscaloosa. Individuals should follow the advice of the National Weather Service for that area taking the necessary precautions to ensure personal safety. Whenever the National Weather Service and the Emergency Management Agency issue a warning, people in the path of the storm (tornado or severe thunderstorm) should take immediate life-saving actions. When West Alabama is under a severe weather advisory, conditions can change rapidly. It is imperative to get to where you can receive information from the National Weather Service and to follow the instructions provided. Personal safety should dictate the actions that faculty, staff and students take.

The Office of University Relations will disseminate the latest information regarding conditions on campus in the following ways:

Weather advisory posted on the UA homepage

Weather advisory sent out through UA Alerts to faculty, staff and students

Weather advisory broadcast over WVUA at 90.7 FM

Weather advisory broadcast over Alabama Public Radio (WUAL) at 91.5 FM

Weather advisory broadcast over WVUA-TV/WUOA-TV, and on the website at <http://wvuatv.com/content/weather>.

WVUA-TV Home Team Weather provides a free service you can subscribe to which allows you to receive weather warnings for Tuscaloosa via e-mail or cell phone. Check <http://wvuatv.com/content/free-email-weather-alerts> for more details and to sign up for weather alerts.

In the case of a tornado warning (tornado has been sighted or detected by radar; sirens activated), all university activities are automatically suspended, including all classes and laboratories. If you are in a building, please move immediately to the lowest level and toward the center of the building away from windows (interior classrooms, offices, or corridors) and remain there until the tornado warning has expired. Classes in session when the tornado warning is issued can resume immediately after the warning has expired at the discretion of the instructor. Classes that have not yet begun will resume 30 minutes after the tornado warning has expired provided at least half of the class period remains.

Disability Statement: If you are registered with the Office of Disability Services, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible to discuss any course accommodations that may be necessary. If you have a disability, but have not contacted the Office of Disability Services, please call (205) 348-4285 (Voice) or (205) 348-3081 (TTY) or visit 133-B Martha Parham Hall East to register for services. Students who may need course adaptations because of a disability are welcome to make an appointment to see me during office hours. Students with disabilities must be registered with the Office of Disability Services, 133-B Martha Parham Hall East, before receiving academic adjustments.

Policy on Academic Misconduct: All students in attendance at The University of Alabama are expected to be honorable and to observe standards of conduct appropriate to a community of scholars. The University of Alabama expects from its students a higher standard of conduct than the minimum required to avoid discipline. At the beginning of each semester and on examinations and projects, the professor, department, or division may require that each student sign the following Academic Honor Pledge: "I promise or affirm that I will not at any time be involved with cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, or misrepresentation while enrolled as a student at The University of Alabama." Please see <http://catalogs.ua.edu/undergraduate/10480.html> for academic misconduct policy.