

SYLLABUS

TH616: Lighting Design II, Section 001, Spring 2018
Mondays/Wednesdays/Fridays 9:00AM-9:50AM (3 cr.) @ RJ140
Instructor: Matt Reynolds, 205-348-8032, mcreynolds1@ua.edu
Office Hours: Mondays 10-11AM or by appointment @ RJ229

PREREQUISITES: Graduate student standing or permission of instructor

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Lecture, discussion, and projects, training in theatrical lighting design; 3 cr. Provide the graduate level design & technical student an in-depth understanding of the design methods of stage lighting, including script analysis; research; generation of paperwork; calculation of field angles; prediction of color effects; and a thorough understanding of stage lighting science, terminology, aesthetics, and professionalism.

REQUIRED MATERIALS: Flashlight; camera (or camera phone); black and white conte crayons (or similar physical art media); Microsoft Office suite or similar; *either* Vectorworks (or similar) *or* standard drafting tools such as vellum, scale rule, protractor, 1/4" or 1/2" field template (Amazon.com). Other useful tools include compass, drafting triangles, and t-square. Recommended text: Designing with Light by J. Michael Gillette.

CLASS OBJECTIVES: The professor will provide an in-depth discussion of the design and execution of theatrical/event lighting including script analysis, design techniques, paperwork, effective communication, and professionalism in the industry.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: Students will evaluate lighting design in practice. Students will develop professional presentation habits. Students will explore the components of lighting design and utilize them to achieve artistic goals. Students who succeed in this course should be able to fulfill the duties of a Lighting Designer at the regional theatre level.

COURSE TOPICS:

Professionalism
History of Lighting Design
Lighting Key, Key & Fill light (Painting Task)
Script Analysis (Photo Morgues begin)
Design Concept & Styles (Value Task)
Angle (Flashlight Task)
Distribution (Shadow Drawing)
Color (Sunrise Project)
Departmental production lighting designs
Lighting actors and scenery
Lighting dance, special events, architecture

Physics of light [reflection, refraction, color]
Sources, fixture types and uses (Song Project)
Orchestration (Cue List Task)
Plots (McCandless Task)
Field Angle (Field Angle Task)
Paperwork (Paperwork Task)
Hang, focus, paper tech, level set, cue-to-cue/dry
tech, tech, dress, preview, run, strike
Production meetings (Show Project)
Resumes & CVs
Portfolios & websites

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 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.

GRADING

Professionalism – 10%	Positive attitude, eagerness, attentiveness, punctuality, work ethic.
Projects – 50%	Complete design projects of professional portfolio quality.
Homework – 40%	Complete brief foundational tasks essential to effective lighting design.

Homework:

Painting Task – 5%

Value Task – 5%

Evaluate key and fill light in an Impressionist painting and draw a lighting key. Using only black and white conte crayons (or other black and white physical media, no computers), color a 9-square strip of 1" squares in even steps of value from black (square 1) to white (square 9) with 12.5% middle gray in the center (square 5).

Flashlight Task – 5%

Use a flashlight and camera to take six straight-ahead pictures of your face in a dark room, varying the position of the flashlight for each picture, and using three words to describe the visual impact of each lighting angle.

Shadow Drawing – 5%

Use grayscale physical media to draw the effect of light and shadow of one of the figures in your painting.

Cue List Task – 5%

Describe the light looks of 5 of your photo morgue images in a table.

McCandless Task – 5%

Draft a light plot for two given acting areas, each with two McCandless fronts, one downlight, and one backlight.

Field Angle Task – 5%

Determine the field angles of the instruments in your light plot.

Paperwork Task – 5%

Draft a channel hookup and magic sheet for your light plot.

Projects:

Photo Morgue – 10%

Collect 3 photos a week, compiling them in a single pdf file or binder. Include 3-5 sensory words to describe the feeling of each look (musty, austere, feathery, splintered). The photos should be varied (interior and exterior, natural and artificial light, animate and inanimate targets) so use a variety of sources (Vogue, Wallpaper, National Geographic, Getty Images, Shutterstock, Flickr, Instagram, Google Images). Present images and words every Monday.

Sunrise Project – 10%

Observe a sunrise (from 1 hour prior) taking notes on an unlit notepad (no screens, no music) of brightness, visibility, color, revelation of form, mood, smells, sounds, and feelings throughout, the more the better. Break up your experience into 5 segments, distilling key elements of each into a handful of descriptive words. Using any media, render a human figure in each look. Draw a lighting key that would replicate each look. Compile your work into a presentation board.

Song Project – 10%

Program a lighting design for a song (3-8 minutes long) using the light lab and a dummy. Must have at least 5 cues. Record video of performance.

Show Project – 10%

Design an unrealized production of a one-act play. Include production concept, lighting concept, research imagery, and cue descriptions (at least 5 non-blackout cues). Present in mock production meetings.

Final – 10%

Compile your work from the semester and any related design work into a portfolio on a published website. Must include a headshot, bio, resume/CV, and your portfolio. Bring your laptop to present to invited guests at the final exam time. Be prepared to give and receive constructive criticism. Bring pencil and paper to take notes (even if you disagree).

GRADE POINT BREAKDOWN

90- 100%	80- 89.9%	75- 79.9%	70- 74.9%	<70%
4.0 (A)	3.0 (B)	2.0 (C)	1.0 (D)	0.0 (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 class session it is late. 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.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Students are allowed 3 unexcused absences after the first full week of classes without penalty. Each subsequent absence will incur a 5% final grade penalty. Three tardies 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.

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.