

# **TH 428 - Lighting Design**

**Fall 2019**

Instructor: Therrin J. Eber

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Office Hours: By Appointment

Class Times: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Allen Bales Theatre, 10:00am – 11:00am

Prerequisites: TH 114, TH 120, or TH 220

***Feel free to email me for a meeting time, I will respond within 24 hours.***

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**Course Description:** Beginning Lighting Design (TH 428) (3 Credit Hours) introduces and begins to develop the understanding and skills that students would utilize as a theatrical lighting designer. Class activities include reading, writing, research, drafting, and other design related activities that focus on the design process.

**Course Objective:** The instructor will cover techniques of designing lighting for various stage forms, creative planning and designs for specific productions. The instructor will cover the fundamentals of learning how to explore the mind's eye, and learning to paint with light. How to design to the text, create atmospheres and worlds, and how to transition from one to another. Fundamentals of the lighting designer, preparation for the theatre, production techniques and assistant lighting designer skills will be covered.

## **Learner Outcomes:**

- 1) The Students will research: Research Morgue, Inspiration Photos, Lighting Schematic, Color Choices
- 2) The Students will learn how to do a Designer Play Analysis: Analyze the understanding of how lighting adds to the story from A to B and B to C and C to D. How is the designer always adding to the story? (Backwards & Forwards, Hodge Analysis)
- 3) The Students will learn how to create various paperwork: Create French Scene Charts, Create Cue Lists, Create Magic Sheets, and Create Lighting Plots and apply them to professional level work.

## **Required Texts:**

**Textbook:** *Assistant Lighting Designer's Toolkit*, Anne McMills - ISBN-13: 978-0415711210

*Backwards & Forwards*, David Ball – ISBN:13: 978-0809311101

**Playscripts:** *The Foreigner*, Larry Shue – Instructor Provided

*Black Comedy*, Peter Schaffer – Instructor Provided

*Eurydice*, Sarah Ruhl – Instructor Provided

*Our Town*, Thornton Wilder – Instructor Provided

## **Other Required Materials:**

45deg. Triangle, Architectural scale rule, 1/4" lighting template (Available from Dickblick.com and 1/4" lighting template available at stagespot.com. Various other drafting supplies of your own choosing. Tickets for two theatrical shows and one dance show.

**Method:** Lectures, demonstrations, videos, Power Point presentations, forums, discussion

## **Course Requirements:**

4 Major Design Projects: (Conceptual, Proscenium, and Thrust spaces)

4 Minor Design Projects: Highlight and Shadow (Negative Space) project, Wine Bottle Ad Project, Art Lighting, Color Swatch Project

3 Papers regarding UA Theatre and Dance productions

## **Class Participation**

Participation is defined as your level of engagement in the work. Engagement manifests itself in the following ways: mental and physical alertness, active and focused listening to what others are saying, willingness to present your own views and to question your own assumptions, comments offered publicly in discussion sessions, notes being taken on the material, evidence of having completed and considered the readings assigned. Disengagement or disrespect will adversely affect your participation grade.

**Note: Cell phones, laptops and iPads/Tablets must be turned off and put away during class. If this rule is violated it may result in the confiscation of the device or dismissal from that class period (which is considered an absence).**

## **Disabilities Policy:**

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. This should be addressed immediately at the beginning of the semester. No accommodations can be made until you register with the Office of Disability Services.

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.

## **Exams and Assignments**

**Course Assignments:** There are four (4) major projects, Four (4) minor projects, two (2) theatrical production papers, one (1) dance paper, one (1) paper over a historical relevant lighting designer. Your full participation in class discussions, exercises, online exercises and projects is expected.

**Class Participation:** Participation is defined as your level of engagement in the work. Engagement manifests itself in the following ways: mental and physical alertness, active and focused listening to what others are saying, willingness to present your own views and to question your own assumptions, comments offered publicly in discussion sessions, notes being taken on the material, evidence of having completed and considered the readings assigned via Learn Smart assignments and discussion. Disengagement or disrespect will adversely affect your grade. Note: Cell phones must be turned off and put away during class. If this rule is violated it may result in the confiscation of the device or dismissal from that class period (which is considered an absence).

**PLEASE PICK UP AFTER YOURSELVES WHEN LEAVING CLASS.**

**Attendance at Theatrical Productions and Papers:** Students are required to attend two (2) theatre productions and the one (1) dance concert and write a critique/review about each production, details to be determined by the Professor. A writing prompt will be given closer to the assignment due date.

**Plan your semester break departure carefully. There will be NO early exams for students attempting an early departure at the semester's end.**

### **Attendance and Tardiness Policy:**

Attendance is mandatory and records will be kept. You are given **three (3) unexcused absences for the semester without penalty**. After the third unexcused absence, **each additional unexcused absence will lower your final course grade by 1/3 letter grade** (A- to B+, B to B-, B- to C, etc.). In cases of extreme hardship, exceptions may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

The only absences that will be excused are those due to a verifiable emergency such as: illness requiring attention by a health care provider; the hospitalization, death, or serious illness of a family member; a verifiable and University-sanctioned event; or required appearance in a court of law. You are responsible for **providing documentation** (e.g. doctor's letter, health center note, court summons, obituary) **unsolicited** to your professor **within 48 hours of your absence** if you wish to be considered excused.

Even if you are legitimately absent (e.g., illness, athletic or scholastic event, etc.), you are responsible for all the information given in that class. This may include any changes in the printed schedule, and will include lecture materials and screenings not found in the reading assignment for the day.

### **Tardiness:**

Three (3) tardies will be treated as one unexcused absence.

**-If you arrive to class more than ten minutes late, you are considered absent.**

**-If you arrive late for any exam and any other student has already completed the exam and left the classroom, you will not be permitted to take it and will receive a "0".**

**-Leaving class early without prior permission from instructor will be tallied under tardies.**

**Make-up Work:** Exams and quizzes may be made up but only by prior arrangement with the instructor OR with a **valid written medical excuse**.

### **Assignments and Grading**

Class Participation and Discussions	100
Major Design Project 1 ( <i>The Foreigner</i> )	100
Major Design Project 2 ( <i>Black Comedy</i> )	100
Major Design Project 3 ( <i>Eurydice</i> )	100
Major Design Project 4 ( <i>Our Town</i> )	100
Play Quizzes (minimum of 5 @ 10 points each)	50
Minor Design Project #1 (Negative Space Project)	50
Minor Design Project #2 (Bottle Ad Project)	50
Minor Design Project #3 (Artwork Project)	50
Minor Design Project #4 (Gel Swatch Project)	50
Play Paper #1	50
Musical Paper #1	50
Dance Paper #1	50
Final Project (Musical or Shakespeare of your choice)	200
<b>TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS:</b>	<b>1100</b>

### **Final Grade Points**

A+	1150-1200	C	730-789
A	1050-1149		
A-	980 -1049	C-	700-729
B+	930-979	D+	680-699
B	880-929	D	620-679
B-	820-879	D-	600-619
C+	790-819	F	0 -599

### **Academic Misconduct:**

Cheating or plagiarism will be severely penalized. Papers must be original work, written by you and you only for this class. Downloads from websites or adaptations from previous coursework are unacceptable. Consult the *Student Handbook*, which is available from Student Services, for a complete definition of academic misconduct. Should I suspect that you are conducting yourself in a questionable manner in this regard, I will refer your situation to the Dean's Office for further action.

### **Cultural Diversity Statement:**

The Department of Theatre and Dance is committed to providing an atmosphere of learning that is representative of a variety of perspectives. In this class, you will have the opportunity to express and experience cultural diversity as we focus on issues such as: sex, gender, and communication in small groups, communication in the multicultural group, and cross-cultural and intercultural work group communication. In addition, writing assignments and daily activities have been designed to encourage individuality and creative expression. You are encouraged to not only take advantage of these opportunities in your own work, but also learn from the information and ideas shared by other students.

### **UAct**

A campaign to create an ethical community defined by respect and civility, also provides information regarding all reporting options as well as the resources and programs available to address sexual misconduct. This includes reporting to The University of Alabama Police Department at 205-348-5454 or by visiting UAPD at 1110 Jackson Ave. Any individual who seeks assistance and support but desires strict confidentiality should contact the University's Women and Gender Resource Center victim advocate at 205-348-5040. For more details on these and other reporting options, please visit the [UAct website](#) and review the University's [sexual misconduct policy](#).

A primary goal of the UAct campaign is to raise awareness and promote prevention of sexual misconduct. Any student, employee, applicant or campus visitor with concerns about sexual misconduct (including sexual assault and/or harassment, domestic/dating violence, and/or stalking) is encouraged to seek assistance from the appropriate University officials.

### **Notice of Changes**

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.

### **UAct: Ethical Community Statement**

The University of Alabama is committed to an ethical, inclusive community defined by respect and civility. The UAct website (<http://www.ua.edu/uact>) provides a list of reporting channels that can be used to report incidences of illegal discrimination, harassment, sexual assault, sexual violence, retaliation, threat assessment or fraud.

### **Required productions (Choose 1 play, 1 Musical, and 1 Dance Show)**

<i>The River</i> (Play)	September 23 – 27, 29
<i>Intimate Apparel</i> (Play)	October 1 <sup>st</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup>
<i>ARDT</i> (Dance)	October 8th – 11 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Dance Alabama</i> (Dance)	November 12th – 15 <sup>th</sup>
<i>The Pirates of Penzance</i> (Musical)	November 11 <sup>th</sup> – 17th
<i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i> (Play)	November 19 <sup>th</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 24 <sup>th</sup>

Tickets may be purchased at the Box Office located in the lobby of Rowand Johnson Hall.

**Box Office: 205-348-3400**

**Or Online:** <https://theatre.ua.edu/2018-19-season/> Click BUY TICKETS button on the left

### Day to Day Schedule

**Subject to revision by the instructor and with appropriate notice given to students via email and/or in class.**

Week/date: Topic/Assignments:

#### **\*Subject to change**

1 W 8/21: Classes Begin – Syllabus Day/ Begin What is Lighting Design

F 8/23: What is Lighting Design/Elements & Principles of Design **Assign Negative Space Project**

2 M 8/26: Elements & Principles of Design Cont./Controllable Properties of Light **Assign The Foreigner**

W 8/28: Controllable Properties of Light

F 8/30: Analyzing the Show (B&F - BALL)

3 M 9/2: **LABOR DAY – NO CLASS**

W 9/4: **Negative Space Project Due** Creating and Conceptualizing – Telling the Story (B&F - BALL)

F 9/6: Understanding Emotional Responses and Research Morgues (Mood Boards)

4 M 9/9: How to Present your Presentation Without Really Trying

W 9/11: **The Foreigner Design Presentations**

F 9/13: **The Foreigner Design Presentations Cont.** **Assign Bottle Ad Project**

5 M 9/16: Lighting Instruments and Photometrics **Assign Black Comedy Project**

W 9/18: Lighting Instruments and Photometrics Cont.

F 9/20: Lighting Instruments and Photometrics Cont.

6 M 9/23: The Light Plot, Info. for a Plot (Areas and Placement Using McCandless)

W 9/25: The Light Plot/ Information for a Plot (Areas and Placement) **Assign Artwork Project**

F 9/27: **Bottle Ad Project Due** The Light Plot/ Information for a Plot (Information and Organization)

7 M 9/30: Who is McCandless? Why does he matter? Does he matter? **Assign Gel Project**

W 10/2: CATCH UP DAY OR WORK DAY

F 10/4: **Work Day for Black Comedy Project IN CLASS**

8 M 10/8: **Black Comedy Design Presentations**

W 10/9: **Black Comedy Design Presentations Cont.**

F 10/11: Instrument Schedule, Channel Schedule, Color Schedules, and Schedules... **Assign Eurydice**

9 M 10/14: Cue Lists and What they mean

W 10/16: Crystal Balls, Telling the Future, and Magic Sheets

F 10/18: **Artwork Project Due** Paperwork Packets! How to be the best at what matters in spreadsheets

10 M 10/21: Jewel Lighting

W 10/23: Jewel Lighting

F 10/25: **Gel Project Due** Collaborating with the Team **Assign Our Town**

11 M 10/28: Collaborating with the Team Cont. / Designing for the Thrust

W 10/30: Designing with Collaborators... and staying professional

F 11/1: **NO CLASS FALL BREAK**

12 M 11/4: CATCH UP DAY / EURYDICE WORK DAY

W 11/6: **Eurydice Design Presentations**

F 11/8: **Eurydice Design Presentations Cont.**

13 M 11/11: Lighting For Dance **Assign Final Exam**

W 11/13: Lighting For Musicals

F 11/15: Lighting For Events (Flash and Trash, Orchestral, Opera... etc)

14 M 11/18 CATCH UP / OUR TOWN WORK DAY

W 11/20: **Our Town Design Presentations**

F 11/22: **Our Town Design Presentations Cont.**

15 M 11/25: Occupations in the Lighting Industry

W 11/27: **THANKSGIVING BREAK**

F 11/29: **THANKSGIVING BREAK**

16 M 12/2: FINAL PROJECT Work Day

W 12/4: FINAL PROJECT Work Day

F 12/6: FINAL PROJECT Work Day

**Final Exam: Tuesday, December 10th, 8am – 10:30am**

**FINAL DESIGN PRESENTATIONS FOR MUSICAL DUE**

Final Exam: Plan your semester break departure carefully. **There will be NO early final exams** for students attempting an early departure at the semester's end.

## **OTHER UNIVERSITY POLICIES:**

### **Emergency Contact Information**

UA's primary communication tool for sending out information is through its web site at [www.ua.edu](http://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://wvua23.com/weather>.

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.