

## SYLLABUS

**TH 322: Lighting Fundamentals, Section 001, Fall 2019**  
**Mondays 2-4:50 P.M. (3 cr.) @ RJ140 & Gallaway & Allen Bales**  
**Instructor: Matt Reynolds, 205-348-8032, mcreynolds1@ua.edu**  
**Office Hours: Tuesdays 12:30-1:30, or by appointment @ RJ229**

**PREREQUISITES:** TH114

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Lecture-based and hands-on training in theatrical lighting implementation; 3 cr. Provide the introductory undergraduate level design & technical student an in-depth understanding of the technical aspects of stage lighting, including implementation and maintenance of lighting fixtures, cables, and control equipment; and a thorough understanding of stage lighting science, terminology, technique, and professionalism.

**REQUIRED MATERIALS:** A pocket notepad and writing utensil for notes; smartphones and recording devices are acceptable if not misused or distributed without my express permission. Laptops are acceptable on lecture-only days, but will be too cumbersome for practical days. You must bring a 6" or 8" adjustable-head crescent wrench to every class session. You may also benefit from bringing these items: multitool, pocketknife (4" or less), flashlight, gloves. Required text: Theatrical Design and Production (8<sup>th</sup> edition) by J. Michael Gillette. Recommended texts: Backstage Handbook by Paul Carter and George Chiang; Stage Lighting: The Technician's Guide by Skip Mort.

**CLASS OBJECTIVES:** The professor will discuss and demonstrate theatrical/event lighting equipment, terminology, implementation, and safety. The professor will review professionalism in the theatre/event production industry.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:** Students will evaluate lighting implementation in practice. Students will serve on an electricians crew. Students will develop a sense of professionalism and perform accordingly. Students will identify stage technology and discuss methods of use. Students who succeed in this course should be able to fulfill the duties of an Electrician at the regional theatre level or union stagehand, including implementation and maintenance of lighting fixtures, cables, and control equipment; and complemented by a thorough understanding of stage lighting science, terminology, technique, and professionalism.

### **COURSE TOPICS (in no particular order)**

Crew, timelines, professionalism, Hang/Strike/Focus	Lighting consoles & operation
Go-bags, coiling, knots	Plots & Paperwork (hookups, schedules, ME reports)
Fixture types, parts, & uses	Paper tech, level set, cue-to-cue/dry tech, tech, dress, preview, run
Taping, circuiting, storage	Design methods
Physics of light (reflection, refraction, color)	Hardware & Tools
System integration, patch bays, & dimmer racks	Ratchet straps (flat, U, S, E)
Electricity	Fall arrests, Counterweight Rigging
Connectors, wiring, tie-ins	Lifts (personnel, scissor, fork, aerial)
Data (DMX, Cat6e, MIDI)	

**CLASS GUIDELINES, HEALTH AND SAFETY:** You are required to work at heights to complete this course. As this class focuses on professionalism, it is required to comport yourselves with the utmost work ethic and attitude. This means you must arrive on time, dressed appropriately, with your materials. You must display a positive attitude, eagerness to work, and attentiveness to your surroundings and instructions. You may lose professionalism points and/or hours for infractions including but not limited to: use of electronic devices without approval, improper clothing, failure to bring materials, exhaustion, illness, intoxication, or poor attitude. Your health and safety are of the highest importance. Everyone's safety is everyone's responsibility; if you see

## Syllabus 2

something that appears unsafe, notify the people in danger and the supervisor immediately. Do not do anything you feel unsafe doing; if you feel unsafe with a specific task, tell the supervisor and we will find a way to accomplish the goal safely. When working at heights (loading gallery, grid, personnel lift, ladders, etc.) your pockets must be empty and tools attached to you. If loose hardware must be used at heights, warn the space with "loose hardware over [location in space]" before loosening hardware. Do not operate machinery or power tools without the proper apparel, training, supervision, and personal protective equipment (safety eyewear, hard hat, respirator, gloves, welding mask, etc.). Proper apparel must be able to get dirty, torn, and used at heights or in awkward positions without compromising one's integrity or safety. This also means no physically restrictive clothing, no dangly strings or jewelry that could get caught in machinery, and closed-toe shoes only. Judgment of the properness of one's attire is at the discretion of the instructor/supervisor. Check your UA email daily.

### GRADING

Professionalism	200	Positive attitude, eagerness, attentiveness, punctuality, work ethic.
Crew	300	Work at least 4 hang sessions, 4 focus sessions, and 2 strikes.
Quizzes	320	8, in-class. Multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, short answer, and practical.
Final Exam	180	Multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, short answer, and practical.
Total	1000	

**CREW:** Most crew sessions will occur during class time. You may complete crew hours outside of class time as well, but there may be no double-dipping (getting credit for practicum/scholarship/workstudy at the same time). Crew sessions outside of class time must be at least in two-hour increments. Do not expect extra credit opportunities.

### GRADE POINT BREAKDOWN

>965	933-965	900-932	866-899	833-865	800-832	783-799	766-782	750-765	733-749	716-732	700-715	<700
4.0 (A+)	4.0 (A)	3.7 (A-)	3.3 (B+)	3.0 (B)	2.7 (B-)	2.3 (C+)	2.0 (C)	2.0 (C-)	1.0 (D+)	1.0 (D)	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, including makeup quizzes, will be docked 5% for each class session it is late. Proof of valid excused absences (e.g. doctor's note) is required to makeup quizzes without penalty. Office hours are available to retake tests and gain clarification on class topics, not to re-teach missed class time.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:** Students are allowed 3 unexcused absences after the add date 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.

## Syllabus 3

**COURSE SCHEDULE:** Subject to change.

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic/Assignments:</u>
1	(No session)
2	8/26: Crew, Hierarchy, Timelines, Professionalism, Hang/Strike/Focus
3	9/2: Labor Day Holiday, NO CLASS
4	9/9: [Read Chs. 1, 4, 10] River Focus, IA Hang, Go-bags, Knots/Coiling/Taping
5	9/16: [Read Ch. 16; Quiz-Etiquette, Hierarchy, Tools] (River Tech Notes), IA Focus, Fixtures, Parts, Color <i>The River</i> Allen Bales Theatre September 23-27, 29
6	9/23: [Read Ch. 15; Quiz-Parts of an ERS] (IA Tech Notes), Electricity, Connectors, Systems, Wiring <i>Intimate Apparel</i> Marian Gallaway Theatre October 1-6
7	9/30: [Read Ch. 7; Quiz-Electricity] Plots & Paperwork, Ratchet straps, Harnesses <i>Alabama Repertory Dance Theatre (ARDT)</i> Morgan Auditorium October 8-11
8	10/7: [Read Chs. 5, 6; Quiz-Plots & Paperwork] IA Strike
9	10/14: [Read Ch. 14; Quiz-Connectors] Lighting Design
10	10/21: [Quiz-Design] PoP Hang October 30: Last day to drop or add a course with a "W" October 31-November 1: Mid Semester Break (does not affect this class)
11	10/28: PoP Focus, IBE Hang
12	11/4: (PoP Tech Notes), IBE Focus <i>Pirates of Penzance</i> Allen Bales Theatre November 11-17 <i>Dance Alabama!</i> Morgan Auditorium November 12-15
13	11/11: (IBE Tech Notes), Lighting Consoles <i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i> Marian Gallaway Theatre November 19-22, 24
14	11/18: Systems and Plans November 27-29: Thanksgiving Holiday (does not affect this class)
15	11/25: [Quiz-Systems] IBE Strike
16	12/2: [Quiz-Practical] Maintenance, Tech Processes
	Final Exam: Tuesday, December 10, 3:30-6 p.m.

## Syllabus 4

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://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. Academic misconduct by students includes all acts of dishonesty in any academic-related matter and any knowing or intentional help or attempt to help, or conspiracy to help, another student commit an act of academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, each of the following acts when performed in any type of academic or academic-related matter, exercise, or activity.

- (1) Cheating: using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, study aids, or computer-related information.
- (2) Plagiarism: representing words, data, pictures, figures, works, ideas, computer programs or outputs or anything generated by someone else, as one's own. Self-Plagiarism: resubmitting your own previously submitted work without proper citation and permission from the current instructor to whom the original work is subsequently submitted.
- (3) Fabrication: presenting as genuine any invented or falsified citation, data or material.
- (4) Misrepresentation: falsifying, altering, or misstating the contents of documents or other materials related to academic matters, including schedules, prerequisites, and transcripts.