

# Theatre 199 Sect 1

## Introduction to Theatre Technology

**Basic info:** Class meeting place and time  
Jenkins Theater: NFAC 280  
Tuesdays, Thursdays from 9:00-10:50 AM  
**Instructor contact Info:** Scott Wirtz-Olsen  
  
Office NFAC 281  
715-346-4468  
[swirtzol@uwsp.edu](mailto:swirtzol@uwsp.edu)

**Recommended Text:** Theatrical Design and Production, by Gillette is available at Textbook Rental

### CLASS FORMAT:

- This course is a practical laboratory in the techniques of stagecraft. It can be fun and highly productive. Through demonstration and experience the students should develop a basic proficiency and understanding in a selection of skills. To possess an understanding, appreciation and ability as a theatre artist, the student is expected to become knowledgeable in these skill areas.
- A number of projects, reading assignments, quizzes, and short papers will be assigned to help the student achieve the course objectives below.

### OBJECTIVES:

- Some classes will consist of lectures, demonstrations and discussions.
- All classes will be hands-on skill building. Always arrive on time, with the proper supplies and tools and be prepared to work the entire class period.
- This is a project-oriented class. To succeed you must complete all of the segments of assignments in a timely fashion, using the guidelines presented in class.

***Production Organization*** – To orient students to the personnel structure of theatrical organizations using UWSP as a specific model.

***Health and Safety*** – First and foremost, safety is the responsibility and goal of everyone involved in theatrical production. Above all else, a safe working environment must be maintained at all times. Specific safety practices will be addressed in their respective topics within this course. It is incumbent that everyone working in a shop or theatre to take responsibility for those safety items they can control. The student will identify and correct unsafe working conditions discovered while working in the scene shop and theatre.

***Carpentry*** – To introduce students to the use of common scene shop power and hand tools, construction procedures, and to acceptable standards in the stagecraft industry. To accomplish this, students will operate common shop power tools and hand tools in

## Theatre 199 Sect 1

### Introduction to Theatre Technology

a safe and productive manner. Each student will use these skills to create a finished product for a departmental production at some point during the course.

***Rigging*** – To introduce students to the safe operation of the counterweight fly system. The student will also demonstrate their ability to rig, counterweight, fly and strike draperies and scenery in a safe and productive manner through supervised in class exercises.

***Scenery Construction*** – To introduce students to the goals and techniques of theatrical scenic designers. In addition to using the skills learned in the carpentry unit of this course, students will also learn basic theatrical scene painting techniques

***Lighting Technology*** – To introduce students to the goals and techniques implemented by theatrical lighting designers. In addition, students will learn proper procedures in hanging, circuiting, focusing, and basic equipment maintenance, using lighting equipment found in the Theatre and Dance Department inventory.

#### **Attendance Policy:**

- You are allowed two absences per semester. These excused absences are to cover illness or family emergency. These absences are in addition to official university holidays and university condoned religious holidays. The student will be evaluated on their participation. This constitutes more than just showing up, the student is expected to be involved in the work or discussion for the day. . The student is responsible for material communicated while absent.

#### **SHOP ETTIQUET**

- No food or drink is allowed in the Costume Shop except water. Please be courteous of others working in the space. Clean up after yourself by putting things away, sweeping, etc. Personal music is permitted during work sessions but no calls, texting, social media etc. is allowed.

#### **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:**

- Academic Dishonesty will not be tolerated. This includes plagiarism, tracing, dissemination of test materials and any other methods of bending rules for any purpose. Ignorance of the policy does not exempt you from the rule. In compliance with this, no cameras or recordings should be made of any element of the course without the expressed permission of the instructor. Academic integrity is central to the mission of higher education in general and UWSP in particular. The minimum penalty for a violation of academic integrity is a failure (zero) for the assignment. For more information, see the UWSP “Student Academic Standards and Disciplinary Procedures” section of the *Rights and Responsibilities* document, Chapter 14, which can be accessed here:

<http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespons/SRR-2010/rightsChap14.pdf>

# Theatre 199 Sect 1

## Introduction to Theatre Technology

*\*\*\*If you have a disability and require classroom and/or exam accommodations, please register with the Disability and Assistive Technology Center and then contact me at the beginning of the course. I am happy to help in any way that I can. For more information, please visit the Disability and Assistive Technology Center, located on the 6th floor of the Learning Resource Center (the Library). You can also find more information here: <http://www4.uwsp.edu/special/disability/>*

### **EMERGENCY:**

*“In the event of a medical emergency, call 911 or use red emergency phone located (list location). Offer assistance if trained and willing to do so. Guide emergency responders to victim.*

*In the event of a tornado warning, proceed to the lowest level interior room without window exposure at (list primary location for shelter closest to classroom). See [www.uwsp.edu/rmgt/Pages/em/procedures/other/floor-plans](http://www.uwsp.edu/rmgt/Pages/em/procedures/other/floor-plans) for floor plans showing severe weather shelters on campus. Avoid wide-span rooms and buildings.*

*In the event of a fire alarm, evacuate the building in a calm manner. Meet at (state logical location to meet 200 yards away from building). Notify instructor or emergency command personnel of any missing individuals.*

*Active Shooter – Run/Escape, Hide, Fight. If trapped hide, lock doors, turn off lights, spread out and remain quiet. Follow instructions of emergency responders.*

*See UW-Stevens Point Emergency Management Plan at [www.uwsp.edu/rmgt](http://www.uwsp.edu/rmgt) for details on all emergency response at UW-Stevens Point.”*

**GRADING:** Late projects, papers, or quizzes will not be accepted. (See attendance policy)

90%+ = A / 80%+ = B / 70%+ = C / 60%+ = D / 59%- = F

# Theatre 199 Sect 1

## Introduction to Theatre Technology

### Week 1

9/4 – Introductions & Syllabus

9/6 – Theatre Production at UWSP Whose Who, Theatre Types & Theatre & Dance Tour

### Week 2

9/11 – Personal Protective Equipment and Shop Rules / Hand tools

9/13 – Hand tools

### Week 3

9/18 – Power Hand Tools

9/20 – Stationary Power Tools

### Week 4

9/25 – Materials: Wood, Steel, Foam, Misc

9/27 – Reading a shop drawing – In Class Group Projects

### Week 5

9/4 – Lighting – How to hang / circuit / cable etc

9/6 – In class work – Cat on Hot Tin Roof

### Week 6

10/2 – In class work – Cat on Hot Tin Roof

10/4 – In class work – Cat on Hot Tin Roof

### Week 7

10/9 – Rigging

10/11 – Soft Goods etc

Cat on a Hot Tin Roof (opens Friday)

### Week 8

10/16 – Ropes & Knots, etc

10/18 – In class work - Heathers

### Week 9

10/23 – Discussion of Cat on a Hot Tin Roof Rope & Knots continued as needed

10/25 – In class work (Laying Dance Floor?)

### Week 10

10/30 – In class work - Heathers

11/1 – In class work - Heathers

# Theatre 199 Sect 1

## Introduction to Theatre Technology

### Week 11

11/6 – Lighting Hang for Afterimages / Scenery construction for Heathers

11/8 – Lighting Hang for Afterimages / Scenery construction for Heathers

Heathers Opens on Friday

### Week 12

11/13 – TBD

11/15 – TBD

### Week 13

11/20 – In class Discussion of Heathers

11/22 – NO CLASS - Thanksgiving

### Week 14

11/27 – TBD – Afterimages as needed

11/29 – TBD – Afterimages as needed

### Week 15

12/4 – Final Projects in Class work

12/6 – Final Projects in Class work

Afterimages OPENS Tonight

### Week 16

12/11 – Discussion of Afterimages

12/13 – Final Projects in Class work

### FINAL EXAM

12/20 - TBD