

**THEA 2110**  
**Scenery Practicum**  
**University of Texas at El Paso**  
**Department of Theatre and Dance**

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Cynthia Esparza

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Office hours: 12:30- 17:00 MTWTHF (office, on stage or by appointment)

**COURSE INFORMATION**

THEA 2110:Scenery Practicum

Term: Spring 2025

Initial Meeting: Friday 12 at 14:30 Scene shop D075

Shop hours and availability: M - F 12:30 - 17:00, Fox Fine Arts, FOX D075

**Course Description**

A technical production oriented course where students work on skills as they relate to theatrical production in Scenery.

**Course Goals**

The purpose of this course is to give each student the opportunity to learn the skills necessary for the various areas necessary to produce a theatrical production.

Areas of focus include: tools and materials for scenery construction, construction techniques of scenery and properties; rigging and safety. Knowledge/experience of stage properties and scenic painting.

**Learning Outcomes:**

Through practice students will understand the skills needed to execute the technical side of a

production and or generating, developing and maintaining the audience and front of house.

### **Requirements:**

Each student is required to obtain a total of 70 points. These points may be a combination of lab hours/ crew hours, and requirement final paper.

- 60 points can be earned via
  - Lab hours: 1 hour = 1 point
  - Final paper: final reflection paper 10 points. Due May 12th on Blackboard
  - Show crew (e-mail me for the show schedule)
    - Monomyth 30 points
    - Quixote El Nuevo 40 points
  - Seeing 2 out of the 3 productions and submitting a 2-3 pages review - submission on blackboard, 10 points each.
- You must complete your hours by the last day of the semester.
- If your schedule does not lend itself for you to attend the designated shop hours, it is your responsibility to ask the professor for alternative assignments.
- You final reflection paper is due the day before dead day, May 12th at 5:00 pm and should be uploaded to Blackboard on the assignment link.

### **Grading:**

A = 63 - 70 points

B = 56 - 62 points

C = 49 - 55 points

D = 42 - 48 points

F = 0 - 41 points

### **Shop Hours and Availability 12:30-17:00 Monday -Friday**

There are possible weekend calls. You are required to purchase one set of protective eyewear and one set of reusable protective earplugs to attend any work call or scene

shop work. You are also required to wear closed toed shoes and no shorts are allowed in the theatre for safety reasons. If your clothes are not to standard, we will send you home to change. Do not wear any dangling jewelry, and any long hair must be tied back out of the way from your face. Your hours will not start until you come to the theater with appropriate clothes, have your protective eyewear and you have signed in. Students must bring a completed safety assessment and acknowledgement when you come to your first work call; as well as signing their name on the google doc to record that they have had a safety briefing.

### **Attendance & Responsibilities:**

- It is the responsibility of the student to fulfill all the requirements to the best of their abilities. If a student is unclear about anything on the syllabus, they should seek clarification from the instructor.
- If you are employed in the shop you are doing practicum make sure you coordinate your schedule with your instructor to avoid conflict or misunderstanding.
- Work must be done in minimum two-hour blocks for students to fulfill regular requirements.
- Once you have set your schedule there will be no rescheduling.
- If you cannot make your scheduled time on a given day, please notify your supervisor ahead of time to reschedule a time later that week.
- Consistent attendance is mandatory for crew assignments. Absences will not be tolerated for the running crew. No partial crew work is acceptable. Failure to meet these requirements will result in a failing grade for the course. You will be asked to provide a schedule of times that you are available for work in the shop.
- It is the student's responsibility to record their hours. Unrecorded hours will not count towards your total hours.
- It is each student's responsibility to dress properly for the workplace, follow instructions, ask questions if something is not understood, comply with rules and regulations of the area, and participate in daily clean up.
- If you do not complete a task in a satisfactory manner your hours for that task will not be counted.

- Students must behave in accordance with all rules put forth by the Handbook of Operating Procedures of the University of Texas at El Paso.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS ABOUT HOURS, DUTIES, OR GRADES IN THIS COURSE, PLEASE SPEAK WITH THE PERSON IN CHARGE OF YOUR SECTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

### **Attending Productions**

The Theatre Department Shops allow you to attend productions, write a review to earn up to 10 points. See above for specific show allotment for the different areas.

To earn the 10 points you must do the following

- Buy a ticket
- Attend the production
- Sign in after the production (a QR code will be provided for you to do a digital sign in or a sign in sheet)
- Write a 2-3 page paper. Paper requirements are a review of the production, this is your thoughts and opinions, written in Times New Roman, 12 point, double spaces with 1" margins. Written at a collegiate level using proper grammar and spelling. See ticket information, show schedule and paper due dates below.

### **SPRING 2025 PRODUCTION DETAILS**

#### ***"Monomyth"***

Tickets on sale January 28, 2025

Artistic Director: Ashley Kroft

*Synopsis:* Every hero's story, in some way, shape, or form, shares an internal

transformation experienced in all of time and place. Leaving your comfort zone to experience something new, whether it's starting a job, traveling to a new place, or pursuing a new hobby. You may choose an aspect of a hero's journey or complete the entire cycle (Separation, Initiation, Return). You, or someone you know, being the hero. Leaving your normal world and entering the unknown. Leaving psychological dependency and transitioning to self-responsibility. Leaving and returning changed. What excites you, and to make that the basis of your personal journey. Not knowing where you are going and finding yourself in an adventure that begins your journey. Which aspect of your journey evokes a resonance within you?

A quote from Joseph Campbell, "... the Monomyth can also be metaphorically applied to someone's spiritual, psychological, or physical journey. Being able to identify elements of the hero's journey in your own life can help you see things in a new light, providing solace and guidance through a transformative period.

### Wise Family Theatre

7:30 PM Performances:

February 20\*, 21, 22, 2025 (\*Discount Performance - All Tickets \$10)

2:00 PM Performance:

February 23, 2025

### ***Paper due March 27th at 11:59pm on Blackboard***

*"Quixote El Nuevo"*

Tickets on sale January 28, 2025

By Octavio Solis

Directed by Martín Balmaceda

*Synopsis:* In Quixote Nuevo, aging professor José Quijano refuses to fade quietly into the background. When his family plans to move him into an assisted living facility, he makes a daring escape on his trusty tricycle, setting off on a mission to find his long-lost love. As he journeys through the Texas desert, the lines between reality and fantasy

blur, and José embraces the identity of Don Quixote. Joined by his faithful but unlucky sidekick, Sancho, they embark on a whimsical, death-defying adventure in the fictional border town of La Plancha. With lively Tejano music setting the tone, Quixote Nuevo is a funny, poignant tale of reclaiming one's story, facing Death, and discovering the hero within.

### Wise Family Theatre

7:30 Performances:

May 2\*, 3, 9, 10 (\*Discount Performance - All Tickets \$10)

2:00 PM Performances:

May 3\*, 4, 11 (\*Discount Performance - All Tickets \$10)

***Paper due May 14th at 11::59pm on Blackboard***

### **TICKET PRICES FOR MONOMYTH AND QUIXOTE**

\$18 Adults

\$15 UTEP Faculty/Staff, Seniors, Military, Groups (10+), Alumni (with card), Non-UTEP Students

\$12 UTEP Students (with a valid ID), Children (ages 4-12)

*"Grease"*

Tickets on sale for UTEP Students/ Faculty/ Staff/Alumni and Groups March 3, 2025

General Public March 4, 2025

Books, Music and Lyrics by Warren Casey and Jim Jacobs

Directed by Jay Stratton

Choreographed by Rebecca Frost Mayer

*Synopsis:* It's Rydell High's senior class of 1959: duck-tailed, hot-rodding "Burger Palace Boys" and their gumsnapping, hip shaking "Pink Ladies", evoking the sound of the 50s. Head "greaser" Danny Zuko and new girl Sandy Dumbrowski try to relive the

high romance of their "Summer Nights" as the rest of the gang sings and dances its way through such songs as "Greased Lightnin'," and "It's Raining on Prom Night," recalling the music of Buddy Holly, Little Richard, and Elvis Presley that became the soundtrack of a generation.

### The Dinner Theatre

Dinner Performances 6:30 P.M:

April 4, 5, 10\*, 11, 12, 17\*, 18, 19, 2025 (\*Discount Dinner Performance)

Matinee Dinner Performance 1:00 P.M:

April 6\*, 2025 (Meal Served) (\*Discount Dinner Performance)

No Dinner Matinee Performances 2:00 P.M:

April 13, 20, 2025 (No Meal Served / General Admission Seating)

***Paper due April 25th at 11:59pm on Blackboard.***

### **TICKET PRICES FOR GREASE**

Friday & Saturday Dinner Performances

Adult \$60.50

UTEP Faculty/Staff/Group (20+) \$57.50

UTEP Alumni Association Members\*\*\$57.50

Children (4-12 yrs. old) \$57.50

Non-UTEP Student \$57.50

Military\*\* \$57.50

UTEP Student\*\*\* \$18.00

Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday Matinee Dinner Performances – Reserved Tables

Adult \$55.50

UTEP Faculty/Staff/Group (20+)\*\* \$53.50

UTEP Alumni Association Members\*\*\$53.50

Children (4-12 yrs. old) \$53.50

Non-UTEP Student \$53.50

Military\*\* \$53.50

UTEP Student\*\*\* \$18.00

Sunday No Dinner Matinee Performances – General Admission Seating / No Meal Is Served

Adult \$35.50

UTEP Faculty/Staff/Group (20+)\*\* \$33.50

UTEP Alumni Association Members\*\* \$33.50

Children (4-12 yrs. old) \$33.50

Non-UTEP Student \$33.50

Military\*\* \$33.50

UTEP Student\*\*\* \$12.00

\*Children 3 years and under are not allowed in the theatre.

\*\*Up to 4 Tickets per valid ID.

\*\*\*One ticket per valid UTEP ID.

When purchasing tickets in any discount ticket category the person on the I.D. (student/faculty/military etc.) must be present when purchasing the tickets.

### **WHERE TO PURCHASE TICKETS FOR A SHOW:**

The UTEP Ticket Center – Main Location

2901 N. Mesa El Paso, Texas 79902

Monday-Friday: 8 A.M.-6 P.M.

Saturday: 8 A.M.-4.PM.

Closed on Sundays



(915) 747-5234

UTEP Ticket Center – Union East Location

Union Building East, Room 111 (1st Floor)

Hours of Operation

Open only Fall & Spring Semesters Monday - Friday: 9am - 2pm

(Hours subject to change)

## **FINAL PAPER**

You are required to prove that you have successfully reached the learning outcome as stated in the syllabus, which is:

- Through practice students will understand the skills needed to execute the technical side of a production and or generating, developing and maintaining the audience and front of house.

Write a well-written 2-3 page paper answering the following questions:

1. What new skills did you learn while completing your practicum?  
What skills did you improve while completing your practicum?
2. How do you think the work that you performed during your practicum impacted this semester's productions?
3. How would these productions be different if you had not contributed?
4. How might some of the tasks affect future productions?

Formatting

- Name at top
- Times New Roman 12pt
- Double Spaced
- 1" Margins

**Submit in blackboard through the Final Paper link on the course homepage. Due by 5pm, May 3rd - No late work will be accepted.**

### **Academic Dishonesty:**

Any student who commits an act of academic dishonesty is subject to discipline.

Academic

dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for

credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person without giving sufficient credit, taking an examination for another person, or any act designed

to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts. Any form of academic dishonesty will NOT be tolerated in this course.

### **Chosen Names and Personal Pronouns:**

Everyone has the right to be addressed by the name and pronouns that correspond to their gender identity, including non-binary pronouns, for example: they/them/theirs, ze/zir/zirs, etc. Rosters do not list gender or pronouns so you may be asked to indicate your pronouns and chosen name. Chosen names and pronouns are to be respected at all times in the classroom. Mistakes in addressing one another may happen, so I encourage an environment of openness to correction and learning. I will not, however, tolerate repeated comments which disrespect or antagonize students who have indicated pronouns or a chosen name. If at any point during the semester you would like to be addressed differently, please let me know.

### **Center for Accommodations and Support Service:**

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship on the

University. Students requesting accommodation based on a disability must register with the UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS). Contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 915-747-5148, or email them at [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu), or apply for accommodations online via the CASS portal.

**Disclaimer:**

**This syllabus is subject to change if the instructor finds it is necessary for student success. Any changes and adjustments will be communicated with students.**

**Illnesses:**

Please stay home if you have symptoms of a communicable illness. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, so that we can work on appropriate accommodations if possible.