

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 2026

Initial Meeting: Friday 12:30 at 14:00 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. May 7th on Blackboard
 - Show crew (e-mail me for the show schedule)
 - 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.
- Your final reflection paper is due the day before dead day, May 7th 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.

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 7th - 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, 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.