

THEA 3305

Lighting and Sound Principles

Fall 2022

Instructor: Marissa A. Díaz, MFA

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Office: Fox Fine Arts D172

Class Time: T|TH 10:30am – 11:50am

Office Hours: By appointment only on: T & TH 8:30am-10am | Virtual meetings may also be scheduled

Email: mddiaz2@utep.edu

Office Phone: 747.7851

Classroom: D180

Credits: 3

Required Text:

No textbook is required for this course. All material for this course will come directly from lectures and videos during class time. Lectures will NOT be uploaded onto Blackboard, so please be attentive, listen, and take notes if needed.

Technology Requirements:

- Microsoft Word/Google Docs (PDFs may be generated through Microsoft Word/Google Docs) will be needed for the class. If you do not have a word-processing software, you can download Word and other Microsoft Office programs (including Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and more) for free via UTEP's Microsoft Office Portal link below:
https://www.utep.edu/technologysupport/ServiceCatalog/SOFTWARE_PAGES/soft_microsoftoffice365.html
- Adobe Reader – <http://get.adobe.com/reader/>

Course Description:

This course will provide students with essential knowledge, skills, and practice of lighting and sound technology in the world of theatre. Students will apply the fundamental concepts, applications, and vocabulary for elements of theatrical lighting and sound technology.

Course Objectives:

- Students will learn and understand the basic knowledge and practice of theatre lighting and sound.
- Students will learn about the fundamental processes, organization, execution, safety procedures, mechanics, and equipment of lighting and sound technology.
- Students will have exposure to hands on activities that will demonstrate understanding of concepts in lighting and sound design.

Course Policies:

- It is the responsibility of the student to fulfill all the course requirements to the best of their abilities. If a student is unclear about anything on the syllabus, they should seek clarification from the instructor.
- Attendance is factored into the grade for this course. You will earn points for being present during class meeting times and will not earn anything on days you are absent. Timeliness and presence are also crucial in the performing arts; therefore, if you enter the classroom 15 minutes late or more, you will be counted as absent.
- Absences that will be excused are those for students representing the university in officially recognized university activities. The students must provide the instructor with written notice from the sponsoring faculty or staff member prior to the event. In addition, a student may also be excused for observance of a religious holy day and for the time needed to travel for said holy day.
- If you are sick or test positive for COVID-19, please send me an email with a positive COVID-19 test result or a doctor's note and I will be in touch/make accommodations if possible.
- Students are expected to maintain a classroom environment, which is conducive to learning. To assure all students have an opportunity to benefit from time spent in class, students are **prohibited from using cell phones** in class unless otherwise approved by the instructor.

- Students may take notes on iPads or tablets with a pen or stylus, but usage of laptops is not permitted.
- No earphones, ear buds/air pods are allowed on while in the classroom.
- **Late work will not be accepted, no exceptions.** If a deadline is missed, the student will receive a zero as a grade for that project or assignment.
- Students must behave in accordance with all rules put forth by the Handbook of Operating Procedures of the University of Texas at El Paso.

Course Communication:

- **Email:** UTEP e-mail is the best way to contact me. I will make every attempt to respond in a timely manner to your e-mail within 24-48 hours of receiving. Please be sure to e-mail me from your UTEP student account and include the course number or title in the subject line, along with your first and last name. **IF YOU DO NOT PUT THE COURSE NUMBER OR TITLE IN THE SUBJECT LINE, I WILL NOT RESPOND.**
- **Discussion Board:** If you have a question that you feel other students may also have, please feel free to post it on the Help Board of the discussion boards inside Blackboard. Please respond to other students' questions if you have a helpful response or solution.
- **Announcements:** Please check Blackboard announcements frequently for updates, deadline changes, or other important messages.
- **Cell Phone:** You may text me; however, you must include your name and which class you are in. You may contact me via cell at any time during the week, but not on weekends unless it is an emergency.
- **Video Calls/Meetings:** Video calls or meetings may be set up as needed throughout the semester.

Netiquette

As we know, sometimes communication online can be challenging. It's possible to miscommunicate what we mean or to misunderstand what our classmates mean given the lack of body language and immediate feedback. Therefore, please keep these netiquette (network etiquette) guidelines in mind. Failure to observe them may result in disciplinary action.

- Always consider audience. This is a college-level course; therefore, all communication should reflect polite consideration of others' ideas.
- Respect and courtesy must be provided to classmates and to the instructor at all times. No harassment or inappropriate postings will be tolerated.
- When reacting to someone else's message, address the ideas, not the person. Post only what anyone would comfortably state in face-to-face situation.
- Blackboard is not a public internet venue; all postings to it should be considered private and confidential. Whatever is posted online in these online spaces is intended for classmates and professor only. Please do not copy documents and paste them to a publicly accessible website, blog, or other space.

Sharing of Material on Social Media

All the materials—written, audio and visual—shared within this course remain within this course. You can share on your social media your own materials if the only person that appears or the only author is you. If you want to share content that includes or is co-authored with other classmates, you need to write them AND the instructor to discuss the authorization.

Helpful Resources:

Technical Support

If you do not know how to use Blackboard or have technical issues with Library access – visit the Technology Support Center located in the Library at Room 300. You can contact the Help Desk via email, helpdesk@utep.edu, by phone 747-5257. Hours are M-F 7a-8p, Sat 9a-10p and Sun 12-4pm.

Students with Disabilities Policy:

If you have or suspect a disability and need an accommodation, you should contact The Cass Office at 747-5148 or at cass@utep.edu or go to Room 106 Union East Building.

UTEP Writing Center

To get help with writing please check out the writing center – their procedure has changed due to the virus and you must plan ahead. <https://www.utep.edu/uwc/>

Student Health Center

UTEP Student Health Center is here to meet the health care needs of all students so they can focus on their studies. As a student you have paid a medical service fee that allows you to be seen at the clinic as often as needed. Office visits are low cost as well as medications, supplies and any needed lab tests (747-5624).

University Counseling Center

The UTEP University Counseling Center located at 202 Union West can assist you to decide on a career or work through personal concerns. They provide confidential counseling services, assist with stress management, and offer an after-hours crisis support line (747-5302).

Copyright Statement <https://www.copyright.gov/title17/92chap5.html>

Some of the materials in this course are copyrighted. Copying of textbooks is not “fair use” under the Copyright Act. Your cooperation is expected.

Scholastic Integrity:

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the [Handbook of Operating Procedures: Student Affairs](#). It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports.

Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another as ones' own. Collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. All suspected violations of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso must be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR) for possible disciplinary action. To learn more, please visit <https://www.utep.edu/hoop/section-2/student-conduct-and-discipline.html>

I expect all your work to be original, as I do read all of your work.

Subject Matter:

The performing arts have a power to stir strong emotions, or possibly touch on subjects you might not feel comfortable watching or reading. If you have concerns about any of plays or discussing specific subjects, please reach out to me as soon as possible to discuss possible accommodations. As I will respect your individual rights to choose what plays you work on, I expect all our discussions—including any that may occur outside of class—to be conducted in a respectful and professional matter.

Disclaimer:

Information contained in this syllabus, other than the grade and absence policy, is subject to change with advance notice as deemed appropriate by the instructor to enhance learning opportunities. All changes will be clearly communicated.

Projects:

Students are responsible of turning in the assignments on time, even if they may be absent on the due date. Students may turn in projects early, if approved by the professor. *Projects are due at 11:59pm on the due date on Blackboard, unless otherwise noted by the professor.* Detailed project and assignment instructions will also be available on Blackboard as they are assigned. Please give yourself plenty of time to do the project and ask questions ahead of time. If you ask questions the night before the project due date or the date the projects are due, you may not see the reply until after the deadline.

- Late work will not be accepted.
- If work appears it was done as a group or with a partner, you will all receive a zero and be turned over for your student conduct.

Project #1: Sunrise & Sunset Observation Paper

Students will observe and review a sunset and sunrise this semester. You will write about how the sunlight looks in the sky and how it affects the world around you. Students will submit a (1 ½ - 2) page, double spaced paper using 12pt. Times New Roman font that includes descriptions on colors in the skies, highlights & shadows, textures, and feelings that this phenomenon offers you. *You must see both sunset and sunrise to compare the difference of the two.* Please be specific about the day, time, and location you are observing and include photos. No photos from previous sunrises/sunsets may be used for this assignment. Students must use terminologies and subjects about the qualities of light learned in class.

Project #2: DMX Addressing

Students will be provided with an Instrument Schedule for (2) electrics of LEDs and moving lighting fixtures. Students must research each type of fixture in order to determine the number of addresses required per light and assign each light with a universe and address. Students will submit an Instrument Schedule with the addresses/universe columns assigned and populated, along with the data sheets for each fixture to demonstrate correct addressing and resourcefulness.

Project #3: Hang, Circuit, & Patch

Students will be randomly selected to either go on Hang Day 1 or Hang Day 2 and stand by to individually demonstrate the ability to hang, circuit, and patch a lighting fixture in the theatre. Students must show up on the day they are selected. If they do not show up on their assigned day, they will not receive credit for this project.

1. Students must safely hang lights on the appropriate position based on the plot provided.
2. Students must circuit the lights and provide power to them.
3. Students must successfully patch the light fixture in the lighting console to have control of it from the light board.

Project #4: Lighting Focus

Students will be randomly selected to either go on Focus Day 1 or Focus Day 2 and stand by to individually demonstrate the ability to identify parts of a fixture and successfully focus a light in the theater. Students will adjust the fixture based on the direction given by the instructor and provide proper communication.

Project #5: Sound Foley Project

Recording a sound "Foley" project.

1. Student will use a phone recording app or laptop to record 4 sound effects.
2. Each sound effect must be long enough to be able to identify what it is.
3. As example video states, be creative and use what you have already around the house.
4. Please upload your 4 sound effects onto Blackboard.
5. *If you want to go all out, create a video that goes with your sound effect. Each video will receive 5 extra credit points.*

You will have 1 quiz on lighting elements and 1 quiz on sound elements.

You will have 1 exam on lighting elements that is partially written and partially hands on and 1 hands on exam for sound.

Extra Credit Options:

1. Lighting/Sound Shop Hours:

Students may come in and volunteer hours in the lighting and sound shops and earn extra credit points. Each hour worked is (2) points, for example: if you volunteer (10) hours, you will receive 20pts. The shop hours are **Monday through Friday from 12:30-5:00pm** at the Wise Family Theater or the June Sadowski Kruszewski Studio Theater. If you are interested in this option, you must complete the required safety training. Attached to the syllabus is a time sheet where you can fill out your name and hours. If you are putting in shop hours for extra credit, your time sheet must be stored in the binder at the scene shop. Should your time sheet be lost or misplaced, you will need to start your hours over.

*****Your last day to complete any hours for extra credit December 1st, the last day before dead day*****

2. Build a Lighting Practical

Students who choose to may build a lighting practical for an additional 50 points. The following criteria must be met:

- a. It must be connected to an Edison plug
- b. It must have a lamp
- c. It must have a switch
- d. It must work when presented to the instructor

*****The final day to present this working practical is December 1st, the last day of class.*****

3. Departmental Show Review on Lighting and Sound Designs

Should students feel comfortable at this time, they may attend (1) UTEP production of your choice. The following productions will be produced this semester: *The Rocky Horror Picture Show – Live on Stage!* at the UTEP Dinner Theater, *Zoot Suit* at the Wise Family Theater, and *Borderline* at the June Sadowski Kruszewski Studio Theater. Students must submit a (2) page minimum, double spaced review using 12pt. Times New Roman font that includes observations and critiques on the functions of lighting and sound design for one of these productions. A show ticket and program must also be included in the submission of this assignment. Terminology from class and the textbook is expected within the review

*****The final day to submit this review is December 1st, the last day of class.*****

4. Lighting Installation Observations

Students are welcomed and encouraged to visit lighting installation/light art exhibits in the El Paso area or in other areas.

Students must submit photo proof of the exhibit along with a 1 page paper double spaced, 12pt. Times New Roman font stating their experience in the exhibit. How did you feel? How long were you in there? Can you imagine standing in that room and only experience either lights or sound and how would that experience differ from what you felt at your visit? What did you think about the design of the space? Write about your observations.

Grading Breakdown:

Attendance	36 pts
Project #1-Sunrise & Sunset Paper	20 pts
Project #2-DMX Addressing	20 pts
Project #3-Hang, Circuit, & Patch	90 pts
Project #4-Lighting Focus	50 pts
Project #5-Sound Foley	80 pts
Quiz #1-Plot Reading	20 pts
Quiz #2-Sound Diagram	20 pts
Lighting/Wiring Exam	100 pts
Sound Set Up Exam	100 pts
TOTAL POINTS:	536 pts

Extra Credit:

Shop Hours	50 pts
Lighting Practical	25 pts
Department Show Review Paper	25 pts
Lighting Installation Observations	25 pts

Final Letter Grade Breakdown:

A	536-482
B	481-429
C	428-375
D	374-348
F	347-0

THEA 3305 Lighting and Sound Principles Fall 2022 Schedule

Date	Synopsis	Project Assignment	Projects/Quiz Due
T-08/23	-	Assign Introduction Discussion Board	
Th-08/25	-		Introduction Discussion Board Due 8/27 by 11:59pm
T-08/30	Course Introduction Review Syllabus What is Lighting Design? Who is on Team Lighting?		
Th-09/01	No Class – Department Town Hall		
T-09/06	Who is on Team Lighting? Real World Lighting Applications Qualities of Light	Assign Project #1 - Sunrise/Sunset	
Th-09/08	Lighting Technology: Fixtures Fixture Parts Lamps and Accessories Datasheets		
T-09/13	Lighting Technology: Color Theory Color Gels		Project #1 Due
Th-09/15	Lighting Technology: Rigging Hang and Focus Theatre Tour		
T-09/20	Lighting Technology: Power and Dimming Electricity and Cables Cable Coiling		
Th-09/22	Lighting Technology: Channels DMX Universes & Patching	Assign Project #2- DMX Addressing	
T-09/27	Lighting Technology: Channels DMX Universes & Patching		
Th-09/29	Lighting Technology: Movers and LED's Consoles		
T-10/04	How to Read a Plot and Paperwork	Assign Project #3 & 4-Hang and Focus Days 1 & 2	Project #2-DMX Addressing Due
Th-10/06	Quiz#1 Plot Reading Design Choices/Process		Quiz #1-Plot Reading
T-10/11	Hang Day 1		Project #3 Hang, Circuit, & Patch Group 1
Th-10/13	Hang Day 2		Project #3 Hang, Circuit, & Patch Group 2

Date	Synopsis	Project Assignment	Projects/Quiz Due
T-10/18	Focus Day 1		Project #4- Lighting Focus for Group 1
Th-10/20	Focus Day 2		Project #4- Lighting Focus for Group 2
T-10/25	Lighting Wrap Up/Review		
Th-10/27	Lighting/Wiring Exam		
T-11/01	What is Sound Design? Who is on Team Sound?		
Th-11/03	Sound Technology: Qualities and Properties of Sound		
T-11/08	Sound Technology: Recording and Playback Digital Interfaces		
Th-11/10	Sound Technology: Inputs Wireless and Wired Microphones Instruments Digital Devices Balanced and Unbalanced Cables	Assign Project #5- Sound Foley	
T-11/15	Sound Technology: Outputs Amplifiers Speakers Self Powered Speakers EQ Effects Auxiliaries & Records Monitors		
Th-11/17	Sound Technology: Clear Com Mixers		
T-11/22	Sound Technology: Sound System Diagram Sound System Set Up Explanation		Project #5 Due
Th-11/24	Sound Technology: Sound System Diagram Sound System Set Up Explanation Quiz #2-Sound Diagram		Quiz #2-Sound Diagram
T-11/29	Sound Set Up Exam		
Th-12/1	Sound Set Up Exam		

