

Technical Theatre II

2012–2013 Course Syllabus

Instructor: Mr. Aaron Stahlecker

Course Description:

Technical Theatre II will build on the knowledge and skills gained in Technical Theatre I. In this course students will investigate several areas of production and design from both practical and theoretical bases. We will examine in greater depth the computerized, electrical and mechanical systems in the theatre and scene shop as well as the many different crew positions associated with a theatrical production. A student who successfully completes Tech Theatre II will be able to operate all the systems that make up the PAC, as well as provide leadership to others. Much of the course will be self-paced and will require a great deal of motivation. At least half of the class will be conducted as a laboratory setting, giving students the opportunity to employ the knowledge and skills learned in the classroom. Demonstrations and discussion will be an essential part of the class, making student participation very important. Active, consistent participation will be crucial to the success of each student, as well as the program. **Students will be required to participate in at least 1 major production and two concert productions per semester.** Your grade in this course is largely based on your participation in the events in the Performing Arts Center's theaters.

Textbooks:

There is no assigned textbook for this course, however, assignments may require that students research and report on assigned reading from books, handouts, and/or periodicals. We will occasionally refer to *Scene Design and Stage Lighting*, 8th ed. by Parker, Smith & Block. These books are maintained as a class set.

Materials:

All students must bring a loose-leaf folder with paper for note-taking and pockets for storing handouts. Each student is required to bring with them to class their tech folder and a pen or pencil. **To protect your feet from a variety of hazards in the theaters and shops you must wear closed-toe shoes that cover your entire foot during every class and at every crew call – Have them on at the beginning of class!** Lockers in the dressing room can be issued to store work clothes. Be prepared to work every day, with all the materials you need.

Attendance:

Tardies and absences will be handled according to school policy. Please be on time for class each day!

Grading:

Nine-weeks grade is weighted as follows:

Class Participation, Quiz & Daily Grades:	60%
Tests & Production Work:	40%

The semester average is determined as follows:

1 st nine weeks average:	45%
2 nd nine weeks average:	45%
Final exam:	10%

Late work may be turned in one class period late for a maximum grade of 70, up to three times per semester. Failure to come to class with materials required to participate in class will result in a daily participation grade of 0. **Students are required to work at least one major production, and two concert events each semester, as well as complete 10 hours (for the year) in the Shop after school.** Students are encouraged to work all major productions. Once a student signs their name to a production sign-up sheet, they are committing to attend all calls listed on the sheet or production calendar. No-shows at a crew call will result in a failing grade for the production. Verifiable, legitimate emergencies, or conflicts that have been cleared with the teacher **before** the crew call will be exempt from this.

Academic Integrity:

Many of our activities are done in teams. However, individual assignments, quizzes and tests are expected to be completed solely and completely by the student whose name appears on the assignment. Plagiarism, collusion and/or

any other form of cheating will not be tolerated. The Honor Code is in full effect in this class. See the honor code for procedures.

Course Requirements:

- 1) **Class Participation:** Due to the interactive nature of the material presented in this course, **active and appropriate** class participation is essential! Students are expected to remain quiet while an instructor or student is speaking. Please raise your hand if you have something to contribute. Students will automatically receive a daily participation grade of 100. Those students who choose not to participate in class discussions, demonstrations and activities or choose to disrupt the class will receive a grade of zero for that day. Failure to wear appropriate shoes to class will also be grounds for receiving a grade of zero for the day. I will verbally notify any student who receives a zero. The final class participation grade is the average of the days the student was present.
- 2) **Assignments:** A project will be assigned approximately every three weeks. These projects are designed to give students the opportunity to apply the knowledge learned in class to practical theatrical applications and are, therefore, very important. Projects that are not completed on the due date will be penalized one letter grade. All projects **must** be completed and turned in for the student to receive a grade in this course.
- 3) **Quizzes:** Students will take a short objective quiz once every 1-2 weeks. These quizzes are designed to help students stay caught up on the information presented in class and to evaluate each student's understanding of the material.
- 4) **Tests:** Tests may consist of essay and objective questions, however, not all tests will be written. Major projects and participation in productions will be counted as test scores.
- 5) **Shop Work Hours: students are required 10 hours in the shop throughout the entire year. Builds will stop at the commencement of our last Production in March.**
- 6) **Extra Credit:** Students may earn extra credit by working production/shop hours over and above the hours required for this course.

Successful theatrical productions rely on the good leadership qualities of experienced crew members. During productions and crew calls, you will be expected to display appropriate behavior and act as a role model to the Tech I students. The PAC and all of the equipment housed therein is your property. Please take ownership and protect our investment. The money we save by properly caring for our facility and equipment, allows us to purchase additional equipment and technology.

Classroom Management Guidelines:

In my classroom, I have the following expectations:

I will not tolerate any student stopping me from teaching or another student from learning.

I will not tolerate any student engaging in any behavior that is not in his or her best interest or in the best interest of others.

You have a choice: Follow the rules and enjoy the class, or misbehave and accept the consequences of your actions.

The rules are for you and your fellow student's safety! There are no exceptions.

All students will read thoroughly and sign the Safety Memo. Signing this agreement means that you will follow ALL safety rules & procedures ALL the time! These rules are in place to keep you and your constituents safe!

Contact Information:

Office phone: 533-5948

E-mail: Stahleckera@ltidschools.org

My office is located in L104.2. If I am not in my office, I may be in the theaters, scene shop or my classroom (L104A). Should your parents need to get in touch with you during a crew call, they may leave a message on my office phone or call the Stage Manager's phone at 533-5942.

Students and parents who have questions or concerns about this course, or who have extenuating circumstances that should be considered, are encouraged to come and talk with me. I am available for conferences by appointment. I'm looking forward to a successful semester!

Thank you! *-Aaron Stahlecker*

Syllabus Acknowledgement:

Parents & Students: Please sign below acknowledging that you have read the syllabus and understand the nature of the course, course requirements (including that all students without exception must wear close-toed & close-heeled shoes during every class), and expectations for behavior.

Parent Signature

Date

Parent Name (Print)

Student Signature

Date

Student Name (Print)