

TECHNICAL THEATRE III & IV

2019-2020 Course Syllabus

Instructor: Mr. K.J. Bartosh

“But at rare moments, in the long quiet hours of light-rehearsals, a strange thing happens. We are overcome by a realization of the livingness of light. Lucidity, penetration, awareness, discovery, inwardness, wonder... These are the qualities we should try to achieve in our lighting. Does this mean we are to carry images of poetry and vision and high passion in our minds while we are shouting to our electricians on ladders in light-rehearsals? Yes. This is what it means”

-*The Dramatic Imagination* by Robert Edmond Jones

Course Description:

Technical Theatre III & IV will build on the knowledge and skills gained in Technical Theatre II. In this course students will investigate several areas of production and design from both practical and theoretical bases. Production management and leadership will be a topic woven through the year. 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 III & IV will be able to operate all the systems that make up the PAC. Much of the course will be self-paced and will require a great deal of motivation. Much 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.

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 the student handbook. Please be on time for class each day!

Grading:

Nine-weeks grade is weighted as follows:

Classwork, Participation & Quiz Grades: 40%

Tests & **Production Work**: 60%

The semester average is determined as follows:

1st nine weeks average: 45%

2nd 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 will be required to participate in at least most major productions, two other events (per semester). Because of the laboratory nature of the class, students must be at a minimum of one work call per week on weeks where work calls are held.

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) **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.
- 3) **Projects & Tests:** Tests may consist of essay and objective questions, however, not all tests will be written. 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 complete on the due date will be penalized one letter grade. This is where the quality of your work during productions and at after school builds will be evaluated.
- 4) **Extra Credit:** Students may earn extra credit by working production hours over and above the hours required for this course.
- 5) **Retesting:** Students who prepare for assigned work and assessments, and do not demonstrate mastery are encouraged to arrange for tutorials with me, and then demonstrate the additional knowledge learned. Students may earn up to half of the points they missed on the first attempt up to a 90.

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: 533-6175

E-mail: BartoshK@Itisdschools.org

Office: L123 (Upstairs, next to PAC Lobby)

Should your parents need to get in touch with you during a crew call, 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!