

stage costume construction--syllabus

Course No: THEA 340, 3 credit hours
Class Time: Mon. & Wed. 10:20-12:25

Shura Pollatsek's Contact info:

Office: FAC 116, phone 745-2306
email: shura.pollatsek@wku.edu

Professor: Shura Pollatsek
Class Location FAC 307

Office Hours:

M&W 9-10am, T&R 11-12am
or by appointment

you can also find me most afternoons in the Costume Shop, to chat informally!
Costume Shop phone: 745-6268

course objectives

The aim of this course is to provide an over-all look at the technical side of stage costuming, with an emphasis on construction. There will be as much hands-on practice as possible, as this is a craft learned by doing. By the end of the semester you will have a general understanding of the costuming process and have learned skills related to the making and preparing costumes for performance. Topics covered will include:

- basic instruction in sewing
- making and fitting two articles of clothing
- an understanding of the entire costuming process
- a brief overview of patterning, fabrics, clothing terminology, pulling, and fitting

NOTE: This course must be taken concurrently with a section of Rehearsal and Production (PERF 121, 220, 221, 320, 321, 420 or 421)

required supplies

There is no text for this class. There will be a few short hand-outs

On the first day of class, you will learn about the packet of supplies you need to buy.

and you will need a carrying container—a soft zip pencil case or toiletry bag is good
PUT YOUR NAME OR INITIALS ON EVERYTHING

YOU WILL ALSO BUY YOUR OWN FABRIC FOR THE SHORTS/PJ PROJECT

This will all cost less than most text books

class attendance

This is a hands-on class. **ATTENDANCE IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT!**

Missing class, arriving late, or being physically present but mentally absent will affect your grade.
CEL PHONES, PAGERS, ETC—MUST BE OFF

Three absences from class will be forgiven during the semester without a documented excuse. However, you will still be penalized for late work and responsible for making up work you miss, at my convenience, not yours. Please save these “free passes” for an unavoidable problem, and don't blow them early in the semester as vacation days. **Also, remember class participation points are lost whether excused or not, and these can not be made up!**

ABSENCES: the 4th unexcused absence costs you 5% of your total semester's points
the 5th unexcused absence—10%
6th unexcused absence—15%
7th unexcused absence—20%
more than 8 can jeopardize your chances of passing the class

EXCUSED ABSENCES:

I will excuse absences in the case of serious illness, emergency, or death in the family. You may be required to furnish written proof, such as a doctor's note, obituary, etc. Approved university activities will be excused if you notify me in advance, and make arrangements to cover the work you will miss.

TARDINESS: (not being present at the very start of class, ready to work)

Four unexcused tardies will equal one unexcused absence. Being more than a few minutes late will also hurt your participation points for the day.

grade components

CLASS PARTICIPATION- 3 per class

being late, absent (even with excuse), disruptive or inattentive will cost you points

QUIZZES (6)—10 points each—60 total

these are simple quizzes to make sure you are retaining information

SMALL ASSIGNMENTS & HOMEWORK (pull and fit,, sleeve patterning, etc)-5 pts ea

BASIC TECHNIQUES-15 points

Your grade will be based on successful completion of required skills

QUILT SQUARE PROJECT—25 points

SHORTS/PJ PROJECT—35 points

PERIOD SHIRT PROJECT—45 points

FINAL EXAM--40 points

Project grades will be based on skills, effort, and overall appearance.

Late assignments will lose 10% of the assignment's value (one letter grade) per day they are late.

It is the student's responsibility to keep track of material and assignments missed, and make arrangements to make up work and quizzes. I want you to make up missed work, but it is your responsibility to talk to me—I will not chase you down!

Missed quizzes may be made up, at my discretion. The same penalty applies as for late work, minus 10% per day—DO make them up, but DON'T put it off!!!

You are welcome to come in during afternoon hours to finish up projects, just please check ahead of time with me or Cassandra

grading formula	approx.	approx. %
<u>Activity</u>	<u>point value</u>	<u>of total grade</u>
Participation	87	25%
Quizzes	60	18%
Small Assignments	25	8%
Basic Techniques	15	5%
Quilt Square	25	8%
Shorts/PJ	35	10%
Period Shirt	45	14%
Final Exam	<u>40</u>	<u>12%</u>
total	332	100%

A=90-100%, B=80-89%, C=70-79%, D=60-69, F=59 or below

other policies

CEL PHONES AND OTHER NOISE MAKERS—please keep them off during class!

INCOMPLETES

Incompletes will be granted only under very extreme circumstances.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Any cheating or plagiarizing on assignments or quizzes will cause zero points for said assignment, and possibly failure of the course for grave offenses.

DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic adjustments and /or auxiliary aids or services) for this course must contact the Office for Student Disability Services, Downing University Center, A-200. The OFSDS telephone number is (270) 745-5004 V/TDD.

Per university policy, please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a letter of accommodation from the Office for Student Disability Services.

CHANGES

I reserve the right to make reasonable changes to the syllabus, including schedule, due dates, or points at any time. Changes will be announced with sufficient warning for you to plan ahead.

SCHEDULE—STAGE COSTUME CONSTRUCTION—FALL 2007

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPICS/CLASSWORK</u>	<u>DUE</u>
8/27	LECTURE/DEMO -life cycle of a costume syllabus discuss PJ/shorts fabric buying ASSIGN-buy personal supplies & pj/short fabric	
8/29	LECT/DEMO-costume design and sketches intro to costume dept. and shop how to run wardrobe!!	read handouts
9/3	NO CLASS! LABOR DAY	
9/5	LECT/DEMO intro to the sewing machine WORK-begin basic techniques exercises-machine	course supplies
9/10	QUIZ-costume department overview, wardrobe LECT/DEMO-measuring people WORK-measure a partner WORK-continue basic techniques	study for quiz PJ fabric
9/12	LECT/DEMO-hand sewing WORK-continue basic techniques	
9/17	WORK—continue basic techniques	
9/19	LECT/DEMO-- QUILT PROJECT go over costume terms handout WORK--design, get approval of quilt squares	
note—cut pj's during 2 hours of crew time this week (week of 9/24)		
9/24	QUIZ—basic costume shop terms LECT/DEMO—intro to cutting WORK- quilt squares	study for quiz basic techniques
9/26	WORK—quilt squares	
10/1	critique quilt squares ASSIGN—clothing terms glossary	quilt square
10/3	LECT/DEMO-clothing assembly WORK-work on pj/shorts	cut pj due
10/8	LECT/DEMO- fittings and mock ups WORK-fit PJ shorts	clothing glossary

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPICS/CLASSWORK</u>	<u>DUE</u>
10/10	WORK--finishing work on pj/shorts ASSIGN—discuss shirt project and fabric buying	
10/15	LECTURE/DEMO-NON-BUILT CLOTHES: sizing clothes Types of clothing, period shapes and fits WORK--“style” outfits to pull next class	-pj/shorts -read glossary handout
10/17	WORK- PULL AND FIT an outfit in-class assignment-- **NOTE—MEET AT COSTUME STORAGE-2 nd floor GWH	detailed written outfit description
(**cut shirts in crew week of 10/22—2 hours of crew time!)		
10/22	QUIZ—fitting/measuring clothes, types of clothing LECT/DEMO—Review cutting techniques LECT/DEMO—FITTINGS AND ALTERATIONS WORK-in-class assignment—fit clothes, pin alterations	study for quiz shirt fabric
10/24	LECT/DEMO—draping and patterning	
10/29	LECT/DEMO- pattern adaptation WORK –in-class exercise—sleeve pattern adaptation	
10/31	WORK—in-class assignment—Fabrications	read handout “honesty” quiz
11/5	LECT/DEMO—review terminology of fibers and fabrications WORK--in-class exercise—try out draping different textures	sleeve ex due
11/7	LECT/DEMO-dying, painting, distressing	
11/12	QUIZ—fabrications LECT/DEMO—advanced construction techniques WORK-work on shirts— begin assembly	cut shirt due study for quiz
11/14	WORK--construction of shirts	
11/19	QUIZ—advanced costume terms WORK--construction of shirts	study for quiz

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPICS/CLASSWORK</u>	<u>DUE</u>
11/21	NO CLASS --THANKSGIVING BREAK!!	
11/26	WORK-construction of shirts LECT/DEMO-finishing and closures	
11/28	WORK--finishing work on shirts	
12/3	WORK—finishing shirts	
12/5	WORK—finishing shirts	
FINAL—MONDAY DECEMBER 10TH, 10:30AM		
	FINAL PROJECT DUE—present finished shirt, model, take photos	shirt due
	FINAL EXAM—life cycle of a costume	
	costume terms	
	concepts of costume construction	
	fabrications, types of clothing, etc	