

393B Advanced Scenic Design Studio

Syllabus

Spring 2021

MWF 11:00-11:50 Rm 0338 Design Lab Carver Hall

Instructor:

Robert Sunderman

Office: 0314 Carver Hall

Text: 515-689-2245 E-mail: rsunder@iastate.edu

Hours: MWF 10:00-10:50 & TTH 11:00-11:50 by appointment only

Credit: 3

Text: (optional)

Scenic Art for the Theatre by Susan Crabtree & Peter Beudert, ISBN 0-240-80462-7

Course Objective:

Design Studio 393B is intended to give advanced students in scenic design the ability to do in depth study of the design technical and creative aspects of scenic design process. This class focuses on specific techniques of model building and rendering. After the projects have been selected, the student with the instructors will set deadlines for the various aspects of the design process. Class time will be spent in discussion, working on projects, field trips and reviewing progress of the projects. Instruction for this class by the instructor will be done by discussion, in class demonstrations, fieldtrips, mentoring and monitoring the progress of these projects. Grading will be based on quality and execution of the design projects, participation, discussion, attendance, presentations of designs, project tardiness the understanding of a script and concept. Students will be expected to be able to draft, draw, build models, render sets and paint with some proficiency. Projects can be tied into scheduled productions if possible. These projects are intended to prepare student's portfolios for entry into graduate school and the professional world. You will also be expected to exhibit your design work towards the end of the semester.

Course Goals:

The student will acquire a basic understanding of a professional scenic designer's process and background.

The student will acquire the skills and knowledge of advances scenic design research.

The student will acquire the skills and knowledge of basic scenic design sketching and thumbnail drawings.

The student will acquire the skills and knowledge of combining the use of digital and hand drawn renderings and elevations.

The student will acquire the skills and knowledge of basic rendering.

The student will acquire the skills and knowledge of basic designer construction elevations and color elevations.

The student will acquire the skills and knowledge of basic white model and color model construction.

The student will acquire the skills and knowledge of communication and the conceptual process as a scenic designer.

The student will acquire the skills and knowledge of basic portfolio assemblage for a job applications or grad school.

The student will acquire the skills and knowledge analysis a script through the eye of a designer.

The student will acquire the skills and knowledge of basic skills to work with the director's concept in a collaborative way.

Related to ISU's Principles of Community: "Students are responsible for living the tenets established in ISU's Principles of Community: Respect, Purpose, Cooperation, Richness of Diversity, Freedom from discrimination, and the Honest and respectful expression of ideas. Visit ISU's Principles of Community webpage (<http://bit.ly/isuprinciples>)

Regarding name, gender identity and/or gender expression: "Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of accordingly early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records."

COVID-19 health and safety requirements:

Students are responsible for abiding by the university's [COVID-19 health and safety expectations](#). All students attending this class in-person are required to follow university [policy](#) regarding health, safety, and face coverings:

- wear a cloth face covering in all university classrooms, laboratories, studios, and other in-person instructional settings and learning spaces. Cloth face coverings are additionally required to be worn indoors in all university buildings, and outdoors when other people are or may be present where physical distancing of at least 6 feet from others is not possible. Students with a documented health or medical condition that prevents them from wearing a cloth face covering should consult with [Student Accessibility Services](#) in the Dean of Students Office.
- ensure that the cloth face covering completely covers the nose and mouth and fits snugly against the side of the face.
- practice physical distancing to the extent possible.
- assist in maintaining a clean and sanitary environment.
- not attend class if you are sick or experiencing symptoms of COVID-19.
- not attend class if you have been told to self-isolate or quarantine by a health official.
- follow the instructor's guidance with respect to these requirements. Failure to comply constitutes disruptive classroom conduct. Faculty and teaching assistants have the authority to deny a non-compliant student entry into a classroom, laboratory, studio, conference room, office, or other learning space.

These requirements extend outside of scheduled class time, including coursework in laboratories, studios, and other learning spaces, and to field trips. These requirements may be revised by the university at any time during the semester.

In accordance with university policy, instructors may use a face shield while they are teaching as long as they are able to maintain 8 feet of physical distance between themselves and students during the entire instructional period. Some form of face covering must be worn at all times in learning spaces regardless of the amount of physical distancing.

Faculty may refer matters of non-compliance to the Dean of Students Office for disciplinary action, which can include restrictions on access to, or use of, university facilities; removal from university housing; required transition to remote-only instruction; involuntary disenrollment from one or more in-person courses; and other such measures as necessary to promote the health and safety of campus.

It is important for students to recognize their responsibility in promoting the health and safety of the Iowa State University community, through actions both on- and off-campus. The university's faculty asks that you personally demonstrate a commitment to our [Cyclones Care campaign](#). Iowa State University's faculty support the Cyclones Care campaign and ask you personally to demonstrate a commitment to our campaign. Your dedication and contribution to the campaign will also protect your family, classmates, and friends, as well as their friends and families. Our best opportunity for a successful fall semester with in-person learning and extramural activities requires all of us to collaborate and fully participate in the Cyclones Care campaign.

Attendance Implications:

You will receive 5 points for each class you attend. If you come to class 20 minutes late or later you will not receive points for attending the class. There is a total of **210 points** for attendance during the semester. These are easy points to receive if you attend. You will receive 4 excused absences for illness, family issue or other class needs (**you must notify me ahead of the day of class**). When you go beyond 4 absences you will receive a notice from me. This policy will be adhered to stringently.

Requirements:

- Attendance in class is mandatory
- There will be a sign in sheet for each class
- Projects need to be turned in on time. Late projects will not be excepted
- Public exhibition of projects or portfolio at end of semester
- 2 scenic designs (this may change)
- 8-10 specific technical projects (the number will depend on project complexity)
- Research and copy a specific design rendering
- 1 final project

Schedule: (Dates Subject Location)

- 25 Jan Mon.
- Class intro
 - **ASSIGN: Scenic Designer research paper**
 - **ASSIGN: Model box** (Carver 0338 Design Lab)
- 27 Jan. Wed.
- Work in class
 - **DUE: Prelim Scenic designer background** (Carver 0338 Design Lab)
- 29 Jan. Fri.
- Work in class
 - **DUE: 5 Prelim Scenic Designer images** (Carver Design Lab or check-in via Webex)
- 1 Feb. Mon.
- Work on model box & check research project (Carver 0338 Design Lab)
- 3 Feb. Wed.
- Work on model box & check research project (Carver 0338 Design Lab)
- 5 Feb. Fri.
- Work on model box & check research project (Carver Design Lab or check-in via Webex)
- 8 Feb. Mon.
- Work in class on sketching
 - **ASSIGN: Sketching project** (Carver 0338 Design Lab)
- 10 Feb. Wed.
- Sketching project (Carver 0338 Design Lab)
- 12 Feb. Fri.
- **DUE: Model box**
 - **ASSIGN: Sketching/research project**
 - Work on sketching project (Carver 0338 Design Lab)
- 15 Feb. Mon.
- Sketch/research project in class (Carver 0338 Design Lab)
- 17 Feb. Wed.
- Sketch/research project in class (Carver 0338 Design Lab)
- 19 Feb. Fri.
- **DUE: Sketching/research project/review**
 - **ASSIGN: Color Rendering Project** (Carver 0338 Design Lab)

22 Feb. Mon.

- Work in class color rendering (Carver 0338 Design Lab)

24 Feb. Wed.

- Work in class color rendering project (Carver 0338 Design Lab)

26 Feb. Fri.

- Work in class color rendering project (Carver 0338 Design Lab)

1 Mar. Mon.

- Work in class color rendering project
- **ASSIGN: Elevation Project** (Carver 0338 Design Lab)

3 Mar. Wed.

- **DUE: Color rendering project**
- Work in class elevation project (Carver 0338 Design Lab)

5 Mar. Fri. Tiffany Johnson conversation about working with Designers and Directors

- **DUE: Scenic Designer research paper** (Carver 0338 Design Lab)

8 Mar. Mon.

- Work in class elevations
- **ASSIGN: White model/GP project** (Carver 0338 Design Lab)

10 Mar. Wed.

- **DUE: Elevation project**
- Work in class white model/GP project (Carver 0338 Design Lab)

12 Mar. Fri.

- Work in class white model/GP project (Carver 0338 Design Lab)

15 Mar. Mon.

- Work in class white model
- **ASSIGN: Color model** (Carver 0338 Design Lab)

17 Mar. Wed.

- Color model (Carver 0338 Design Lab)

19 Mar. Fri.

- Color model at home (check-in via Webex)

22 Mar. Mon.

- Color model (Carver 0338 Design Lab)

24 Mar. Wed.

- **DUE: Ground plan/white/color model**
- **ASSIGN: 1st Design project/Read Play** (Carver 0338 Design Lab)

26 Mar. Fri.

- **ASSIGN: 1st Design project** (Carver 0338 Design Lab)
- **DUE: white/color model/elevation**

29 Mar. Mon.

- Work on 1st design project (Carver 0338 Design Lab)
- **DUE: Play Read Script & Script analysis started (submit on Canvas)**

31 Mar. Wed.

- Work on 1st design project (Carver 0338 Design Lab)

2 April Fri.

- Work on 1st design project (Check-in via Webex)

5 April Mon.

- Work on 1st design project (Carver 0338 Design Lab)
- **DUE: Concept/analysis**

7 April Wed.

- Work on 1st design project (Carver 0338 Design Lab)

9 April Fri.

- **DUE: Prelim elevations/GP/research images**
- Work on 1st design project (Check-in via Webex)

12 April Mon.

- Work in class 1st design project (Carver 0338 Design Lab)

14 April Wed.

- Work in class 1st design project (Carver 0338 Design Lab)

16 April Fri.

- Work in class 1st design project (Carver 0338 Design Lab)

19 April Mon.

- **DUE: 1st Design Project and Presentation**
- **ASSIGN: Final Project** (Carver 0338 Design Lab)

21 April Wed.

- Work in class Final Design Project
- **DUE: Final Project Concept/Analysis** (Carver 0338 Design Lab)

23 April Fri.

- Work in class work Final Project (Carver 0338 Design Lab)

26 April Mon.

- Work in class work Final Project
- **DUE: Research, sketches & GP**
- (Carver 0338 Design Lab)

28 April Wed.

- Work in class work Final Project (Carver 0338 Design Lab)

30 April Fri.

- **DUE: White Model/Elevations**
- Work in class work Final Project (Carver 0338 Design Lab)

3 May Mon.

- **FINAL PROJECT PRESENTATION 9:45–11:45** (Carver 0338 Design Lab)

Supplies & Equipment:

1/4" Black foamboard: (ISU Bookstore) (theatre black box for model) (**will need 1st week of class**)

Glue: Elmers glue or Sobo Glue. (model)

Insta-Glue & Insta-Set (ISU bookstore only) (model) (**will need 1st week of class**)

Eraser: White drafting eraser or pink pearl eraser.

Sketching Pencils: Castell B2 or softer B4.

Drafting Pencils: Castell H2 (soft).

Rulers: 12" Stredtler **architect** scale ruler (**not metric**) (drafting & model) (**will need 1st week of class**)

Knife: Pro #1 Precision knife (model) (**will need 1st week of class**)

Brushes: Cotman One Stroke 3/4" watercolor brush (rendering & model)

Richeson 9000 #6, #3, and #0 watercolor brushes (model & rendering)

Paper: White 22" x 30" Arches watercolor paper #140 cold press \$4.30 sht. (final project renderings).

8" x 11" White typing paper (exercises).

2 sheets Black foamboard (model theatre box)

2ply & 3ply 18" x 24" Bristol white paper (models & rendering).

8" x 11" sketch notebook or larger.

18" x 24" or 12" x 16" watercolor paper (renderings)

Tape: Scotch Drafting tape (drafting and renderings)

Paint: Watercolor tube paint: cobalt blue or french ultramarine, cadmium red, gamboge hue (yellow), ivory black, chinese white (**these are not optional**), raw umber, burnt Sienna, permanent green or windsor green, permanent magenta, yellow ochre and cadmium orange (**these are optional**) per tube depending on the color. (exercises & renderings)

- Need to buy (group together it is cheaper that way).
- On line Dick Blick or Hobby Lobby usually have cheaper prices.

NOTE: The specific supplies for each design project will be announced before they are assigned.

Grades:

200 pts class participation, class discussions and exhibition

900 pts various process projects

200 pts research designers and copy project

400 pts 1st design project

400 pts final design project

210 pts class attendance

2310 Total Points (FYI This total could change during the semester because of Covid and schedule)

Free Expression:

Iowa State University supports and upholds the First Amendment protection of freedom of speech (<https://bit.ly/isu-freedomspeech>) and the principle of academic freedom (<https://bit.ly/regents-academicfreedom>) in order to foster a learning environment where open inquiry and the vigorous debate of a diversity of ideas are encouraged. Students will not be penalized for the content or viewpoints of their speech as long as student expression in a class context is germane to the subject matter of the class and conveyed in an appropriate manner.

Accessibility Statement:

Iowa State University is committed to assuring that all educational activities are free from discrimination and harassment based on disability status. Students requesting accommodations for a documented disability are required to work directly with staff in Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to establish eligibility and learn about related processes before accommodations will be identified. After eligibility is established, SAS staff will create and issue a Notification Letter for each course listing approved reasonable accommodations. This document will be made available to the student and instructor either electronically or in hard-copy every semester. Students and instructors are encouraged to review contents of the Notification Letters as early in the semester as possible to identify a specific, timely plan to deliver/receive the indicated accommodations. Reasonable accommodations are not retroactive in nature and are not intended to be an unfair advantage. Additional information or assistance is available online at <http://www.sas.dso.iastate.edu>, by contacting SAS staff by email at accessibility@iastate.edu, or by calling 515-294-7220. Student Accessibility Services is a unit in the Dean of Students Office located at 1076 Student Services Building.