

# TA 029: FABRICATION TECHNIQUES - PROPS, FURNITURE, AND DETAILED OBJECTS

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**Originator**

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**Justification / Rationale**

This course will expand the Technical Theatre Curriculum to include all of the basic disciplines required for employment in Technical Theatre Design and Production. The course will serve as a Foundational Course in a new Technical Theatre Certificate.

**Effective Term**

Spring 2023

**Credit Status**

Credit - Degree Applicable

**Subject**

TA - Theatre Arts

**Course Number**

029

**Full Course Title**

Fabrication Techniques - Props, Furniture, and Detailed Objects

**Short Title**

FABRICATION TECHNIQUES

**Discipline****Disciplines List**

Theater Arts

Stagecraft

**Modality**

Face-to-Face

**Catalog Description**

This course introduces the student to the processes and skill-sets that are used on a daily basis in the field of stage properties for Theatre, Film, Television, and Live Events. Topics covered include the design process, research methods, the study and execution of property construction, upholstery, molding, and casting. This course will also introduce students to the various facets of properties, as they relate to a Properties Master and a Properties Artisan or Designer.

**Schedule Description**

This course introduces the student to the processes and skill-sets that are used on a daily basis in the field of stage properties for theatre, film, television, and live events. Prerequisite: TA 009 - Concurrent enrollment with the prerequisite is acceptable with the instructor's approval.

**Lecture Units**

3

**Lecture Semester Hours**

54

**In-class Hours**

54

**Out-of-class Hours**

108

**Total Course Units**

3

**Total Semester Hours**

162

**Prerequisite Course(s)**

Prerequisite: TA 009 Concurrent enrollment with the prerequisite is acceptable with the instructor's approval.

**Required Text and Other Instructional Materials****Resource Type**

Book

**Open Educational Resource**

No

**Author**

Gillette, J. Michael

**Title**

Theatrical Design and Production: An Introduction to Scene Design and Construction, Lighting, Sound, Costume and Makeup

**Edition**

8th

**Publisher**

McGraw-Hill

**Year**

2020

**College Level**

Yes

**Flesch-Kincaid Level**

12

**ISBN #**

9781259922305

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**Class Size Maximum**

16

**Entrance Skills**

Clear examples of understanding the theatrical crafts including, but not limited to: Drafting, Hand and Power Tools, Materials, Carpentry, Scenic Construction, Scenic Painting, Props, Electrics, Sound, Soft goods, Costumes, Wardrobe

**Requisite Course Objectives**

TA 009-Identify the various crafts employed in theatre arts.

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**Entrance Skills**

Clear examples of contemporary construction techniques used in theatre and live performance, including carpentry, painting, sewing, electricity and sound technology.

**Requisite Course Objectives**

TA 009-Gain a working knowledge of contemporary construction techniques.

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**Entrance Skills**

Clear examples of experience working with hand and power tools, and stage equipment commonly used in the theatre.

**Requisite Course Objectives**

TA 009-Identify and operate tools and stage equipment.

**Entrance Skills**

Experience working on a theatrical performance in a technical capacity, either backstage or in the control booth

**Requisite Course Objectives**

TA 009-Plan and execute technical responsibilities with an emphasis on creative problem solving.

**Course Content**

1. Categories of properties
2. Creating the paperwork for properties
3. Budgeting props
4. Sourcing props
5. The prop list and prop plots
  - Play analysis
  - Historical requirements
  - Forming a design concept
  - Design principles
  - Developing the design
6. Health and safety procedures
7. Repairing and refinishing props
8. Flammable materials
9. Casting and mold making
10. Applications of drapery and soft goods
11. Upholstery techniques
12. Food
13. Creation of battery-operated light sources
14. Weaponry
15. Creations of animals for the stage
16. Aging, distressing, and weathering of props

**Course Objectives**

	<b>Objectives</b>
Objective 1	Identify and employ the basic techniques used in creating properties for the performing arts.
Objective 2	Identify, differentiate and employ the appropriate materials in order to create properties for a theatrical production.
Objective 3	Identify, differentiate and employ the appropriate tools in order to create properties for a theatrical production.
Objective 4	Describe and differentiate the relationship between the properties artisan and the production running crew relevant to a theatrical production.
Objective 5	Identify and employ correct safety procedures when using tools and materials relevant to the construction of properties for a theatrical production.
Objective 6	Create a prop plot for a production based on text analysis and physical production needs.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

	<b>Upon satisfactory completion of this course, students will be able to:</b>
Outcome 1	Demonstrate and employ the safe operation of hand & power tools.
Outcome 2	Employ property fabrication materials and techniques, and appraise and evaluate the drawings and paperwork necessary for property construction.
Outcome 3	Differentiate between the fundamentals of various historical styles, as defined through text analysis and production requirements.

**Methods of Instruction**

Method	Please provide a description or examples of how each instructional method will be used in this course.
Discussion	Students will engage in whole-class and group discussions about the Prop Fabrication process and other pertinent topics.
Demonstration, Repetition/Practice	Students will demonstrate an understanding of the Prop Fabrication process through the development of drawing, rendering, and fabrication skills.
Lecture	Instructors will lecture on the history of Prop Fabrication and Production as a practical tool for the development and design of a production.
Participation	Students will apply skills, learned in lecture and demonstration, toward the practical fabrication and maintenance of items used in Prop and Furniture Fabrication for live Production.

**Methods of Evaluation**

Method	Please provide a description or examples of how each evaluation method will be used in this course.	Type of Assignment
Critiques	Students will participate in critiques of their classmates' work, following a guided protocol that encourages active reflection and dialogue. (20% of critiques will be completed out of class; 80% in class)	In and Out of Class
Student participation/contribution	Students will participate actively and appropriately in class discussions, exercises, and projects. (50% of student participation in discussions, exercises, and projects will take place out of class; 50% in class)	In and Out of Class
Presentations/student demonstration observations	Students will prepare and deliver presentations, individually and/or in groups, on relevant course concepts. (50% of presentations and student demonstrations will be prepared and delivered out of class; 50% in class)	In and Out of Class
Term or research papers	Students will write at least one academic research paper that demonstrates an understanding of research, documentation, and synthesis. (80% of the work toward academic research papers will take place out of class; 20% in class)	In and Out of Class
Mid-term and final evaluations	Students will complete midterm and/or final assessments on course concepts. These assessments may be short-answer responses, multiple-choice questions, and portfolio assessments. (50% of midterm and final assessments will be completed out of class; 50% in class)	In and Out of Class
Portfolios	Students will compile a portfolio of design and construction assignments, and then will produce a visual portfolio that reflects on their learning. (80% of work toward a portfolio will be completed out of class; 20% in class)	In and Out of Class

**Assignments**
**Other In-class Assignments**

In-Class Assignments are project-based, will be started in class, and will generally require additional time outside of class for completion.

1. Text analysis and historical research for prop and furniture design.
2. Creating drawings for the construction of a Prop.
3. Create a Prop using industry-specific techniques and tools for Prop Design.
4. Explore casting and construction techniques.

5. Explore furniture refinishing techniques.
6. Explore upholstery techniques.
7. Materials analysis and safety.
8. Create a Prop Plot for a production.
9. Build a Production Run and Maintenance chart for a production.

**Other Out-of-class Assignments**

Out-of-Class Assignments are project-based and will generally require 3-6 hours per week.

1. Text analysis and historical research for prop and furniture design.
2. Create a Prop Plot for a production.
3. Build a Production Run and Maintenance chart for a production.

**Grade Methods**

Letter Grade Only

**Comparable Transfer Course Information****University System**

CSU

**Campus**

CSU Los Angeles

**Course Number**

TA 1310

**Course Title**

Stagecraft: Scenery and Properties

**Catalog Year**

2021-2022

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**COD GE**

C3 - Arts, Humanities, and Culture

**MIS Course Data****CIP Code**

50.0502 - Technical Theatre/Theatre Design and Technology.

**TOP Code**

100600 - Technical Theater

**SAM Code**

C - Clearly Occupational

**Basic Skills Status**

Not Basic Skills

**Prior College Level**

Not applicable

**Cooperative Work Experience**

Not a Coop Course

**Course Classification Status**

Credit Course

**Approved Special Class**

Not special class

**Noncredit Category**

Not Applicable, Credit Course

**Funding Agency Category**

Not Applicable

**Program Status**

Program Applicable

**Transfer Status**

Transferable to CSU only

**General Education Status**

Y = Not applicable

**Support Course Status**

N = Course is not a support course

**Allow Audit**

No

**Repeatability**

No

**Materials Fee**

No

**Additional Fees?**

No

**Files Uploaded****Attach relevant documents (example: Advisory Committee or Department Minutes)**

COD GE Worksheet - TA 029.docx

**Approvals****Curriculum Committee Approval Date**

09/15/2022

**Academic Senate Approval Date**

10/04/2022

**Board of Trustees Approval Date**

11/10/2022

**Chancellor's Office Approval Date**

11/18/2022

**Course Control Number**

CCC000634147