**TPA 2043 – Technical Skills in Costuming – Spring 2019**

**Wednesday/Friday – 11:00am – 12:20pm**

**AL Costume Studio**

**Instructor:** Assistant Professor Dawn Shamburger

**Office:** AL 167

**Office Hours:** Wed, Thurs & Fri – 9:30 – 11:00 am

**Phone:** 561-297-4584

**Email:** [dshamburger@fau.edu](mailto:dshamburger@fau.edu)

**Credits:** 3

**Pre-requisites/Co-requisites:** none required

**Course Description:**

This course focuses on the introduction of costume construction for theatrical productions. Familiarizes students with the methods, materials, equipment, concepts, and processes involved in the construction of costumes used in theatre.

**Course Objectives:**

1. Exhibit a working knowledge of vocabulary, tools and materials used in the construction of costumes for a theatrical production.
2. Demonstrate understanding of hand sewing and machine sewing techniques used in construction of costumes.
3. Apply costume construction techniques to the creation of realized costume pieces
4. Build garments using commercial and theatrical patterns for theatrical purposes.
5. Develop professional standards and attitude regarding the construction of costumes for theatrical productions*.*

**Required Text:**

Basic Sewing for Costume Construction by Rebecca Cunningham

**Course Evaluation**

Hand Sewing Sampler 15%

6 different Handsewing techniques

5 types of fasteners

Machine Sewing Samples 20%

5 different examples for stitching seams by machine

Quizzes & Assignments 15%

Measuring the body

Shop Tools

Costume Terminology

Handsewing Quiz

Machine Sewing Quiz

Construction Projects 45%

Project #1 – construction of a small project

Project #2 – construction of a project to be used for a department production or to be used for costume stock

Attendance & Participation 10%

Roll Call – percentage of attendance

**Course Grading Scales:**

93-100% = **A** = 4.00

90-92% = **A-** = 3.67

87-89% = **B+** = 3.33

83-86% = **B** = 3.00

80-82% = **B-** = 2.67

77-79% = **C+** = 2.33

73-76% = **C** = 2.00

70-72% = **C-** = 1.67

67-69% = **D+** = 1.33

63-66% = **D** = 1.00

60-62% = **D-** = 0.67

0 – 59% = **F** = 0.00

Grading Standards: What makes a project or other assignment an “A” (B, C, D, F)

1. “A”: superlative work that demonstrates a profound commitment to the course material, and further, employs this material as a springboard for independent thought and work. Very little improvement needed on application of technique. Stage ready.
2. “B”: very good work that completely fulfills all the requirements of the course in a conscientious and dedicated manner and that demonstrates some additional practice is needed, application of techniques is mostly correct. Could be stage ready.
3. “C”: work that fulfills all the requirements of the course in a satisfactory manner, but that falls short of demonstrating a full understanding of the application of techniques. Still needs practice, not stage ready.
4. “D”: work that is unsatisfactory in content, but meets the standards of submission. Attempted the technique but did not have a full understanding of the application of the technique. Still needs practice and is not stage ready
5. “F” is given for work that fails to fulfill the requirements of the course. Did not attempt the technique.

***A Note About Grades:*** *Any lowering of the final grade due to infractions such as tardiness will be completed once all major grades have been calculated. Grading questions should be discussed by private appointment. No discussion of grades will occur during class time.* **Policy on make-up exams, late work, and incompletes**

**FAU Attendance Policy**:

Students are expected to attend all of their scheduled University classes and to satisfy all academic objectives as outlined by the instructor. The effect of absences upon grades is determined by the instructor, and the University reserves the right to deal at any time with individual cases of non-attendance.  
  
Students are responsible for arranging to make up work missed because of legitimate class absence, such as illness, family emergencies, military obligation, court-imposed legal obligations or participation in University-approved activities. Examples of University-approved reasons for absences include participating on an athletic or scholastic team, musical and theatrical performances and debate activities. It is the student’s responsibility to give the instructor notice prior to any anticipated absence and within a reasonable amount of time after an unanticipated absence, ordinarily by the next scheduled class meeting. Instructors must allow each student who is absent for a University-approved reason the opportunity to make up work missed without any reduction in the student’s final course grade as a direct result of such absence.  
  
**Attendance on First Day of Class:**  
Students are required to attend the first day of class for any course in which they are registered. If a student misses the first day of class for any reason, the student may be administratively withdrawn from the course.

**Registration Requirement:**  
No student may attend a course for which he or she is not registered, either as a degree-seeking student or as a non-degree-seeking student.

**Communication Devices:**  
In order to enhance and maintain a productive atmosphere for education, personal communication devices, such as cell phones, are to be disabled in class sessions.

**Departmental attendance policies:**

1. After three unexcused absences, your final grade will be lowered by one letter grade. An absence is excused **only** in the case of a documented illness or religious holiday. Please let me know if you plan on observing any of the upcoming religious holidays.

2.Each subsequent absence will lower your final grade by one letter grade. This is an experiential class. You need to be here to learn

3. Six absences will result in an automatic failure.

4. Classes will begin on time.

**Course Attendance Policy:**

* The University and Department policies regarding attendance will be followed.
* The only absences that are deemed “excused” are those due to religious observance, obligatory academic events (field trips, participation in sports events, debates etc.), emergency medical treatment and hospitalization or participation in a funeral due to a personal tragedy.
* Religious observance and obligatory participation in academic events will require prior notification whenever possible. Previously scheduled medical/dental/veterinary etc. appointments are not “excused”.
* In order that an unanticipated absence to be deemed “excused” it must be documented. Documentation means that an instructor must be provided with an official letter, from an official source on official stationary; not an email or a fax.
* After the third (3) “unexcused” absence your final grade will be lowered by one letter grade per absence.
* Chronic absences or tardies will result in a “recommendation to withdraw.”
* You are, however, not excused from covered class material.
* Each student is responsible for making up class work, assignments, tests, etc. due to absences. I understand that you all have other classes and obligations pulling you in many directions. If you will be absent from class for any reason please let me know ahead of time, but do not ask me for permission. This class is important too.
* ALL projects are expected to be turned in on time. Grades on any late projects will be reduced by 10%. No projects will be accepted 2 weeks after the due date. All deadlines and due dates will be posted to canvas.

**Classroom etiquette policy:**

This class will be conducted via lecture, discussion, hands-on participation in the study and application of Costume Construction techniques, as well as through exercises and projects complete during class and outside of class. The Canvas program will be used to administer information and communication for this class.

If you maintain any public record, such as online journal, please refrain from using the real names or other identifying details about the students and/or instructor if you choose to write about activities and events related to this course. This both protects their privacy and respects their ability to participate openly in a class that can include performative elements. Performing for your peers is unnerving enough without worrying about who is blogging about it afterward.

**Students with Disabilities:**

*“In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA), students who require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS)—in Boca Raton, SU 133 (561-297-3880); in Davie, LA 131 (954-236-1222); or in Jupiter, SR 110 (561-799-8585) —and follow all SAS procedures.”*

**The FAU Code of Academic Integrity**:

Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards because it interferes with the University mission to provide a high-quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the University community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places a high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see the Code of Academic Integrity in the University Regulations: http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.001\_Code\_of\_Academic\_Integrity.pdf

**Course Calendar**

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| **Jan 10** | Introduction to Costume Construction |  |
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| **Jan 12** | Introduction to Costume Shop Tools |  |
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| **Jan 17** | How to take accurate measurements | measurement assignment due |
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| **Jan 19** | Costume Terminology | Costume Shop Tools Quiz |
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| **Jan 24** | Introduction to the Hand Sewing Sampler Project  Hand sewing techniques -  Thread Marking and the Running stitch | Costume Terminology quiz |
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| **Jan 26** | Hand Sewing Techniques -  Back Stitch  Prick Stitch  Hem Stitch |  |
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| **Jan 31** | Hand Sewing Techniques -  Slip Stitch  Catch Stitch |  |
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| **Feb 2** | Hand Sewing Techniques - Closures -  Snap  Buttons  Hook and Eye  Skirt Hook and Bar |  |
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| **Feb 7** | How to use a sewing machine | Hand sewing quiz |
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| **Feb 9** | Machine Control | Hand Sampler Due |

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| **Feb 14** | Introduction to Machine Sewing Samples  Cutting out a theatrical pattern  Machine Stitches -  Straight Seam |  |
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| **Feb 16** | Machine Stitches -  Flat Fell Seam  Dart |  |
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| **Feb 21** | Machine Stitches -  Gathering Seam  Curved Seam |  |
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| **Feb 23** | Work in class - Machine Stitches | Machine Stitches Quiz |
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| **Feb 28** | Work in class - Machine Stitches |  |
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| **Mar 2** | Introduction to Construction Project #1  Tracing and Cutting out a pattern | Machine Sewing Sampler Due |
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| **Mar 7** | Spring Break |  |
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| **Mar 9** | Spring Break |  |
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| **Mar 14** | Work in Class on Tracing and Cutting |  |
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| **Mar 16** | Work in Class on Tracing and Cutting |  |
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| **Mar 21** | Reading the construction instructions |  |
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| **Mar 23** | Work in class on constructing the garment |  |
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| **Mar 28** | Work in class on constructing the garment |  |
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| **Mar 30** | Work in class on constructing the garment |  |
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| **Apr 4** | Introduction to Construction Project #2 |  |
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| **Apr 6** | Work in Class - Construction Project #2 | Construction Project #1 Due |
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| **Apr 11** | Work in Class - Construction Project #2 |  |
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| **Apr 13** | Work in Class - Construction Project #2 |  |
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| **Apr 18** | Work in Class - Construction Project #2 |  |
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| **Apr 20** | Work in Class - Construction Project #2 |  |
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| **May 2** | Showing off your project | Construction Project #2 Due |