

# THE 4901

## SENIOR CAPSTONE

**Term:** Fall 2019

**Class Location:** TBD

**Credits:** Variable 1 – 2 credits

**Prerequisites:** TPA 2200 with a grade of "C" or better or permission of instructor

**Corequisites:** None

### Instructor Contact Information:

### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Students demonstrate what they have learned during their years as theatre design tech majors as well as to have a focused experience in their field in a supervisory position. Each student writes a paper reflecting on the knowledge gained and their experiences.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES:

All BFA students Design Tech Theatre majors are required to assume a leadership role in one (1) theatre productions by serving in a supervisory position on one production worth two (2) credits or two (2) assignments worth one (1) credit each. You will be required to apply for a position, showing significant experience in the area of interest which provides the knowledge needed to fulfill the position successfully.

The development of theatre artists requires extensive practical experience as well as a strong theoretical foundation. The Senior Capstone sequence gives students the opportunity to learn about different aspects of theatre from both working perspectives. Each practicum will develop and deepen skills related to one particular area of theatre production and/or performance but will also provide an experience that enables s/he to hone more global skills (communication, organization, leadership, time management and creative problem solving). The practicum experience will also build confidence, heighten aesthetic awareness, and deepen appreciation for the work of others.

The class is structured in the format of a **self-directed independent study with required mentor/student meeting times**. The student bears the responsibility for motivating him/herself, reading the calendar, **REHEARSAL REPORTS** and organizing daily activity. Formal contact with the supervising instructor takes place in a weekly tutorial during which time the faculty member answers questions on the guidelines and provides guidance and feedback on the student's day to day work. At the end of the capstone the student submits the **Self-Assessment**, which chronicles the practicum experience and produces/performs the production as assigned.

Every Senior Capstone student has a responsibility to work in concert with other members of the company to develop, achieve, and maintain the concrete manifestation of the creative production vision. The more involved and invested you are, the greater your creative impact will be, and the more satisfaction you will achieve.

### **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

- Students will understand how to manage their time to complete a variety of self-directed projects in scenic design, properties design, costume design, costume construction, stage management, technical direction, make-up and hair design, lighting design, master electrician and sound design.
- Students will learn and put into practice the professional process by which theatre designers, managers and technicians communicate information to a director, design team, theatre manager and professional scenic shop that is producing a realized theatrical production.
- Students will learn how to produce professional paperwork specifically designed to communicate information in their design, management or tech area.

### **GRADE:**

1. Attendance- punctuality and reliability overall	40%
2. Documentation Materials	30%
3. Assessment	<u>30%</u>
	100%

Grade	Points
A	96-100
A-	92-95
B+	88-91
B	84-87
B-	80-83
C+	76-79
C	72-75
C-	68-71
D	64-67
D-	60-63
F	0-59
W (Withdrawn)	
I (Incomplete)	

### **BENCHMARK DATES for production work:**

\*Based upon the changing needs of the production, dates might change, particularly with regard to set dressing.

- Create a list of benchmark due dates for the paperwork required for the production based upon your area of emphasis (i.e. props lists, make-up research and charts, costume designs, light plot, etc.)
- Your written assessment is due 1 weeks before the last day of classes the semester you complete your capstone.

### **LATE WORK AND MAKEUP QUIZZES:**

- A late Midterm Project will be penalized one letter grade for every day late.
- If the Final Project is submitted late, and the student has a satisfactory record prior to that project, the student will be given an **Incomplete (I)**.
- Incomplete grades will not be given unless an **excused absence** coincides with the presentation of the Final Project.
- A Midterm Project may be made up in the case of an **excused absence only**. Please speak to me prior to an anticipated absence, or immediately after an absence regarding make up work, during my office hours.
- Extra credit is only acceptable if all projects have been submitted on time, **not** to make up for work missed.
- Students with **excused** (documented) absences may request to make up missed quizzes. Arrangements to make up a missed quiz must be made no later than a week after returning to class. Make-up quizzes will be given during my office hours only.

### **CANVAS:**

According to the departmental printing policy, you must print out your own syllabi and any other handouts that are posted on CANVAS. CANVAS will be used actively as part of the communication tools between the instructors and the students. Please make sure to update your email address, so you can receive all Blackboard messages.

### **CELL PHONES, LAP TOPS:**

Silence your cell phone before class. An audible call or text during class will affect your grade, the same way a tardy does. Laptops are not to be used in class except when specifically permitted for a project.

### **FAU POLICY ON THE USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES:**

University policy on the use of electronic devices states: *In order to enhance and maintain a productive atmosphere for education, personal communication devices, such as cellular telephones and pagers, are to be **disabled in class sessions**.*

- **This class policy:** In addition to adhering to University policy, any personal electronic device used in this class must be cleared with the instructor prior to use. Electronic devices, cleared for use in this class, may only be used for the purpose of **taking notes**. Any other use of electronic devices is in violation of class policy and will be **regarded as an absence**.

## **ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

### **CLASS PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE:**

- At FAU attendance is mandatory!
- The University policy regarding attendance will be followed. (See below)
- If you are absent, it is assumed that it is for a good reason. You are, however, ***not excused from class.***
- The only absences that are deemed “excused” are those due to religious observance, obligatory academic events (fieldtrips, 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 absence 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.***
- ***The third (3rd) unexcused absences will lower your final grade by one letter grade.***
- ***Every additional absence will lower your final grade by another letter grade.***
- ***Three tardies, will equal one absence.***
- Chronic absences or tardies will result in a ***“recommendation to withdraw.”***

**University Policy on Absences and Incompletes:** Students will not be penalized for absences due to participation in University-approved activities, but proof of involvement must be provided. Reasonable accommodation will be made for student absences due to religious observance(s). Also, note that grades of Incomplete (“I”) are reserved only for students who are passing the course but have not completed all the required work because of exceptional circumstances. Incompletes should be pre-arranged with the instructor before the end of the term.

- **Attendance Policy of the Department of Theatre & Dance:** Three absences will lower your final grade by one letter. Each subsequent absence will lower your final grade by one letter. Five absences will result in automatic failure. Three tardies equals one absence. If you arrive to class after roll is taken, it is your responsibility to check in at the end of class to make sure your attendance is recorded. See University policies in the FAU Student Handbook <http://www.fau.edu/handbook/>

## **ACCOMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DIABILITIES:**

In compliance with the FAU policy and equal access laws, I am available to discuss appropriate academic accommodations that may be required for students with disabilities. Requests for academic accommodations are to be made during the first two weeks of the semester, so arrangements can be made.

*In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who, due to a disability, require special accommodation to properly execute course work must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) -- in Boca Raton, SU 133 (561-2973880); in Davie, LA 240 (954-236-1222); in Jupiter, SR 110 (561-799-8010) -- and follow all OSD procedures.*

## **Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center**

Life as a university student can be challenging physically, mentally and emotionally. Students who find stress negatively affecting their ability to achieve academic or personal goals may wish to consider utilizing FAU's Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center. CAPS provides FAU students a range of services – individual counseling, support meetings, and psychiatric services, to name a few – offered to help improve and maintain emotional well-being. For more information, go to <http://www.fau.edu/counseling/>

## **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 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 at [http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.001\\_Code\\_of\\_Academic\\_Integrity.pdf](http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.001_Code_of_Academic_Integrity.pdf).

- **Departmental policy regarding the Code of Academic Integrity:** Any plagiarism will result in automatic failure and further action as outlined in the University Catalog.
- **This class policy:** In addition to adhering to Departmental and University policies, any work submitted for credit, in this class, determined to be accomplished dishonestly, will be submitted to the Dean of the College for review, with the recommendation that the citation become part of the student's permanent record.

**\*\*\* THE 4XXX COURSE OUTLINE – SEMESTER/YEAR \*\*\***  
**(Subject to Change)**