

Technical Theatre II

Syllabus

Seven Lakes High School
Mr. Joshua Heerssen, M.A. - Technical Director of Theatre
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Objectives:

Technical Theatre II is a hands-on continuation to the designing, crafting and execution of theatrical productions. Our objective is to learn the basics of theatre design terminology and to obtain the hands-on skills to properly execute theatre design and production. You will come from this course a better problem solver, designer, free-thinker and leader.

Course Description:

Technical Theatre II will introduce the second year technician to the areas of design and theatrical production. This is a project based course. *You will build, paint, climb ladders and handle power tools in this class.* The theatre elements to which you will continue to learn will include, but are not limited to:

Scenic Design

Stage Management

Computer Drafting

Lighting Design

Production Management

Computer Paperwork

Sound Design

Better Observers

Problem Solvers

Costume Design

Hand Drafting

Carpentry Skills

All students are encouraged to participate in all theatre productions. The audition/ tech crew sign-ups and performance dates will be announced in class and over the school announcements.

General Course Requirements...

- I. Maintain a Binder and bring it to class daily. The following should be in your Binder at all times.
Syllabus; Daily Objective; Projects, research, sketches, and concepts; Notes/Vocabulary/
Designs
- II. **Supply List:** 2" 3-ring Binder with 5-tab dividers with pockets; Highlighters (four colors); pencils; colored pencils; Eight white poster boards; 2 sheets of black foam core/board; 2 sheets of white foam core; Aleene's Clear Gel Tacky Glue; Straight Pins; Circle Template; X-acto Knives; Extra Blades; Eraser Shield; Erasers; Drafting Dots; Architects Ruler (12" or 18"); Velum Drawing Paper; Tracing Paper; Closed Toed Shoes

- III. View and evaluate two (2) live theatre events at the high school level or above. This is a requirement of the state curriculum (TEKS). Live theatre events do not include videos of any kind, films, T.V. shows, or rock concerts. **Each viewing/evaluation will equal one (1) major grade.** You will turn in a program and/or ticket stub along with a typed written critique about what the show was about and what technical aspects of the show you thought were great and what you thought did not work for the production. Also, talk about the design elements in the show. How were they used and how did they interact with each other? Was the show collaborative, meaning, all the parts flow well with each other? Each evaluation must be turned in one week prior to the end of each semester.
- IV. Read and evaluate one (1) play per semester. Mr. Heerssen must approve your chosen play before reading and evaluating. You may choose a play from the theatre library. You may not use a play you have read or are reading in another class. See Mr. Heerssen for an evaluation form. You will use this form as your guide when writing your evaluation. Each evaluation must talk about what and how the technical aspects of the show are to be done. Also mention what are the technical special effects involved in the show, if any. Each evaluation must be turned in two (2) weeks prior to the end of each semester.
- V. Production/crew/appreciation hours: all entry level theatre students are required to complete a minimum of **25** crew hours per semester. **The hours must be documented on your 'Production/Crew Hours' card and will count as two (2) major tests during the 3rd and 6th six weeks grading periods.** Also, you are to write a one page typed summary of the production you saw in regards to the technical aspects of the show. Talk about what technical elements were involved, and what worked and what didn't work. Did the scene changes happen smoothly? It's your responsibility to document and prove your crew hours. You may prove your hours with a sponsor or adult signed program. If no program was available a note signed by the event sponsor will suffice. With the exception of theatre events, no student may acquire all of their hours from a single event and all events must be preformed at the Jr. High level or above. For example, a student accumulating hours for enrichment in a theatre course should not accumulate those hours in any one single discipline, i.e. band, choir, dance, or simply rehearsals.

Production Hours (Opportunities):

1. Any professional theatre performance.
2. Any Jr. High or High School performance.
3. Live performances of band, orchestra, choir, dance, and art.
4. Any SLHS theatre department activities.
5. Non-SLHS theatre rehearsal times may not be counted; however, you may count an actual performance. (Other fine arts departmental performances will be accepted).

Grading Policy:

Projects & Tests will count 50%, Participation/Daily Work 35%, and Homework will count for 15%.

Texts:

Scene Design and Stage Lighting, Parker and Wolf; *A Practical Guide to Stage Lighting*, Steve Shelley; *Types of Drama*, Barnet/ Berman/ Burto/ Draya; *The Costume Technician's Handbook*, Ingham/ Covey; *The Backstage Guide to Stage Management*, Thomas Kelly; *Theatre: Art in Action*, Taylor/Strickland; *The Stage and the School*, Schanker/ Ommanney

Technical Theatre II Syllabus

Calendar

Subject to Change

1st Six Weeks:

Week 1: Intro., Welcome back, P.A.C. clean and organize

Week 2: Introduction to Design. Line, Shape, Color, Proportion, balance, Unity, emphasis, etc.

Week 3: Design Styles in Theatre. Abstract Collages. Evaluations.

Week 4: Abstract Art Design Project Model

Week 5: WORK WEEK: *Fall Show*

Week 6: Script Analysis. Exposition, Inciting Incident, Rising Action, Climax, Falling Action, Resolution, etc.

2nd Six Weeks:

Week 7: Scenic Design: Concept, Research (Library time), Sketches, Ground Plan, Center Line Section, Front Elevation, Model and Presentation. Work on Scenic Design Project (Finish Ground Plan)

Week 8: Work on Scenic Design Project (Finish Center Line Section and start model)

Week 9: Finish and Present Full Scenic Design Project to class. STRIKE FALL SHOW.

Week 10: Lighting Design- INTRODUCTION; Concept, Research (Library time), Sketches, Light Plot, Center Line Section, Color Key, Light Lab Demo and Presentation.

Week 11: Work on Lighting Design

3rd Six Weeks:

Week 12: WORK WEEK: Work on Sensations Show in PAC if needed (or Lighting Design Project)

Week 13: Work on Lighting Design. State Thespian Convention Week!

Week 14: Work on Lighting Design and clean Backstage and the Theatre Proper. Thanksgiving Break! (WED, THURS, FRI)

Week 15: Finish working on Lighting Designs.

Week 16: Present Lighting Design in Lab. Review week. Review Lighting Design and Scenic design concepts and theories.

Week 17: FINAL EXAM WEEK!!!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

4th Six Weeks:

Week 18: WORK WEEK: *Work on Spring Show*

Week 19: Introduction to Costume Design: Sketches, Concept, Research (Library time), Character Closets, Renderings, Swatches, Final drawings and Presentation.

Week 20: Work on Costume Design.

Week 21: Work on Costume Design.

Week 22: Finish working on Costume Design. Costume Design Presentations.

Week 23: PAC Prep and getting ready for opening weekend of Spring show.

Week 24: Strike and organize PAC and Theatre Areas.

5th Six Weeks:

Week 25: Sound Design: Concept, Research (Library time), Sound Cue Synopsis, Sound Plot, Production Cue Sheets, Music mixing, Underscore, mood, FX music. Work on Sound Design Project

Week 26: Work on Sound Design.

Week 27: Work on Sound Design.

SPRING BREAK!!!

Week 28: Work on Sound Design. UIL Week.

Week 29: Sound Design Presentations.

Week 30: Spare week. Catch up. PAC clean and organize. Presentations. Introduce C.A.D., Etc.

Week 31: Present Set, Light, Costume and Sound Presentation in the Light Lab (Production Design)

6th Six Weeks:

Week 32: Advanced Problem Solving. Theatre in the real world.

Week 33: C.A.D. Drafting; Vectorworks, AutoCAD, Lightwright & Google SketchUp.

Week 34: Work Week, Student Directed One- Acts (SDOA's).

Week 35: Clean Up of Theatre Space.

Week 36: Review Week.

Week 37: FINAL EXAM WEEK!!!

Thanks for a Great Year!