

Costume Design I TPA 4049  
Spring 2025

Monday and Wednesday 12:50-2:45pm  
Classroom: CON 218

Instructor  
Ella Brooks Ella.Brooks@ufl.edu

Office Hours  
By appointment over zoom or in person

OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to research methods and design processes of theatrical design through Costume Design. The class also prepares students to collaborate with design teams and directors in developing cohesive concepts and production designs. The students will also learn how to present and discuss their work, as they will do in a professional situation.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

This course addresses the following program outcomes:

- 1) Giving students background and developing skills necessary to address project work in the departmental curriculum.
- 2) Providing students with training and information required to complete work in the practical production program.
- 3) Teaching students how to compile and apply research during the design process as an essential component of assignments and production work

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- 1) Learn and Embrace Elements of Design and Color Theory
- 2) Conceive and fully research projects
- 3) Organize research and translate concepts into practical applications
- 4) Present and communicate ideas through renderings
- 5) Create paperwork and a vocabulary to discuss needs and goals with other artists involved in the process

6) Clearly and Concisely present work and research in a professional manner

### GRADING

The projects will be evaluated and critiqued in stages, with the project grade based on these stages of work, including artistic/conceptual work application of feedback, presentation, and adherence to deadlines. In theatre, time is money, and opening night is unlikely to be delayed until a designer manages to complete work.

The grading scale will be as follows:

A 94-100 % A- 90-93%

B+ 87-89% B 83-86% B- 80-82%

C+ 77-79% C 73-76% C- 70-72%

D 68-69%

E 0-67%

The university grading policies for assigning grade points may be found at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/#gradestext> (Links to an external site.)

The final grade for the semester will be weighted as follows:

Attendance and Class participation- 5%

Live Performance Critiques – 5%

Designer Presentation – 10%

Music Video project – 10%

Concert project – 10%

Fairy Tale Project- 15%

Short Play Project – 15%

Final Project – 25%

Late work will be reduced by one half letter grade per day.

### REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Sketchbook, drawing pencils, color pencils and other miscellaneous rendering supplies of your choice

*The Revolutionists* by Lauren Gunderson (pdf script in canvas)

Musical- *Into the Woods* by James Lapine and Stephen Sondheim

### ATTENDANCE POLICY AND CLASS EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to stay home and seek medical help for COVID-19 symptoms or exposure (persistent cough, fever 100.4+, new loss of taste or smell, muscle pain/headaches, shortness of breath, sore throat, chills, diarrhea, or feeling generally ill). The culture of hiding illness or the “show must go on” mentality must be avoided. Students who are medically required to quarantine will have documentation from a medical provider. Students who self-quarantine must communicate with the instructor and “attend” courses remotely synchronously, when available, or asynchronously if approved by the instructor.

Barring the above circumstances, students are expected to be in attendance (either remotely or in-person, as assigned) daily and to be on time. Your attendance in class is mandatory to acquire all information that will be necessary for your success in this class. You are permitted 2 unexcused absences for the semester, and if you know you will be missing because of an appointment, conference, etc. PLEASE let me know in advance. Each absence beyond the 2, results in the drop of 1/2 a letter grade per absence. 3 late arrivals will equal 1 absence, and 4 unexcused absences will result in a failing grade.

Any absence from class for the following reasons must be supported by official acceptable documentation to avoid a grade penalty:

- Illness—doctor's note must be on official letterhead with address and phone number, noting the date and time of visit and diagnosis verifying that an absence from class is warranted, doctor name and signature
- Serious family emergencies

- Special curricular requirements (e.g., judging trips, field trips, professional conferences)
- Military obligation
- Severe weather conditions
- Participation in official university activities such as music performances, athletic competition or debate
- Court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena)

To help organize accommodations, students should inform the instructor by the end of the second week of classes of religious observances of their faith that will conflict with class attendance this semester.

### ATTENDANCE AT PERFORMANCES

Since production is the laboratory for all theatre courses, attendance at all mainstage Department of Theatre and Dance productions is required of students enrolled in classes with the following prefix designations: THE, TPA, TPP, ORI. Critiques of and/or responses to these productions may be required.

### STUDENTS REQUIRING ACCOMMODATIONS

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/> (Links to an external site.) (Links to an external site.). It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

### COURSE EVALUATION

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/> (Links to an external site.) (Links to an external site.). Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/> (Links to an external site.) (Links to an external site.).

## UNIVERSITY HONESTY POLICY

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

## SOFTWARE USE

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

## STUDENT PRIVACY

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see: <http://registrar.ufl.edu/catalog0910/policies/regulationferpa.html> (Links to an external site.) (Links to an external site.)

## CAMPUS RESOURCES

### *Health and Wellness*

U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc> (Links to an external site.) (Links to an external site.), and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS) Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or <http://www.police.ufl.edu/> (Links to an external site.) (Links to an external site.).

### Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu. <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml> (Links to an external site.) (Links to an external site.).

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. <https://www.crc.ufl.edu/> (Links to an external site.) (Links to an external site.). Library Support, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask> (Links to an external site.) (Links to an external site.). Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. <https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/> (Links to an external site.) (Links to an external site.).

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/> (Links to an external site.) (Links to an external site.).

### Student Complaints

Campus: [https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF\\_Complaints\\_policy.pdf](https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf) (Links to an external site.) (Links to an external site.).

On-Line Students Complaints: <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process> (Links to an external site.) (Links to an external site.).

### PROJECT BREAKDOWN

#### LIVE PERFORMANCE CRITIQUE

You will receive coupons for 2 UF mainstage shows, Macbeth and Importance of Being Earnest. You will need to write a costume critique on each of the performances. These must be 1-2 pages typed double spaced.

## DESIGNER PRESENTATION

This is a research-based project on a contemporary (living) costume designer currently working in Film/Television or Theatre. We want to hear about their life, education, inspiration, work, rendering styles, and their design principles. You will get extra credit if you reach out to them and have them answer some questions!

## MUSIC VIDEO PROJECT

This project is set up to start understanding the design process on a smaller scale. You are going to find a music video of your choosing and redesign the costumes for either three separate characters, or three costumes for one character. Using the lyrics as a script, you can either use the existing world of the music video or create a new concept. Requirements include:

- A concept statement
- Research (minimum of 10 images per costume)
- Renderings

## CONCERT PROJECT

Choose an album of a recording artist and create a concept with supporting research. Using the album of choice, create an overarching concept that links 3 chosen songs together as a cohesive story. You will design the costumes for all three songs, within the overarching concept. At least 1 song must include backup dancers, which you will also design. Requirements include:

- A concept statement
- A scene/song breakdown for the entire concert
- Research (minimum of 10 images per costume)
- Renderings

## FAIRY TALE PROJECT

This project is set up to continue your design understanding on an average scale. You choose a fairy tale from the provided list, write synopsis for the fairy tale you have chosen, create a paperwork package, research, and renderings. You will design 3 characters or 1 character 3 looks.

<https://www.fairytales.info/list/>

- Synopsis
- Character list
- Scene breakdown for your chosen character or 3 characters
- Pieces List
- Research (minimum of 10 images per costume)
- Renderings

## PLAY PROJECT 1

This project is designed to start learning how to create paperwork and its purpose using the script for *The Revolutionists* by Lauren Gunderson. Design Costumes for the 4 lead women, must be referential to the time period the women are from, and create all your paperwork.

Requirements include:

- Play analysis
- Concept statement
- Scene breakdown for the whole cast
- Costume Plot
- Pieces List
- Research (minimum 15 images per costume)
- Renderings

## FINAL PROJECT

For your final project you will create a full design package for the Musical *Into the Woods* by James Lapine and Stephen Sondheim. This is a culmination of all of the work



you have done this semester.

Requirements include:

- Play analysis
- Historical analysis
- Character analysis
- Concept statement
- Scene breakdown
- Costume plot
- Pieces list
- Research (minimum 10 images per costume, 30 per character)
- Renderings

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Able to be changed at the discretion of the instructor

<p>Week 1- Jan 13-17</p>	<p>Monday- Review Syllabus and course materials</p> <p>Wednesday- Lecture Elements of Design and Fundamentals of Costume Design</p>
<p>Week 2- Jan 20-24</p>	<p>Monday – Holiday</p> <p>Wednesday- Lecture: What is a costume designer? Introduction of Designer Presentation Project and schedule them</p>
<p>Week 3- Jan 27- 31</p>	<p>Monday – Lecture: Script and character analysis</p> <p>Wednesday- Lecture: Research</p>
<p>Week 4- February 3-7</p>	<p>Monday – Listen to The American Theatre Wing: The Anatomy of a Song; start Music Video Project</p> <p>Wednesday- Designer presentation project #1; In class sketching activity</p>
<p>Week 5- February 10-14</p>	<p>Monday – Lecture: Paperwork packages and Rendering</p> <p>Wednesday- Designer presentation project #2;</p>
<p>Week 6- February 17-21</p>	<p>Monday – Discuss Macbeth Performance in class, Present Music Video Project</p> <p>Wednesday- Designer presentation project #3; Lecture: Reading a Script</p>
<p>Week 7- February 24-28</p>	<p>Monday –Lecture: Sourcing and the psychology of clothes; Introduce concert project</p> <p>Wednesday- Designer presentation project #4; In class sketching activity</p>
<p>Week 8- March 3-7</p>	<p>Monday – Lecture: Communication and collaboration</p> <p>Wednesday- Class cancelled</p>
<p>Week 9- March 10-14</p>	<p>Monday – Present Concert Project; Introduce Fairy tale project</p>

	Wednesday- Designer presentation project #5; In class sketching activity
Week 10- March 17-21	Spring Break No Class
Week 11- March 24-28	Monday – Discuss Importance of Being Ernest in class; Play Project Script discussion; Start Play project 1 research  Wednesday- Fairy Tale Project in class presentations; Play project research in class
Week 12- March 31- April 4	Monday – In class Sketching activity Wednesday- Designer presentation project #6; Play Project concept and sketches in class check-in; Final Project Script in class discussion and start research
Week 13- April 7- 11	Monday – Play Project in class presentations  Wednesday- Class cancelled
Week 14- April 14-18	Monday – In class discussion of Spring Dance; Final project research and concept check in  Wednesday- Designer presentation project #7; Final Project Workday
Week 15- April 21-25	Monday –Final project workday  Wednesday- Final project Presentations and last day of class