

**THEATRE 334, SECTION 001
LIGHTING DESIGN
FALL, 2009**

Professor: Tim Chew
Office: PAB A109E
Phone: 703-993-1123
E-mail: tchew@gmu.edu
Hours: Monday & Wednesday 12:00 – 13:00, Tuesday 11:00 – 12:00, or by appointment
Text: Stage Lighting Design, by Richard Pilbrow
Final: Tuesday, December 15, 13:30 - 16:15

The goal of this class is to give the student a better understanding of the aesthetics of Lighting Design through intellectual and practical exercise. These exercises will make use of the light lab to realize aesthetic goals and drafting/paper projects to create formal lighting designs. To achieve this goal we will examine light as an aesthetics component of art and everyday life. We will analyze light and the various ways we interact with light.

For this class you will need a ½" = 1'0" USITT approved lighting templet, drafting velum, an architectural scale ruler, other drafting supplies such as triangles, drafting tape, mechanical pencils of 0.9 mm, 0.7 mm, and 0.5mm line weights. Other drafting supplies may be useful. All drafting will be in ½" = 1' 0" scale.

You will have several light lab projects for which plots, paperwork, and journal analysis are required. (10%)

You will be given several plays to read and analyze in order to create a light plot, paper work, cue placement and descriptions, and effect problems to solve. (40%)

You will have required reading and other assignments throughout the semester. Discussion of these assignments is mandatory. There will be objective tests based on these assignments and class discussion. (20%)

You will be assigned one formal paper in the form of a script analysis with regards to stage lighting in conjunction with a particular paper project. (15%)

You will be required to keep a journal of various classroom and extracurricular activities as assigned in class. You will be required to see *six* performances throughout the semester. You are to analyze the various components of lighting for each of these events in you journal. Your ticket stub and program are to be attached to your journal. These performances will consist of:

- 1) Fuddy Meers (GMU Studio Series) October 8 – October 11
- 2) Ah Wilderness! (GMU Main Stage) October 22 – November 1
- 3) The Exonerated (GMU Studio Series) November 19 – November 22
- 4) Fall Dance Concert (GMU Dance Company) November 12 – November 14
- 5) Room Service (GMU Main Stage) December 10 – December 13
- 6) One outside of GMU theatrical production (subject to approval) (15%)

Journal:

Your journal will be a collection of lighting related observations and analysis. During the course of the semester, you will be assigned various tasks which you will record in your journal. This will include but not be limited to observing natural light, artificial light, analysis of production lighting, and other pertinent lighting experiences. (15%)

Grading:

Each project, test, paper, and journal will be given a letter grade. They will be averaged according to the percentages above. As I do not believe in the bell shaped curve, this will put you in competition with only yourself and not your classmates.

If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Office of Disability Resources at 703-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.

PLEASE BE AWARE:

Interruption due to cell phones, pagers, or other outside communication devices is deemed unacceptable. This is true not only in the classroom but in the theatres you attend while seeing productions. Such interruptions will result in additional assignments, usually in the form of a paper, to the offending party and be graded on a pass/fail basis. I emphatically recommend you turn these devices *off* before entering classroom or the theatre!

Honor Code: George Mason University shares in the tradition of an honor system that has existed in Virginia since 1842. The Honor Code is an integral part of university life. On the application for admission, students sign a statement agreeing to conform to and uphold the Honor Code. Therefore, students are responsible for understanding the provisions of the code. In the spirit of the code, a student's word is a declaration of good faith acceptable as truth in all academic matters. Therefore, attempted cheating, plagiarism, lying, and stealing of academic work and related materials constitute Honor Code violations. To maintain an academic community according to these standards, students and faculty must report all alleged violations of the Honor Code to the Honor Committee. Any student who has knowledge of, but does not report, an Honor Code violation may be accused of lying under the Honor Code.

Read more about the Honor Code at: <http://www.gmu.edu/catalog/9798/honorcod.html#code>

If you are a student with a **disability** and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Office of Disability Resources at 703-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.