

THFM-2601-051 (3 credit hours)

INTRODUCTION TO COSTUMING

Winter: 2019
Tuesday: 6:00-9:00 pm
Room: OT22

Instructor: Heather M. Meiklejohn
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Office Hours: by appointment

PRE-REQUISITES

Knowledge of hand sewing techniques and the ability to operate a domestic sewing machine. Rudimentary knowledge/experience with garment construction.

Access to a sewing machine outside of class time.

***Please Note: basic knowledge of machine sewing is a requirement. This is not a learn-to-sew class. In some cases, a student may be asked to demonstrate their sewing proficiency by presenting a portfolio of their work.**

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this course is to:

1. Provide an introduction to the role of the costumer in theatrical productions; and,
2. Develop fundamental skills required as a costumer.

This class explores components of costume design, offering a discourse on design language, colour theory, structure, and decoration as they relate to costumes for theatre. Instruction will include an overview of the steps necessary to take a costume from designer's sketch to completed ensemble ready for the stage. Specifics of the material covered will depend to some extent on the ability of the students. Likely topics will include: use of tools and equipment; hand and machine sewing techniques; fabric identification; garment construction; taking measurements and costume fitting, sketch analysis; working with commercial patterns and pattern drafting; shopping and budgetary control; and, theatre etiquette. Students will demonstrate their proficiency with hand and machine sewing by completing a number of projects. Guest speakers working within the industry and a visit to a professional wardrobe are a possibility.

REQUIRED TEXTS

The Costume Technician's Handbook by Rosemary Ingham & Liz Covey, 3rd ed. (required)
Basic Sewing for Costume Construction by Rebecca Cunningham, 2nd ed. (required)

SUPPLIES

Basic hand and machine sewing equipment (to be discussed in class)
Fabric, paper & related misc. supplies (to be discussed in class)

EVALUATION

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Assignment #1: Stitch Portfolio Part #1 (due Tuesday 29, Jan) | 20% |
| Assignment #2: Stitch Portfolio Part #2 (due Tuesday 25, Feb)..... | 30% |
| Assignment #3: Stitch Portfolio Final Project (due Tuesday 11, Mar) | 25% |
| *Weekly class projects/exhibition visits/participation/quiz..... | 25% |
| | ----- |
| TOTAL | 100% |

CONVERSION SCALE

For the calculation of the final grade the following conversion table will be used:

| | | | | | | | |
|----|------------|-----|------|----|------------|-----|-----|
| A+ | 90 – 100% | GPA | 4.5 | C+ | 65 – 69.9% | GPA | 2.5 |
| A | 85 – 89.9% | GPA | 4.25 | C | 60 – 64.9% | GPA | 2.0 |
| A- | 80 – 84.9% | GPA | 4.0 | D | 50 – 59.9% | GPA | 1.0 |
| B+ | 75 – 79.9% | GPA | 3.5 | F | below 50% | GPA | 0 |
| B | 70 – 74.9% | GPA | 3.0 | | | | |

Work not submitted will be graded as 0%.

NOTE

Please be aware that use of the Costume Lab and equipment outside of class time is at the discretion of the instructor.

Late assignments are **NOT** accepted.

Headphones and food are **NOT** allowed in the Costume Lab.

*Working in a wardrobe environment is very much a group/collaborative endeavour. Please note that class starts at **6:00 pm** and ends at **9:00 pm**. Failure to arrive on time or departing early, will result in the loss of **1 point** from your participation grade for each instance, and a loss of **five points** for each instance of a missed classed.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE*

***Please note: the following dates are tentative and subject to change.**

The structure of the course is contingent on the ability of the students. Tentatively, weeks 1-4 are spent reviewing/evaluating general knowledge of costuming; the final weeks of the term focus on garment construction and production. Guest speakers working within the industry and visits to professional wardrobes are a possibility; dates and times TBA.

The course will comprise one lecture/lab per week. Time will be given to work on projects during class but **it is likely that the student will have to complete projects outside of class time.**

Use of the lab outside of class time is at the discretion of the instructor and dictated by the needs of other classes using the lab space.

Assignment #1: Stitch Portfolio Part #1 (**due Tuesday 29, Jan**) **

Assignment #2: Stitch Portfolio Part #2 (**due Tuesday 25, Feb**) **

Assignment #3: Stitch Portfolio Final Project (**due Tuesday 11, Mar**) **

*Weekly class projects/exhibition visits/participation/quiz (**on-going throughout the term**)

****Assignments are due at the end of class; i.e. 9:00 pm. Late assignments will not be accepted.**

"THE REAL THING" LECTURE SERIES

The Department of Theatre and Film is presenting a series of six lectures which will be held on Wednesdays during the free period (12:30-13:20) in Theatre 1T15. Please note the dates in your diary **NOW**: Sept 19th (Donna-Michelle St. Bernard, playwright and arts administrator), Oct 17th, Nov 14th, Jan 16th, Feb 27th, Mar 13th. This series will feature speakers from a range of areas in the performing arts: technical, performance, design, management, film, directing, playwriting, etc. These speakers will specifically address issues related to "the business of the business."

Attendance for potential Theatre Honours/Majors and for Film Majors is optional but highly recommended.

HEALTH AND ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

Life happens to everyone. If you are experiencing a crisis in your life, or if you have a physical or mental health issue, communicate with your Professor or Accessibility Services – let us know so we can provide support or direct you to those who can. The earlier we know, the earlier we can discuss what resources might be available. Students with documented disabilities, or temporary or chronic medical conditions requiring academic accommodations for tests/exams/presentations (e.g., private space or more time) or during lectures/labs (e.g., note-takers) are encouraged to contact Accessibility Services (AS) at 204-786-9771 or accessibilityservices@uwinnipeg.ca to discuss appropriate options. All information about a student's disability or medical condition remains confidential. If you are registered with Accessibility Services, do not assume that Accessibility Services (AS) has informed your instructor that you have registered with them. <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility>

2018 ORIENTATION ASSEMBLY

Each year in September we hold an *Orientation Assembly* to welcome students to the new term, introduce our new students to faculty and other students; provide information about the department, its various activities and those of its professors; and deliver news about what's coming up. This year our *Orientation Assembly* will be held on **Monday, September 10, 2018, 12:30-13:20 in Theatre, 1T15.** **ATTENDANCE IS COMPULSORY** for all Majors and Honours students. Those considering Honours are strongly recommended to attend. All others are welcome and encouraged to attend.

TAFSA

All students enrolled in at least one theatre or film class are automatically members of TAFSA, the Theatre and Film Students' Association, which plans a number of exciting activities each academic year. We are looking forward to regular **Performance Jams** and **Socials** as well as **DioFest** (a new play festival featuring student written and produced plays), and the very popular **24/7 Event** during which students move into our building and several plays are written, rehearsed, produced, and presented – all in a period of 24 hours! Please join TAFSA to find out more at its organizational meeting, tentatively scheduled for Mon Sept 17, 12:30-1:20 pm, Room OT10. This is a great opportunity for students to connect with other like-minded people and a way to get involved in the department events.

BUILDING SECURITY

The Asper Centre for Theatre and Film (home to the Department of Theatre and Film) is open from 8:00 am and 5:30 pm weekdays only. Students are permitted to be in the building between 8:00 am and 10:00 pm seven days per week (except statutory holidays when the University is closed) **BUT PLEASE NOTE:** outside of regular building hours, it is **MANDATORY** that everyone in the building **EITHER** carry an access card **OR** have a booking confirmation form in their possession (hard copy or electronic). **ALL EVENING STUDENTS in the building for classes MUST have an access card.** If a Security Guard checks and you do not have proper accreditation, **you may be evicted.**

These rules are in place to protect our students and our equipment; please respect them.

ELECTRONIC COURSE OUTLINE ADDENDA

Students must check our website at <http://uwinnipeg.ca/theatre-film> and read the menu items called *Fire Safety Instructions in the Asper Centre for Theatre and Film*, *Access Card/Building Use Policy* **AND** *Room Booking Instructions*. The link to the electronic *Online Room Booking Form* is also found at this location. Please read and note all instructions carefully.

GENERAL NOTES

This course outline should be considered a guideline only. Time constraints and other unforeseen factors may require that some topics be omitted or covered in less detail than indicated.

Archival records such as videotapes, sound recordings, and photographs may be made or taken during class or lab times. The University uses such materials primarily for archival, promotional, and teaching purposes. Promotional use may include display at open houses or conferences, or use in advertising, publicity, or brochures. In reading and accepting the terms in this course outline, students acknowledge consent for such use by the University. Should a student not wish to convey such consent, s/he should withdraw from this course immediately.

Cellular phones **MUST** be turned off during classes and examinations; texting is **NOT** permitted in class.

Any student attending a test or final examination may be required to present proof of identity; photo identification is preferred.

It is the student's responsibility to retain a photocopy or computer disk copy of **ALL** assignments submitted for grading; in the event of loss or theft, a duplicate copy is required.

Students are strongly advised to read the sections 8, 9, and 10 of the *Academic Calendar* for information on Academic Misconduct including plagiarism, and Appeals, (found on-line at: <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/regulationsandpolicies.pdf>).

Students conducting research interviews, focus groups, surveys, or any other method of collecting data from any person, including a family member, must obtain the approval of the appropriate ethics committee before commencing data collection. Exceptions are research activities in class as a learning exercise. See <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/research/human-ethics.html> for submission requirements and deadlines.

All students, faculty and staff have the right to participate, learn and work in an environment that is free of harassment and discrimination. The UW Respectful Working and Learning Environment Policy may be found online at www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect.

Students may choose not to attend classes or write examinations on holy days of their religion, but they must notify their instructors at least two weeks in advance. Instructors will then provide opportunity for students to make up work examinations without penalty. A list of religious holidays can be found at <http://uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/important-notes.pdf>

When it is necessary to cancel a class due to exceptional circumstances, instructors will make every effort to inform students via uwinnipeg email (and/or using the preferred form of communication, as designated by the instructor), as well as the Departmental Assistant and Chair/Dean so that class cancellation forms can be posted outside classrooms. ***Students are reminded that they have a responsibility to regularly check their uwinnipeg e-mail addresses to ensure timely receipt of correspondence from the university and/or their course instructors.***

FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 2019 is the final date to withdraw without academic penalty from courses which begin January 7 and end April 5, 2019 (2018-19 Winter Term).

Please note that withdrawing before the VW date does not necessarily result in a fee refund.

STUDENT PARTICIPATION POLICY

Theatre is a communal art form in which a number of interdependent artists and crafts people cooperate to create a work of art. This fact is necessarily transferred to the learning situation, and is reflected in many of the Department's courses. Consequently, it is the Department's policy that students are required to: complete homework such as reading, line-learning, script analysis, prop lists, design drawings, etc.; attend classes; attend rehearsals both within and outside of class times; and, in short, to exhibit commitment towards the inevitably shared endeavours of our field of study.

Any student failing to fulfil these requirements is harmful to the progress of dedicated students and may, after due warning, be asked to withdraw from any individual Departmental course.

COURSE CONTENT NOTE

Dramatic Literature depicts a wide variety of human action, both elevated and base, public and private, physical and psychological, sexual and non-sexual, etc. The Department of Theatre and Film will not undertake to censor the subject matter of dramatic works.

Students who have concerns about dealing with the full range of content and style in drama/film are urged to discuss these concerns with the course instructor.