

Theatre 5220: Professional Aspects SYLLABUS

REVISION FOUR: 03-24

TERM: Spring 2020 INSTRUCTOR: Brad Steinmetz

CREDITS: 3 OFFICE: my basement LEVEL: G/U EMAIL: steinmetz.25@osu.edu

CLASS TIME: WF 11:10am-12:30pm **CELL PHONE**: 614-749-0240

LOCATION: wherever you are **OFFICE HOURS:** Mon-Fri 1:30 – 2:30 on Zoom

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The aim of this course is to help prepare students to step from the university and into the professional world as artists, collaborators and capable managers of their own career. We study the many aspects and offshoots of the business of theatre and equip students with materials and preparation necessary to begin securing and creating professional work. Because theatre generates a wide variety of specialized professions, and because an education in theatre empowers students for an even broader variety of fields, this course will touch on a range of possible careers instead of concentrating on only a few.

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- 1. To understand career options in theatre, focusing on the business of the professional theatre artist, educator, collaborator and producer.
- 2. To assess individual strengths and weaknesses and determine the best means to capitalize on the strengths and develop a plan of action to address the weaknesses
- 3. To establish individual professional goals and articulate strategies for successfully achieving them
- 4. To practice the skills needed for a successful job and placement search and fulfilling career

TEACHING METHOD: lecture, discussion, exercises

REQUIRED TEXTS: readings on Carmen as assigned

RECOMMENDED TEXTS:

The Actor's Life: A Survival Guide by Jenna Fisher	isbn.nu/9781944648220
The Actor's Business Plan by Jane Drake Brody	isbn.nu/9781472573698
The Professor Is In – The Essential Guide by Karen Kelsky	isbn.nu/9780553419429
The Business of Theatrical Design by Jim Moody	isbn.nu/9781621532408
Starting your Career as a Theatrical Designer by Michael Riha	isbn.nu/9781581159080
The Thriving Artist by David Maurice Sharp	isbn.nu/9781138809178

GRADING:

Jobs list	5%	Grading Scale:	
Job Application 1	10%	93 - 100.0	Α
Job Application 2 & Interview	15%	90 - 92.9	A-
Job Application 3 & Interview/Audition			B+
Web Presence		83 - 86.9	В
		80 - 82.9	B-
Finance Project	5%	77 - 79.9	C+
Action Plan	10%	73 - 76.9	С
Self-Production Project	15%	70 - 72.9	C-
Research Project		67 - 69.9	D+
•		60 - 66.9	D
In-class Assignments	5 <u>%</u>	0 - 59.9	Ε
Total	100%	0 00.0	_



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D	ATE	TOPIC/ACTIVITY	ASSIGNMENT DUE
Wed. Fri.	Jan. 8 Jan. 10	Course Overview / Setting Goals Knowing Yourself	
Wed. Fri.	Jan. 15 Jan. 17	Application Materials Theatres & Companies	Job List Due
Wed. Fri.	Jan. 22 Jan. 24	Unions Guest Artist – Ted Lange	Job Application 1 Due
Wed. Fri.	Jan. 29 Jan. 31	Web Presence Guest Artist – Jennifer Schlueter	
Wed. Fri.	Feb. 5 Feb. 7	Guest Artist – Kevin McClatchy Web work-day	Research Project - Part 1 Due
Wed. Fri.	Feb. 12 Feb. 14	Working in Education Guest Artist – Sifiso Mazibuko	Web Presence Due
Wed. Fri.	Feb. 19 Feb. 21	Widening Careers Guest Artist – David Glover	
Wed. Fri.	Feb. 26 Feb. 28	Business, Taxes & Budgeting Guests – Arri Allen & Havilland Maxwell fro	Job Application 2 Due om Heyman Talent
Wed. Fri.	Mar. 4 Mar. 6	Interviews Day 1 Interviews Day 2	Finance Project Due
Wed. Fri.	Mar. 11 Mar. 13	— Spring Break —— Spring Break —	
Fri. Wed.	Mar. 13 Mar. 18	— Spring Break —— Extra Spring Break —	ICA #5 due
Fri. Wed. Fri. Wed.	Mar. 13 Mar. 18 Mar. 20 Mar. 25	 — Spring Break — — Extra Spring Break — — Extra Spring Break — Research Project & Self-Production	ICA #5 due Research Project - Part 2 Due
Fri. Wed. Fri. Wed. Fri. Wed.	Mar. 13 Mar. 18 Mar. 20 Mar. 25 Mar. 27 Apr. 1	 — Spring Break — — Extra Spring Break — — Extra Spring Break — Research Project & Self-Production Guest Artist – Adam West Nonprofits, Funding & Grants 	
Fri. Wed. Fri. Wed. Fri. Wed. Fri. Wed.	Mar. 13 Mar. 18 Mar. 20 Mar. 25 Mar. 27 Apr. 1 Apr. 3	— Spring Break — — Extra Spring Break — — Extra Spring Break — Research Project & Self-Production Guest Artist — Adam West Nonprofits, Funding & Grants -work day, no class sessions- Fringe and other Festivals	Research Project - Part 2 Due
Fri. Wed. Fri. Wed. Fri. Wed. Fri. Wed. Fri. Wed. Fri.	Mar. 13 Mar. 18 Mar. 20 Mar. 25 Mar. 27 Apr. 1 Apr. 3 Apr. 8 Apr. 10 Apr. 15	— Spring Break — — Extra Spring Break — — Extra Spring Break — Research Project & Self-Production Guest Artist – Adam West Nonprofits, Funding & Grants -work day, no class sessions- Fringe and other Festivals Guest Artist – Matt Slaybaugh Action Plan & Share Projects	Research Project - Part 2 Due Self-Production - Part 1 Due

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:

Jobs List: Find and submit six (6) job announcements for which you could apply after completion of your degree. Your submission should include the entire advertisement or job description for each position.

Job Application 1: Select one job from your list and produce a resume and cover letter specifically tailored for the position. Reach out to your instructor with any questions. Submit all materials on Carmen.

Job Application 2: Select one job from your list and produce all application materials required including a resume and cover letter specifically tailored for the position. (If you don't have a job that requires more than these items, consult with your instructor.) Submit all materials on Carmen. Part of this assignment will be a mock interview for the position.

Job Application 3: Select one job from your list and produce all application materials required including a resume and cover letter specifically tailored for the position. (If you don't have a job that requires more than these items, consult with your instructor.) Submit all materials on Carmen. Students can choose whether they want to participate in a mock interview or audition.

Web Presence: Create or refine an independent site on the internet featuring you and your work to which you can refer future employers and collaborators.

Finance Project: Produce and refine a personal budget in response to prompts from the instructor.

Self-Production Project: In groups of 2, develop a production proposal. For this project, you will establish a detailed and realistic plan for the budgeting, scheduling, and funding necessary to produce your show. This project will be divided into two parts.

Research Project: Conduct research to find your dream job. You may begin with a company you'd love to be a part of, a city you wish to live in, or people you'd want to collaborate with. It must be a job that currently exists. Consider your values, strengths and goals. Thoroughly research the details of the company and the position. Learn all you can about the person who currently holds the position. This project will be divided into two parts.

Action Plan: Create a detailed action plan that outlines a series of short term, near term, and long range goals; identifies both strengths that you possess as well and opportunities for areas of growth; action steps to be taken over the next several months; a personal definition of your expected professional behavior and work ethic; as well as a brief written evaluation of your course experience.

In-Class Assignments: Complete a variety of smaller assignments for or during class sessions.

NEW COURSE POLICIES:

All class sessions will be held remotely on Zoom. Each session will be recorded and accessible through Carmen. Presence/attendance is never required. There are no penalties for late assignments. I encourage everyone to keep pace with the course as best they can and keep in touch with even the smallest questions or concerns. I will be accessible via email every day and will respond in less than 24 hours. Feel free to call or text if you prefer.

CLASS CANCELLATION POLICY:

If we need to cancel a class, I will inform you through via email/Carmen and I will provide information on adjustments to our schedule and/or assignments.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT: It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term "academic misconduct" includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct (http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resources/).

DISABILITY SERVICES: The University strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion. SLDS contact information: slds@osu.edu; 614-292-3307; slds.osu.edu; 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Ave.