

A - New Course Proposal V. 7.2022 : Entry # 3016**DEAN Decision**

Approved

Date

09/18/2023

Is this course intracollegiate or intercollegiate?

Intracollegiate

SCHOOL EPC Decision

Approved

Date

01/18/2024

Begin Form**Today's Date**

09/16/2023

Your Name:

Caitlyn Baldwin

Your Email:cbaldwi1@highpoint.edu**Are you a Department Chair?**

No

Department Chair Name

Doug Brown

Email address of your Department Chairdbrown@highpoint.edu**By checking below, I certify that my department chair has seen and approved the new course that I am proposing.**

Yes

Please select the appropriate school overseeing this proposal:

Arts & Design

Information for the Registrar

A - New Course Proposal V. 7.2022 : Entry # 3016**Choose the department designator from the list below.**

THE

Proposed Course Number?

2880

Is this course cross listed?

No

Does this course replace a current course?

No

What is the title of the new course?

Stage Properties Direction & Design

Write the catalog description of your proposed course:

This course will explore the basic techniques and process of properties design and direction for stage and film productions. Students will learn the relationship between the Properties Director and the Scenic Designer as well as the organizational and hands on skills needed to create believable stage properties.

How many credit hours will this course be?

2

How will the course be graded?

Letter grade

Please select the course repeat option for this course:

Repeatable for credit once

What is the offering cycle for this course?

Alternate years

Does your course have any prerequisites?

No

Is this new course being proposed because of a new or revised major or minor proposal?

THE Major/Minor Fall 2023, Jay Putnam

Gen Ed and Academic Programs**Is this course part of Gen Ed?**

- No

A - New Course Proposal V. 7.2022 : Entry # 3016**Does this course count towards a major or a minor?**

Yes

Please list the Major / Minor and if it is Required or Elective

THE Major/Minor Required/Elective

Is this course part of an academic program?

- This course does not fulfill academic program requirements

Does this course include any community engagement?

No

Does this course participate in the GoGlobal Program?

No

Information for Curriculum Review**Rationale and evidence for new course's consistency with departmental mission:**

In reflecting upon and assessing our current technical theater courses, we discovered a gap in what skills and experience is required in the theatre industry and our current course offerings. As such, we are working to add more options for technical theater students to better prepare them for real world work experiences in theatre and related industries. Our mission states that our students learn by doing and as such, we have created several new course offerings in technical theater designed to do just that—provide ample opportunity for students to practice theoretical frameworks and work at advanced levels in the craft.

Props design is essential for the believability of the world of a play and the lives of the characters. Each semester, we build countless props for our HPU Theater and Dance Productions. This course is designed to give students the foundation of properties design and construction. Through basic construction techniques, organizational paperwork and documentation as well as research and practice, students will develop a portfolio of props for theoretical and realized projects.

List all student learning outcomes for this course.

By the end of this course, the student will be able to:

- Define the role of the properties designer/director, their relationship to the scenic designer
- Develop methods and terminology to communicate effectively with scenic designers, technical directors and members of the production team
- Create organizational tools to track the build, pull, buy of properties as well as their usage on stage
- Demonstrate safe building practices in the scene shop
- Explore construction and paint techniques to create believable effects on stage

List any units or content areas that will be required for all sections of this course.

What is a prop?
 The Prop Shop (Function of Properties, Personnel, Safety)
 The Props Process
 Paper Props
 Aging and Distressing

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Food Props and Mold Making
Organic Materials

List any assignments, tests, or other assessments that will be required for all sections of this course.**Build, Pull, Buy List**

Read [play title here]. Create a full list of all necessary props. You must read carefully—often props are mentioned in the dialogue AND the stage directions.

From this full list of props, create a build, pull, buy list as if you were working with the stock that we have here at HPU.

Consider what are your resources (time, budget and people) when building props?

What is the time period of the play?

If buying, props, where will you source them from?

Paper Props Project

One of the most commonly used paper props is a letter of some kind. For this assignment you will create a piece of correspondence that may be found in an antique chest tucked away in an attic or at a thrift store.

Techniques include: Tea/Coffee Staining Paper, Faux Calligraphy, Wax Sealing

Distressing Project

Often when creating props, you will need to purchase a new item in a similar style to that of a vintage piece. You will select an item from our props storage or found in the scene shop and distress it using techniques demonstrated in class. You must provide at least 5 time period appropriate research images of the item you have chosen to distress.

Fake Food Project Due

For this assignment you will be working with upholstery foam, matte knives, rasps and other basic tools to create a loaf of bread. You will need to research 3-5 images of a style of bread—can be a loaf or roll of bread (please no croissants or intricately carved bread items for this initial project). You will then carve and shape your upholstery foam to resemble your research image as accurately as possible. Using acrylic paint, you will color match to your paint reference on the research images.

Organic Material Project

For this assignment, you will work with a partner to create an item of organic origin—a rock, a small tree stump, plant scape etc. You may use scraps of material from the scene shop (scrap lumber, chicken wire, muslin, wood/elmers glue and paint) to create your organic item. You should research 3-5 images and must create a hand drafted elevation with ideas on how to construct your item.

Final Props Presentation Due

The Final Props Binder will be a compilation of your work from the semester including:

Create a History Assignment

Build, Pull, Buy List

Images of your process for each practical project

Images of each of your finished prop projects

List any readings or other materials that will be required for all sections of this course.

Readings and materials to be provided by the instructor

List any course policies that will be required for all sections of this course.

n/a

If you would like to specify how requirements for contact hours must be met for all sections of this course, please indicate below. (e.g., if any experiential learning activities will replace seat time)

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n/a

Is there anything else the reviewing parties should know about this new course proposal that hasn't been addressed?

n/a

Sample Syllabus

- [PROPS-COURSE-SYLLABUS.docx](#)