

**Syllabus: Technical Theatre I, II, and III**

**Instructor: Paul McClain**

**Class Room 831 and the Auditorium**

**Email: [mcclainb@fultonschools.org](mailto:mcclainb@fultonschools.org)**

**Course Description:**

This course functions as an introduction to the technical elements of theatre, including scenic, lighting, costume and sound design. For the advanced students it delves into the explorations of the technical elements. These students will take on more responsibilities in the given areas of technical theatre. Students will improve their use of tools and technical skills associated with the elements of theatrical design and theatre management

**Units**

(Due to the nature of this course working in tandem with our current theatrical season units are often done out of order or repeated as needed)

Production Organization and Management

Scenic Design

Costume Design

Lighting Design

Sound Design

Executing a Production

**Grading**

Completed Design Projects

30%

Weekly Lab

20%

Quizzes

20%

Written Assignments

15%

Final Exam

15%

**School Plays.**

All students in the class are required to attend all school play productions and submit responses after the performance. These responses count as a quiz grade.

Papers are due the week after the show closes

**Rules for Assignments**

All work is due on the assigned date. If a student is absent, work due during their absence may be submitted one day after the student returns to school for each day absent.

The price of work handed in late. 1 day late 10% reduction of grade; 2 days late 20% reduction of grade; 3 days or more late 50% reduction of grade

**Classroom Rules**

- **Closed Toed Shoes are REQUIRED for the class. For safety reasons the student will not be able to participate in the class activities with open toed sandals or flip-flops. This can result in a negative grade for the lab. Please bring a pair of work shoes to change into. They may be left at the school.**
  - **As students will be using power tools during the lab portions of this class proper behavior is essential during class time.**
  - **Safety is the number one concern in theatrical design!!!!**
- 1. Wear sloppy clothes. We will be crawling all over the theatre and making things, leave the nice stuff home. You may choose to leave work clothes here.
- 2. Be constructive in class discussions.
- 3. Appropriate behavior is mandatory around power tools.
- 4. Follow proper procedures and safety precautions when using power tools.
- 5. If unsure, ask before action.

### Contacting Mr. McClain

Feel free to email me at any time.

[mcclainb@fultonschools.org](mailto:mcclainb@fultonschools.org)

### Schedule Subject to Change

Generally Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays are Lab Workshop days. Students must dress out for the lab in appropriate clothing in order to participate in the graded activity.

#### 2013-2014 Daily Schedule Technical theatre

##### Week One

August 12-16

Safety and introduction to the space

M- Tour the space

T- Pretest tools. Pretest

Safety Drill Demo

W- Drill safety quiz

H- Saw Demo

F- Saw Safety Quiz

##### Week Two

M- Theatre Shop lab

T- Intro to Design

W-Theatre Shop Lab

H- Read Play

F- Theatre Shop Lab and

Weekly Assessment

##### Week Three

M- Theatre shop Lab

T- Scale Drawing demonstration and homework

W- Theatre Shop Lab

H- Presentation of Abstracts and Design Concepts

F- Theatre Shop Lab and

Weekly Assessment

##### Week Four

M Labor Day

T- Google Sketch up and Presentation of scale drawing Homework

W- Theatre Shop Lab

H- Presentation of research thumbnails and Groundplan for design

F- Theatre Shop lab and weekly assessment

##### Week Five

Sept 13 Wax Museum

M- Theatre Lab

T-Legging competition

W- Theatre lab

H- Presentation of Finished Scenic Design Projects

F- Wax Museum

##### Week Six

M-Theatre lab

T-Finish presentation of models and post production papers

W-Theatre lab

H-Intro to Costuming 9-20

F-Theatre lab

##### Week Seven

M-Theatre lab

T-Period Design project research assigned

W-Theatre lab

H-Presentation of initial abstract and research pictures

F-Theatre lab

##### Week Eight

M-Theatre lab

T-Quick Change Challenge

W-Theatre lab

H- complete presentation of costume design

F-Theatre lab

##### Week Nine

M-Theatre lab

T- Finish presentation of costume design

W-Theatre lab

H- Trashbag Couture

F-Theatre lab

##### Week Ten

M- Teacher workday

T-Teacher Workday

W-Theatre lab

H- 3d lighting and discussion of color theory

F-Theatre lab

##### Week Eleven

M-Theatre lab

T-Draw and label different lighting instruments

W-Theatre lab

H- Light cue programming demo and hands on experimentation

F-Theatre lab

##### Week Twelve

Oct 29-Nov. 2

M-Makeup demonstration

T-How to hang a light demo and begin individual challenge

W- Complete Light Hang Challenge

H- Halloween Show

F-Theatre lab

##### Week Thirteen

M-Theatre lab

T- Introduction to sound Design

W-Theatre lab

H- Lecture on sound design and tour of sound equipment

F-Theatre lab

##### Week Fourteen

M-Theatre lab

T- Demonstration of the setting up of basic sound equipment each group hands on

W-Theatre lab

H-Draw out set up of sound board ( Thespian Challenge)

F-Theatre lab

##### Week Fifteen

November 26- 30

M-Theatre lab

T- Sound Scape Set up

W-Theatre lab

H- Soundscape Recording

F-Theatre lab

Week Sixteen  
Thanksgiving Break

Week Seventeen (last week  
of instruction prior to final  
projects)  
M-Theatre lab  
T- Play Back Soundscapes  
W-Theatre lab

H- Introduce Final Project  
Rubric and Discuss  
F- Macbeth

Week Eighteen (Final  
Projects and Reviews)  
M-Groups work on physical  
aspect of final project with  
completed design concept

T- Groups work with tech  
booth  
W- Groups divided into time  
slots for stage, sound and  
lighting priority during the  
period  
H- Reverse time slots  
F- present final projects

Week Nineteen ( Exams)

# GENERAL SCENE SHOP SAFETY

## INDICATE WILLINGNESS TO WORK SAFELY BY SIGNING SAFTEY PLEDGE

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

### STUDENT SAFTEY PLEDGE FORM

\_\_\_\_\_, who is in the Technical Theatre Class, will, as a part of a class project, operate machines and power tools, providing that a parent or guardian gives written permission.

It is understood that each student will be given proper instruction, both in the use of the equipment and in correct safety procedures concerning it, before being allowed to operate it. The student must assume responsibility for following safe practices, and we therefore ask that the following safety pledge be signed.

1. I PROMISE TO ABIDE BY SCHOOL POLICIES AS STATED IN STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT.
2. I PROMISE TO FOLLOW ALL SAFETY RULES WHILE IN THE SCENE SHOP.
3. I PROMISE NEVER TO USE ANY EQUIPMENT WITHOUT FIRST HAVING PERMISSION FROM THE INSTRUCTOR.
4. I WILL NOT ASK PERMISSION TO USE A PARTICULAR MACHINE UNLESS I HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED IN ITS USE, AND HAVE PASSED THE SAFETY TEST FOR THAT MACHINE.
5. I WILL REPORT ANY ACCIDENT OR INJURY TO THE TEACHER IMMEDIATELY.
6. I UNDERSTAND THAT FAILURE TO FOLLOW SAFETY REGULATIONS IS GROUNDS FOR DISMISSAL FROM USE OF MACHINES AND EQUIPMENT.

The following power tools may be used, but not limited to, by your engineering student:



**Drill Press**



**Electric Drill**



**Cordless Drill**



**Jig Saw**



**Portable  
Circular Saw**



**Motorized**



**Band Saw**

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ STUDENT SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby give my consent to allow my child to operate all machines and equipment necessary in carrying out the class project.

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

By signing this document, I release Northview High School, Fulton County Schools, and Paul McClain from liability in the Scene shop.

**It is not necessary to sign this document but failure to return this document signed will keep your student from using tools and equipment in the classroom.**