

GLENDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Senior High School

May 21, 2002

Department:	Visual and Performing Arts
Course Title:	Technical Theatre 1-2
Course Numbers:	2501D-1/2502D-2
Grade Level:	10 and 11
Semester Hours:	10
Prerequisite:	Presentation of an audition and approval of the instructor is required.
Recommended:	Drama 1-2, or Beginning Dance, or Instrumental Music, or Vocal Music, or Music Technology, or Engineering Manufacturing and Construction recommended in 9 th grade year.
Course Description:	This course is designed to acquaint the serious technical theatre student with all the technical aspects of theatre production, including: lighting, sound, scenery construction, scenic artistry, stage crew work, theatre crafts and theatre management. The student will be required to work outside of class on school and community programs occurring in the auditorium.

I. Standards

- A. Artistic Perception - Students observe live productions and respond to them using the vocabulary and language of the theatre.

The student will:

1. Observe a variety of auditorium events and document their observations of the technical production values and techniques through written and oral reports.

- B. Creative Expression - Students explore the elements and technology of theatrical production through varied media.

The student will:

1. Recognize the affect of lighting, sound, and scenic design on the observer.

2. Make designs a reality in the form of stagecraft, lighting, and sound.
3. Develop and maintain a portfolio of their work.

4. Be engaged in activities, which will provide them with team-building and decision-making skills.

- C. Historical and Culture Context - Students research relationships between theatre, history and culture.

The student will:

1. Explore the evolution of the performance space through classroom discussions and readings.
2. Learn about the evolution of stage lighting. - The journey from candles to computerized stage lighting.

- D. Aesthetic Valuing

- D. Students develop and use criteria for judging and evaluating theatrical events.

The student will:

1. View a college level, or professional, performance and write a critique of how the design elements enhanced the effectiveness of the performance.
2. View a theatrical, musical, or dance rehearsal and/or performance in the school's auditorium. Participate in a discussion of the technical aspects of the program. What worked well? What could be approved on?

- E. Connections, Relationships and Applications - Students apply what they learn in technical theatre to learning across subject areas. They develop competencies and creative skills in problem solving, communication and management of time and resources that contribute to lifelong learning and career skills. They learn about careers in and related to technical theatre.

The student will:

1. Demonstrate the use of applied math skills in scenic construction, stage rigging, and stage lighting.
2. Use computers to operate sound and lighting equipment.
3. Read technical materials (journal articles, instruction manuals, MSDS sheets, etc.) as part of their classroom activities.

4. Write show reviews.
5. Examine the training, education, and experience needed to pursue a career in technical theatre.

II. Sample Assessments:

1. Instructor-created quizzes and tests.
2. Oral and written critiques of the work of self and others, inside and outside the classroom.
3. Daily participation in classroom lectures, discussions and projects/work assignments.
4. Participation as technical and/or house crew in assigned rehearsals and performances.
5. Quarterly review of student's portfolio.

III. Topics of Study/Suggested Time Distribution

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|----|---|-----|
| A. | Vocabulary of the theatre. | 10% |
| B. | General Stage Lighting | 15% |
| | 1. Identification of basic lighting equipment and associated material used in lighting the stage. | |
| | 2. Hanging, circuiting, focusing, and adding color to a lighting instrument. | |
| C. | Stage Rigging | 20% |
| | 1. Identification of the basic parts of a counterweight fly system. | |
| | 2. Identifying and describing the purpose of the various draperies and backdrops used in the theatre. | |
| | 3. Counterweight system operation. | |
| D. | Introductory Skills in Scenic Construction. | 20% |
| | 1. Identify types of scenery. | |
| | 2. Identify types of materials used in scenic construction. | |
| | 3. Safely operate hand and power tools used in scenic construction. | |

4. Join construction materials using various methods.
5. Perform measurement and layout tasks.
6. Paint and texture scenic elements.

- E. Understanding and demonstrating safe working practices in the theatre. 10%
1. Participation in the theatre's fire and earthquake safety program.
 2. Maintaining facilities, tools and equipment.
 3. Participating in all cleanup activities.
 4. Assisting with enforcement of public safety policies and procedures.
 5. Properly using personal protection equipment when required.
- F. Stage Management 5%
1. Understanding, following, and executing the prompting instructions given by a stage manager.
- G. LIGHTING TRACK (YEAR 1) 20%
1. Computerized lighting console operation.
 2. Patch dimmers to control channels.
 3. Record and operate channels via sub-masters.
 4. Record and playback cues.
 5. Record and use groups as building blocks for cues and sub-masters.
 6. Use basic disk and print functions.
 7. Use the lighting console for sub-master and cued programs.
 8. Followspot operation.
 9. The purpose of the followspot components and controls.
 10. Followspot operation for auditorium programs.
- G. SOUND TRACK (YEAR 1) 20%
1. Basic audio system signal flow.

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2. Setup, patching and operating microphones, cassette decks, DAT machines, mini-disk machines, and monitor speakers for auditorium programs.

3. Identifying, describing the purpose of, and operating the various controls on the mixing console.
4. Reading and following an audio setup sheet.

IV. Instructional Strategies or Methods

- A. Project-based learning: building a set for a theatrical performance, preparing stage lighting and setting up sound equipment for an event, executing sound, lighting and stage rigging cues during a performance.
- B. Group and individual work: computerized lighting system operation, sound system operation, fly system operation, scenic construction, documenting observations of auditorium events.
- C. Readings
- D. Lecture
- E. Peer tutoring
- F. Library/Internet research
- G. Videos
- H. Presentations by industry partners in the field of technical theatre
- I. Field Trips: Backstage tours, attendance at theatrical performances at the college level or professional level.

V. Texts and Supplemental Materials

- A. Adopted Texts - none
- B. Instructional aids, texts and printed resources for teachers and students addressing the following topics:
 1. Scenic Construction
 2. Stage lighting
 3. Sound reinforcement

4. Theatre history
5. Stage rigging
6. Personnel and public safety in the theatre

7. Careers in technical theatre
 8. Mathematical applications
 9. Technical reading
- C. Supplies and equipment.
1. Auditorium facility equipped with the following:
 - a. Computerized lighting system.
 - b. Follow spots
 - c. Sound system
 - d. Counterweight fly system.
 - e. Scene Shop equipped with the necessary hand and power tools and supplies for constructing scenery.
 - f. TV/VCR
 - g. Computers with sound and lighting application software.