

**THEATRE 434, SECTION 001
ADVANCED LIGHTING DESIGN
SPRING, 2012**

Instructor : Timothy Chew
Office : PAB A109E
Telephone : 703-993-1123
E-mail : tchew@gmu.edu
Hours : Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 10:30 - 12:30, or by appointment
Final : Wednesday, May 9, 13:30 - 16:15

The goal of this class is to give the student a better understanding of the aesthetics of Lighting Design through intellectual and practical exercise. These exercises will make use of the light lab to realize aesthetic goals and drafting/paper projects to create formal lighting designs. To achieve this goal we will examine light as an aesthetics component of art and everyday life. We will analyze light and the various ways we interact with light.

For this class you will need a ½" = 1'0" USITT approved lighting template, drafting velum, an architectural scale ruler, other drafting supplies such as triangles, drafting tape, mechanical pencils of 0.9 mm, 0.7 mm, and 0.5mm line weights. Other drafting supplies may be useful. All drafting will be in ½" = 1'0" scale. You are also encouraged to use Vector Works and Lightwright for your projects. Please download the free Educational version of Vector Works at: <http://student.myvectorworks.net/>

You will be given several plays to read and analyze in order to create a light plot, paper work, cue placement and descriptions, and effect problems to solve. (50%)

You will have required reading and other assignments throughout the semester. Discussion of these assignments is expected. There may be objective tests based on these assignments and class discussion. (20%)

You will be assigned a paper, in the form of a script analysis, with regards to stage lighting in conjunction with each paper project. (20%)

Journal analysis of the lighting of the theatrical events below and classroom discussion / assignments. Any lighting designs you do during the semester will also be journalized. (10%)

You will be required to keep a journal of various classroom and extracurricular activities as assigned in class. You will be required to see *six* performances throughout the semester. You are to analyze the various components of lighting for each of these events in you journal. Your ticket stub and program are to be attached to your journal. These performances will consist of:

- 1) This Is Our Youth (GMU Players) March 1 - 4 TheaterSpace
- 2) The Life Of Galileo (GMU Players) March 28 - April 7 Harris Theater
- 3) One dance recital or ballet
- 4) One outside of GMU theatrical production (subject to approval) (15%)

Grading:

Each project, test, paper, and journal will be given a letter grade. They will be averaged according to the percentages above. As I do not believe in the bell shaped curve, this will put you in competition with only yourself and not your classmates.

PLEASE BE AWARE:

Interruption due to cell phones, pagers, or other outside communication devices is deemed unacceptable. This is true not only in the classroom but in the theatres you attend while seeing productions. Such interruptions will result in additional assignments, usually in the form of a paper, to the offending party and be graded on a pass/fail basis. I emphatically recommend you turn these devices *off* before entering classroom or the theatre!

INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE UNIVERSITY:

ETHICS, UNIVERSITY POLICIES, HONOR CODE:

As a courtesy to others in the class, and in accordance with George Mason University policy, please turn off all beepers, cellular telephones and other wireless communication devices at the start of class. Also, please refrain from using Instant Messenger or email during class.

Copyright Law

Each student is individually responsible for his or her own work on assignments and creative projects. A willingness to learn from and share ideas with other students is important and equally important is that students do their own work. The use of other artists' images, videos, sounds, music is allowed as long as your inclusion of these creative works falls within the realm of "fair use" as described by copyright law. Students should always cite their sources. Try to use original source material as often as possible.

Honor Code

The Honor Code, as stated in the George Mason University Undergraduate Catalog, applies to all students in this class. The Honor Code requires that the work you do be your own. As a university faculty member, I have an obligation to refer the names of students who may have violated the Honor Code to the Student Honor Council, which treats such cases very seriously. Using someone else's words, ideas, music or art without giving them credit is plagiarism, a very serious Honor Code offense. It is crucial to understand how to avoid plagiarism when using material from other sources. No grade is important enough to justify cheating, for which there are serious consequences. If you feel unusual pressure about your grade in this or any other course, please talk to me or a member of the Counseling Center staff.

GRADING:

Letter grades will be assigned based on the George Mason University undergraduate grading system in which a letter grade of “A” is equal to 4.00 grade points, “A-” equals 3.67 grade points, etc. See the Academic Policies section of the *University Catalog* (available online at www.gmu.edu) for more information.

Grading Standards: What makes a project or other assignment an “A”? (B, C, D, F)

Grading Standards:

- A grade of “A” is given for superlative work that demonstrates a profound commitment to the course material, and further, employs this material as a springboard for independent thought and work.
- A grade of “B” is given for very good work that completely fulfills all the requirements of the course in a conscientious and dedicated manner, and that demonstrates mastery of the course content.
- A grade of “C” is given for work that fulfills all the requirements of the course in a satisfactory manner, but that falls short of demonstrating rigor and mastery.
- A grade of “D” is given for work that is unsatisfactory in content, but meets the standards of submission.
- A grade of “F” is given for work that fails to fulfill the requirements of the course.

All communications regarding this course must occur via Mason email accounts.

GMU Add/Drop Policy: The last day to drop this class with no tuition liability is **2/8/2011**. The last day to drop this class without Dean’s permission is **2/25/2011, by 5pm**. The selective withdrawal period is 2/28/2011 – 4/1/2011. It is the student’s responsibility to check to verify that they are properly enrolled as no credit will be awarded

Honor Code, Copyright, & Computing Policies: *To promote a stronger sense of mutual responsibility, respect, trust, and fairness among all members of the George Mason University community and with the desire for greater academic and personal achievement, we, the student members of the university community, have set forth this honor code:* Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related to academic work.

You are expected to adhere to all University policies and guidelines during your participation in this course. All work must be your own. Inappropriate use of the work of others is a George Mason University Honor Code violation. Please review the University’s website for information on the following: Honor Code and Judicial Procedures; Copyright/Fair Use; and Responsible Use of Computing.

If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 703.993.2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office. Students must inform the instructor at the

beginning of the semester, and the specific accommodation will be arranged through the Disability Resource Center.

GMU Email Accounts

Students must activate their GMU email accounts to receive important University information, including messages related to this class. The GMU email accounts are the official accounts for this class.

Writing Center: Students in need of intensive help with grammar, structure or mechanics in their writing should make use of the services of the Writing Center, located in Robinson A116 (703-993-1200). These services are available by appointment, online and, occasionally, on a walk-in basis.

Other Mason resources: <http://www.gmu.edu/departments/freshman/resources.html>

University Policies: University Catalog can be accessed catalog.gmu.edu

University Libraries “ Ask a Librarian” <http://library.gmu.edu/mudge/IM/IMRef.html>

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) caps.gmu.edu or (703) 993-2380

University Policies

The University Catalog, <http://catalog.gmu.edu>, is the central resource for university policies affecting student, faculty, and staff conduct in university affairs.

You are encouraged to sign up for the Mason Alert System by visiting the website <https://alert.gmu.edu>. Emergency information is posted in each classroom explaining what to do in the event of crises. Further information about emergency procedures can be found at <http://www.gmu.edu/service/cert>.

NOTE: Cell phones, pagers and alarms must be turned off in class. Exceptions will only be made in advance or in case of emergency.

Important Dates Revised

Dates listed on this page are for full semester courses only. For add/drop deadlines for courses that meet less than a full semester, see [Non-standard Sections Dates](#).

<i>January 1 Day of Week</i>	<i>Sunday</i>
Martin Luther King Day (no classes)	Mon Jan 16
First day of classes ; last day to submit Domicile Reclassification Application; Payment Due Date; full semester waitlists removed	Mon Jan 23
Summer 2012 Graduation Intent Available via Patriot Web	Mon Jan 30
Last day to drop with no tuition penalty	Tues Jan 31
Last day to add classes —all individualized section forms due	Tues Jan 31
Last day to drop with a 33% tuition penalty	Tues Feb 14

Last day to drop with a 67% tuition penalty	Fri Feb 24
Last day to drop	Fri Feb 24
Last day to file your Spring 2012 Graduation Intent	Fri Feb 24
Immunization Record Deadline	Tue Mar 1
Midterm progress reporting period (100-200 level classes)—grades available via Patriot Web	Mon Feb 20 - Fri Mar 23
Selective Withdrawal Period (undergraduate students only)	Mon Feb 27 - Fri Mar 30
Spring Break	Mon Mar 12 - Sun Mar 18
Incomplete work from Fall 2011 due to instructor**	Fri Mar 30
Incomplete grade changes from fall 2011 due to registrar**	Fri Apr 6
Dissertation/Thesis Deadline**	Fri May 4
Last day of classes	Sat May 5
Reading Days	Mon May 7 & Tue May 8
Exam Period (beginning at 7:30 a.m.)	Wed May 9 - Wed May 16
Commencement and Degree Conferral Date	May 19, 2012

** These dates will not change.