

Costume Construction

Professor Kristina Tollefson

University of Central Florida Department of Theatre

kristina.tollefson@ucf.edu

Course Objectives:

This course is designed to give you an overview of costume technology. At the end of this course the successful student will be able to:

- identify the personnel employed in the costume shop
- understand the physical organization of the costume shop
- recognize and understand the safe use of costume shop materials, tools and equipment
- identify a fabric by fiber and weave
- identify the grainline of a fabric as well as the method of surface design and color finishes
- list the steps in creating a theatrical costume
- demonstrate a command of hand and machine stitching
- take accurate measurements of the body
- understand the steps required to draft a body block
- understand and be able to use the principle of dart manipulation in flat patterning
- read and use a commercial pattern and envelope to successfully create a clothing and accessory piece

Required Texts:

The Costume Technician's Handbook by Rosemary Ingham and Liz Covey

Fabric Lab by Learning Seed

Suggested Text—NOT REQUIRED:

Singer Sewing Essentials Published by Cy DeCosse International

If you are interested in purchasing a used copy of Singer Sewing Essentials I recommend you check the following web sites where this book can be found for as little as \$3.00 plus shipping:

<http://www.bibliofind.com>

<http://www.abebooks.com/>

<http://www.powells.com>

Required Supplies:

Sewing Box (not a Wal-Mart bag)

Fabric shears 7-8" blade

Seam ripper

2x18" c-thru gridded ruler

Pin cushion or magnet

Long Pins with Heads

Pkg. of hand sewing needles—sharps or assorted

Tracing wheel

Measuring Tape

**Additional supplies will be required for your projects including fabric and notions.

Course Grading: I will use the following plus/minus grading scale

100-94=A, 93-90=A-, 89-88=B+, 87-84=B, 83-80=B-, 79-78=C+, 77-74=C, 73-70=C-, 69-68=D+, 67-64=D, 63-60=D-, 59 and below=F

ADA: If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please notify me as soon as possible. You may also want to contact Student Disability Services at (407) 823-2371.

Note: Please keep all graded material from class on file until the end of the semester in case of grade discrepancies. In the case of a grade discrepancy you are responsible to prove your grade. All assignments must be completed to receive a passing grade in this course.

Attendance Policy: I understand that you all have other classes and obligations pulling you in many directions. If you need to be gone from class for any reason please let me know ahead of time, but please do not ask me for permission. This class is important too. It is your responsibility to sign the daily attendance sheet. If your signature is not on the attendance sheet, you will be counted absent. Please note that two tardies equals one absence.

Bonus points will be awarded for good attendance using the following point scale:

0 classes missed	= 20 points extra credit
1 class missed	= 15 points extra credit
2 classes missed	= 10 points extra credit
3 classes missed	= 5 points extra credit
4 or more missed	= no points extra credit

Quizzes: There will be 5 quizzes with varying points possible (Check the course schedule for dates). These quizzes may be written, a hands-on activity of a skill that should be mastered, or a combination of both. Makeup quizzes will rarely be given and at my discretion. Expect any makeup quiz given to be more difficult than the original quiz. Makeup quizzes may need to be scheduled outside of class, again at my discretion and depending on the nature and length of the quiz.

Exams: The only exam of the semester is the comprehensive final (100 pts). It will be a combination of essay, matching, multiple choice, true/false, and identification questions along with required tasks (For example: make a dress).

Fabric Identification Swatch Book: Assignment will be made in class. There will be several due dates over the course of the semester and worksheets will be provided. Copied answers from the workbook will not be acceptable.

Dart Manipulation Folder: More guidelines will follow in class. Each exercise must be labeled with your name, the problem number, the technique used, and the name of the piece. Any working patterns must also be included. Exercises should be compiled in sheet protectors in a 1" 3 ring binder and turned in on the due date.

Points Possible:

Quizzes	5 total quizzes from 25 – 50 pts	165 pts
Book Bag Commercial Pattern Project		100 pts
Swatch Book Workbook		74 pts
Supplies Checks	2 @ 25 pts	50 pts
Measurements		25 pts
Body Block		100 pts
Dart Manipulation Folder		56 pts
Lab Hours		100 pts
Final Exam		100 pts
Final Project		150 pts
		<hr/>
		900 pts possible

Late Work: 10 points will be deducted automatically for every late project

Final Project: Your final project will be a black bowling shirt that you construct from a commercial pattern. If you wish to design and keep your bowling shirt you must provide all of your materials. If you do not wish to keep your bowling shirt the shop will provide your materials. I must know by March 3 if you wish to purchase your own materials or have the shop purchase them for you. Along with your completed project you must give a short presentation in which you describe your choice in pattern and fabric. Also discuss the most difficult aspect of this project and what you enjoyed the most. Are you happy with your choices and craftsmanship? Why or Why not?

Religious Observance: I will reasonably accommodate absences due to observed religious holidays, however, you will be held responsible for any material covered during the absence. You must provide me with a list of absences by the second week of class.

Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty is unacceptable. Attempting to gain unfair advantage over other students through the use of unauthorized materials or information on quizzes or examinations is cheating. Cheating includes (but is not limited to) crib sheets, copying answers from another student's exam, use of recording devices, use of a calculator capable of storing alphanumeric data, and gaining unauthorized prior access to exams or answers. It can be generally defined as giving or receiving aid in examinations or on assignments which are intended to be done individually or the presentation of the work of other persons as one's own.

On quizzes and examinations, all information other than that which is in your head is unauthorized unless the instructor specifically informs the class otherwise. No talking or communication of any type is authorized during the taking of an examination. No communication about a quiz or examination is authorized between students who have completed the examination and those who have not. Any talking or looking in the direction of another person's paper is presumed to be cheating and will be treated as such. Disciplinary action will be taken against those caught cheating.

Contacting Me: Please feel free to contact me at home if necessary, but restrict your calls between the hours of 10am and 10pm unless it is an absolute emergency. I do not take calls from Friday night to Saturday night but I have voice mail and will return your call. I am also very available through email and you will probably receive the most prompt reply this way. I check my email several times a day but if you need to call my cell phone number is 407-970-7042.

06-Jan	Introduction to the Course Supplies, Shop Tour
10-Jan	Shop and Personnel—Chapter 1
13-Jan	Health and Safety in the Costume Shop—Chapter 2
17-Jan	Fabrics--Fibers Chapter 3 pgs 59-74 —Chapter 3
20-Jan	No School
24-Jan	Fabrics--Weaves, Knits, and Finishing pgs 74-93 Swatch Book Assignment QUIZ 1 --Course to date—50 points
27-Jan	Commercial Patterns and Pattern Layout More than just Fashion Fabric—what do I buy?

31-Jan	Fabric Lay Out--Supplies Check Bag Project
03-Feb	Bag Project work session
07-Feb	Bag Project work session QUIZ 2 --Commercial patters—25 points
10-Feb	Bag Project work session
14-Feb	Bag Project work session Plain Weaves Fabric Workbook Questions #1-14 DUE
17-Feb	Bag Project Due Constructing a Costume pgs. Chapter 5 pp.164 - 172
21-Feb	Pattern Development Chapter 4 pgs 94 – 98
24-Feb	Measurements Chapter 4 pp. 97-106
28-Feb	Draft of Female Body Block pgs 106-114 Measurements Due Beginning of Class
03-Mar	Finish Draft, Cut Muslin, Stitch Mockup
07-Mar	Fit Muslin
10-Mar	Pattern Corrections
14-Mar	Continue Pattern Corrections Corrected Pattern Due at 9:15 QUIZ 3 —Pattern Development and Drafting—25 points Other Weaves Fabric Workbook Questions #15-28 DUE
17-Mar through 21-Mar	Spring Break
24-Mar	Begin Dart Manipulation with Half Scale Patterns Chart Dart Locations Slash and Spread Technique
28-Mar	Continue Dart Manipulation Pivotal Transfer Technique
31-Mar	Continue Dart Manipulation QUIZ 4 —Dart Manipulation—25 points
04-Apr	Fabrics Swatch Book Questions #29-37 DUE Dart Manipulation—Due at End of Class QUIZ 5 —Fabrics—50 points Kristina May be Gone to State Thespians

07-Apr	Begin Final Project Supplies Check
11-Apr	Final Project Work Session
14-Apr	Final Project Work Session
18-Apr	Final Project Work Session
21-Apr	Final Project Work Session
23-Apr	FINAL EXAM 7am - 9:50 Final Project Due at Final Exam

****I reserve the right to make changes to this syllabus as needed****