

# Beacon Charter High School for the Arts

## Fall, 2015/2016

### Course Syllabus

### Technical Theatre Design Grade 10

Instructor: Jason Robert LeClair

*Jason Robert LeClair is an Honors graduate of the Massachusetts College of Art and Design with a Bachelors of Fine Arts in Media and Performing Arts. He has been teaching the art of theatre in all aspects since 1999. Working in professional theatres as technical director, community theatres as artistic director and consultant, as well as high schools across the state, he has earned a solid reputation for excellence. Former President of the Rhode Island Theatre Education Association, Director of Education for Rhode Island Stage Ensemble, and Educational Liaison of International Thespians Rhode Island Chapter, Mr. LeClair continues to work in the realm of arts education encouraging the collaborative nature of the theatrical arts.*

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Office Hours: By appointment

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**Course Description:** Through the study of theatre design, students will gain a fuller understanding of the stage as an artistic medium. From the concept to design models, students will be taught the elements of design for the stage in Sets, Costumes, Make Up, Lighting, and Sound. These skills will be utilized to design a full concept for a play. Students will also gain practical knowledge of set construction, painting, props building, etc. by working on portions of the Fall show.

**Course Goal:** To enhance the student artist's understanding and appreciation of the technical design aspects of a production.

**Essential Skills:**

- Understand how to read a play for technical needs
- Learn scaled drafting for use in stage design
- Develop knowledge of production careers in theatre
- Understand aesthetic choices for production design
- Learn to design production elements
- Gain knowledge and experience creating items for a production.

Fulfilling the following standards:

**CREATE**

**TH:Cr2.1.HSIII**

a. Develop and synthesize original ideas in a drama/theatre work utilizing critical analysis, historical and cultural context, research, and western or non-western theatre traditions.

b. Collaborate as a creative team to discover artistic solutions and make interpretive choices in a devised or scripted drama/theatre work.

**TH:Cr3.1.HSIII**

a. Refine, transform, and re-imagine a devised or scripted drama/theatre work using the rehearsal process to invent or re-imagine style, genre, form, and conventions.

b. Synthesize ideas from research, script analysis, and context to create a performance that is believable, authentic, and relevant in a drama/theatre work.

c. Apply a high level of technical proficiencies to the rehearsal process to support the story and emotional impact of a devised or scripted drama/theatre work.

**RESPOND**

**TH:Re8.1.HSIII**

a. Use detailed supporting evidence and appropriate criteria to revise personal work and interpret the work of others when participating in or observing a drama/ theatre work.

b. Use new understandings of cultures and contexts to shape personal responses to drama/theatre work.

c. Support and explain aesthetics, preferences, and beliefs to create a context for critical research that informs artistic decisions in a drama/theatre work.

**CONNECT**

**TH:Cn11.2.HSIII**

a. Justify the creative choices made in a devised or scripted drama/theatre work, based on a critical interpretation of specific data from theatre research.

b. Present and support an opinion about the social, cultural, and historical understandings of a drama/theatre work, based on critical research.

**Required Materials:**  
student.

The following materials are required for this class to be provided by the

- Sketchbook (at least 8" x 10")
- Portfolio or carrying case for artwork (at least 18" x 24")
- Set of colored pencils
- Graphite pencils
- Black fine line markers (felt or ink pens are acceptable)
- Drafting Compass Set
- Safety Goggles
- Dust mask/respirator
- Work gloves
- Work clothes

*These materials are available at either Michael's Arts and Crafts, A.C. Moore, Ocean State Job Lot, Blick Art Supplies, Staples, Home Depot, Walmart, Lowes, or Jerry's Artarama locations.*

## Beacon's standard grading weights are:

- 45% Projects / Papers/Tests
- 35% In-Class work/Participation and Attendance
- 20% Homework

### Assessment: Projects

*See class schedule*

#### In-Class

In-Class grading is defined by activities done in class such as short lesson worksheets.

#### Homework

An observation/sketch journal will be kept by each student. This will be checked on Thursdays for a homework grade. The subject matter of the sketch journal is observation of anything that pertains to stage design, but should contain at least two pieces of work each week that includes commentary (and documentation if possible) on the observed style of architecture, clothing, makeup, etc. **This will be submitted on the Google classroom site prior to 12am Thursday each week.** (*after 12am Thursday, the work is considered late*)

#### Participation

Participation is daily work ethic and effort. Students are expected to work in class for the entire period. An average of these daily grades will be calculated based on the following format – 0 = non participatory, 50 = minimal effort, 100 = full effort, Exempt = excused absence (see student handbook for definition).

**Late Work Policy:** No late work will be excepted without special arrangements made with the instructor and Mrs. Murphy. Any work handed in late will have 10 points removed per class day late. Work may only be handed in at the beginning of the class period on the due date unless otherwise allowed by the instructor. Work handed in after the collection period will be considered late and the above perimeters apply.

### Course Requirements:

- Student Artists are expected and required to read all materials in the manner described within the class schedule.
- Student Artists will respect the space, fellow student artists and themselves as described in the student handbook.
- Student Artists will work on art at all times within the arts classroom.
- Student Artists will always follow safety procedures in the workshop as outlined by the instructor.

### Class Schedule:

- Project 1 – Set Design
- Project 2 – Lighting/Sound Design
- Project 3 – Costume, Make up and property design
- Project 4 – Final Design
- Final PPT - Design Promo

Journals are collected every Thursday

A digital copy of the syllabus as well as project guidelines and rubrics is available at:

<http://www.arts-core.com/tech-theatre.html#/>

----- cut and return by August 31, 2015 -----  
I understand and agree to the above syllabus of study (this is a homework grade)

\_\_\_\_\_  
student name (printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
date

\_\_\_\_\_  
student signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
parent/guardian signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
date

**Use of Electronic Information Resources**

Technology is a vehicle to access the most current and extensive sources of information which will prepare students for 21st Century careers. As such, school Internet access is a privilege for educational purposes only and will be revoked if any of the following conditions occur:

*Students will not access or create offensive, profane, or pornographic files, plagiarize works or violate copyrights or trademarks, damage, alter, or modify hardware or software or attempt to bypass computer security, nor will they engage in behaviors that constitute cyber bullying.*

I am aware of this electronic use policy and I will exercise sound judgment when using classroom technology and accessing the Internet. Furthermore, I understand that intentional misuse of technology/Internet access will result in disciplinary action against me.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

