

Welcome To

COSTUME & DESIGN Technology!!!

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***Parents & Students! Join our Remind alerts:**
Text “@costume” to 81010, and you will get up-to-the-minute updates and reminders from me.

Dear Student,

Costume Design & Technology is not for the faint of heart! This course will cover a lot of territory over the span of the school year. You will become proficient in the basic sewing, cutting and organizational skills involved in costuming and get a glimpse into the inner workings of a professional theatrical Costume Shop. Every costume designer needs a strong understanding of the human form, so you will learn several tips and tricks to quick figure drawing. Using these techniques will prepare you to render expressive illustrations of each of your costume designs. You will also begin to breakdown theatrical texts and understand the many psychological, philosophical and artistic considerations a costume designer must make in order to create a truly unique work of art. Costume Design & Technology is an integral part of the theatrical experience just like you will be an integral part of our class! Come in with an open mind and creative spirit!

Sincerely,

MP

Calendar: This is an abridged overview to what we'll be tackling in this class.

1st Nine Weeks

Unit 1: *Costume Technology* – The Costume Shop, Sewing Basics, Garment Project

Unit 2: *Costume History, Pt. 1* – Daily Bellringer Definitions/Sketches, Quizzes

Unit 3: *Costuming Practices & Paperwork* – Script Analysis, Essential Paperwork, Construction

2nd Nine Weeks

Unit 4: *Costume Crew Assignments* – Serve as Costume Crew on **one** BHS production (Fall/Spring)

Unit 5: *Fall Play Technical Critique* – Attend a BHS or community production, Response Essay

Unit 6: *Introduction to Costume Design* – Read & Design from a Script, Collage-Based Rendering

3rd Nine Weeks

Unit 7: *Figure Drawing & Costume Rendering* – Daily Bellringer Drawings, Coloring, Swatching

Unit 8: *Costume Design Practices & Paperwork* – Collaborative Design Project, Construction

4th Nine Weeks

Unit 9: *Spring Play Costume Critique* – Attend a BHS or community production, Response Essay

Unit 10: *Fabric Manipulation* – Fabric Classifications, Painting, Dyeing & Distressing Sample Book

Unit 11: *Historically-Based Costume Design* – Script Analysis, Research, Costume Renderings

Unit 12: *Costume Design & Technology Portfolio* – Collect and Organize Classwork, Present

Supplies: I recommend Hobby Lobby for higher quality supplies, but Walmart has most/all of these things.

These will be needed by the 2nd Week of School:

1. **Binder(s) & Tab Dividers** – This is very important!!! You must collect ALL OF YOUR WORK in a portfolio for the end of the year. You may also want to keep your sewing and fabric manipulation sample books in their own individual binders to be turned in separately.
2. **Sketching Pencil** – *Derwent* brand is a good investment.
3. **Beginner's Sewing Kit** – Put one together on your own by gathering a *small pair of pointed scissors*, *sewing needles* and a *spool of black thread*. You may also want some kind of *thimble*.

These will be needed by the 2nd Nine weeks:

4. **Basic Sketchbook** – I suggest a *watercolor pad* instead for you that prefer to paint.
5. **Big Eraser** – Can be any kind, although the pink ones are not recommended.
6. **(Optional) Markers or Gouache Paint** – I provide colored pencils for coloring renderings.

Expectations: Costume Design & Technology is a very hands-on and presentation-heavy class. You will be required to display and talk about your work and lead/participate in discussions with your fellow classmates. Each of you deserves to feel confident and enjoy the creative process in my class. You should be quiet and attentive during all presentations. Please offer honest, constructive criticism to your classmates. NEVER should you use words like “stupid,” “dumb” or “gay” as negative criticism. Disrespectful behavior such as this will not be permitted in our classroom and will result in immediate disciplinary action.

Assessment/Gradebook: You will be assessed based on their mastery of specific standards associated with each project from class. These standards will be clearly outlined by each assessment rubric, which will be handed out in advance of each project. Don't worry! You will have plenty of time to work on these projects in class.

Grade Scale Breakdown

30% - Assisted Assessments (Formative Work/Practice Exercises/Reflection)

70% - Unassisted Assessments (Summative Work/Exams/Quizzes/Projects/Presentations)

There will be a comprehensive final unassisted assessment at the end of each semester. **You May Exempt Yourself from the Final Assessment If You Have BOTH:**

- 4 or fewer absences in this class.
- No “Z”s (missing assignments) in the grade book for the class.

This is the new school-wide exemptions policy at BHS. Exemption will be determined on a class-by-class basis. If you're having trouble figuring out what's missing in your Gradebook, please refer to the below explanation.

Gradebook Marks & What They Mean:

0 – Student earned no points for that grade

Z – Student has not turned in the assignment, but may still earn points

Blank – Teacher has not yet graded the assignment

X – Student has been exempted from the assignment; does not count against the final grade

Make-up and Late Work: Due to the hands-on nature of Costume Design & Technology, it is important that you are consistently present in class. Every time you miss class, you will be losing valuable face-to-face instructional time with me. This is time you may use to ask important questions concerning the current assessment or get one-on-one, step-by-step demonstrations. The more time you spend in class the more likely you are to master each of the skills needed to be an amazing Costume Designer!

Any late design projects will be accompanied by a clearly-handwritten or typed description (200-word minimum) explaining how the work addresses each standard as defined by the assessment rubric and then displayed for the entire class. A selection of your peers will then each complete a short written critique of your project to which you will write a brief response, explaining how you will utilize their criticism in your future work.

Any project missed due to absence must be made up on the day that you return to class. If you miss several lab days prior to the day a project/presentation is due, I will allow you one class period and one seminar period (in any order) after you return to school to complete your work. The completed project will be due the following class period. **Late/missing assignments will be accepted for a grade until Tuesday, December 1st for the Fall semester and until Friday, May 6th for the Spring semester. After this date, any "Z" in the gradebook will automatically become a "0" and may not be made up for credit.**

Classroom Policies: Our class will adhere to guidelines and policies as published in the BHS student handbook.

Bring Your Own Device: If you have any electronic devices, including a tablet or cell phone, will only be allowed to use their device in class when you are given permission to do so. Notice the Device Traffic Light in our classroom---

RED - devices should be stowed in bags and out of sight.

YELLOW – devices may be out on counters but only used as directed.

GREEN – devices may be used freely for school-appropriate purposes.

Other Important Requirements:

1. **Attend *ONE* performance of *ONE* of BHS Stage Production each semester.** To verify attendance, **students will turn in a ticket stub or a program from the play stapled to a written critique of the play's technical/design elements.** The dates for the productions are listed below. Please make plans to attend the two shows as each performance will be the subject of classroom discussion as well as written evaluation and critique. Students tickets are usually \$5-\$8. If a ticket cannot be afforded, you may serve on the costume/makeup crew, serve as an usher, or sell concessions in exchange for free attendance.

Fall Semester

Macbeth

Directed by Mr. Scheuer

October 22-24: Performances at 7 pm

October 25: Performance at 2 pm

The Freshman Showcase

Written & Directed by the Upperclassmen

November 7: Performances at 7 pm

Spring Semester

TBA Winter Show

Directed by Ms. Brogan

February 25-27: Performances at 7 pm

Flight 1611

Written & Directed by Mr. Peoples

April 7-9: Performances at 7 pm

April 10: Performance at 2pm

2. **Running Costume Crew for 1 BHS Production:**

As a crew member, you are expected to attend the "Crew View" rehearsals during Tech Week and all rehearsals and performances during Production Week. Call time is usually 2 hours before curtain (Example: If the performance begins at 7:00pm, then you should arrive at 5:00pm. Students will be given rehearsal schedules in plenty of time to make the necessary arrangements to be able to attend the required rehearsals and performances.

About Me: This is my 2nd year at BHS!!! WOO!!! I received my BA in Theatre from the University of Central Arkansas in Conway and my MFA in Theatrical Costume Design from the University of Connecticut. I worked on numerous productions in the costume shops at both universities. While studying in Connecticut, I was also lucky enough to design and intern in New York City, introducing me to the theatre, television and film worlds. I even designed a production that went to the NYC International Fringe Festival. I have also designed costumes for the Arkansas Shakespeare Theatre in Conway and worked in the costume shop for the Arkansas Arts Center Children's Theatre and the Arkansas Repertory Theatre, both in Little Rock. I've performed onstage at the University of Central Arkansas, on tour with the Arkansas Arts Center Children's Theatre and will appear as Flute in the Classical Edge's production of William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* this September. Other classes I teach at BHS include Theatrical Makeup and Intro to Theatre. I live in Fayetteville, but I'm more of a cat person. That's why Bentonville High School is my true home!

ATTENTION!

Sign and return the Acknowledgement Form after reading this Syllabus.