

# VISUAL IMAGINATION

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**REVISION G - 11/11/24**

## INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

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## COURSE DESCRIPTION

Why is a diagonal line dynamic, and a horizontal line reassuring? Why does red feel hot and blue feel cold? Visual Imagination takes you onto a journey to discover the secrets of visual design.

We will focus on the basic principles of design - ways in which theatrical artists manipulate line, form, space, texture, and color to shape the viewers' emotional responses. It weaves lectures, discussions, and class projects into a systematic structure that facilitates learning. While engaging you in the process of exploration and creativity, Visual Imagination paves the way for a better understanding and appreciation of the visual aspects of the arts of theater.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the end of the semester, students will be able to:

1. Identify key concepts, techniques, and processes in the area of visual design and demonstrate an understanding of them through exam, creative & analytical works.
2. Manipulate design elements and principles to create unified and meaningful visual images. (National Standard #6)
3. Solve practical problems pertaining to two-dimensional and three-dimensional designs.
4. Research and analyze creative works from multiple cultures in relation to their historical socio-cultural, aesthetic, or personal contexts. (Department SLO 6, National Standard 3)
5. Apply critical thinking and aesthetic principles to evaluate visual elements of creative works (National Standard 4; Department SLO 7)
6. Analyze plays from the perspectives of a theatrical designer.
7. Identify and apply functions of theatrical designs in creative works.
8. Translate other forms of work, such as music or writing, into a visible form of art.
9. Create theatrical design works through synthesizing the accumulated knowledge and skills.
10. Use visual presentation tools effectively. (National Standard #5)
11. Demonstrate professional work habits, etiquette, and collaborative skills appropriate to the discipline (Department, SLO 1 and 2)

## COURSE FORMAT & EXPECTATIONS

This course will meet on **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays**. This class will make you challenge yourself. You will find yourself using materials and techniques that are new and might seem daunting. You will also be required to verbally discuss your artwork and the artwork of other students. Please come to each class prepared to listen and share collaborative, constructive discourse.

This is a 3-credit class which implies 3 hours of work during class and 3-6 hours of work per week outside the class. It is important that you pace yourself accordingly. This class has been designed with a scaffolding approach; this means that every assignment will prepare you for the next one and 'build' on each other.

This course will meet virtually when the professor is out of town working on a production. Please refer to the attached course schedule for which days will be remote/virtual. Calendar invites/virtual meeting links will always be emailed out for virtual meetings, so be sure to check your email regularly.

## GRADING

This course will use a simple 1000 point grading scale, distributed as follows:

ITEM	QTY	PTS/EA	TOTAL AVAILABLE	MY SCORE
Pre-Screen Questionnaire	1	50	50	50
Attendance/Participation	30	5	150	
Design Critique	2	50	100	
Lines Project	1	100	100	
Color Project	1	100	100	
Form & Texture Project	1	100	100	
Painting with Light Project	1	100	100	
Sound Project	1	100	100	
Final Projects	1	200	200	
			<b>1000</b>	

Calculate your grade using the table above

A - 900-1000

B - 800-899

C - 700-799

D - 600-699

F - 000-599

## REQUIRED MATERIALS

### ***Visual Literacy for Theatre*** **(Textbook)**

Chen, Ming - 2011 Linus Publications  
ISBN: 1-60797-195-X

### ***Passing Strange*** **(Script)**

Book and lyrics by Stew, music by Stew and Heidi Rodewald,  
Created in collaboration with Annie Dorsen  
ISBN-13: 978-0-8222-2400-6  
Buy Online ([Dramatists](#)) ([Amazon](#))

### **(Cast Recording)**

[Spotify](#)      [Apple Music](#)

### **(Movie Recording)**

[Amazon/AMC+](#) (Don't purchase)

## DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENT ON EXPECTATIONS FOR WRITING IN THE MAJOR

The Department of Theatre and Performance Studies encourages student development as articulate scholars along with their growth as creative artists. To assist students in their development as articulate, emerging scholar-artists, the Department requires the use of MLA style and The New Century Handbook throughout our major. If you need help in writing the critique, KSU Writing Center is available to you. Experienced, friendly Writing Assistants will work with you to become a better writer--regardless of your strengths or weaknesses. Commonly covered writing strategies include topic development, organization, revision, research, source documentation, and grammar, but the Writing Center listens to and works with each writer individually. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please visit <http://www.kennesaw.edu/english/WritingCenter> or stop by Room 242, English Building.

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Sections 4 and 5C of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the University's policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to University materials, misrepresentation/falsification of University records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the University Judiciary Program, which includes either an "informal" resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct's minimum one semester suspension requirement.

## DESIGN CRITIQUES

You will be required to view at least two theatrical productions outside of class over the course of the semester. These can be KSU theatre productions or outside professional or community productions around town. Pages 498-501 of your textbook contain guidelines and samples of what the critiques should look like.

It is preferable that you see one musical theatre piece and one play, but if your schedule doesn't align for you to do that, you can view two of one type instead.

Department production schedule:

<https://www.kennesaw.edu/arts/academics/theatre/performances-events/24-25-theatre-season.pdf>

## SCORES

Art is subjective. Grades in this course won't be dependent on you being an amazing artist, but rather how you grow as a theatre practitioner over the course of the semester. Effort, attention to detail, and pride in your work will go a long way.

A rubric for each project/assignment will be given out when the project is assigned. Pay close attention to the specific details and requirements in order to best maximize your score and your learning.

# VISUAL IMAGINATION

CLASS	DATE	LOCATION	TOPICS COVERED	READ FIRST	DUE
1	8/13/24	IN PERSON	Introduction & Syllabus Basic Vocab Review		
2	8/15/24	IN PERSON	Discussion: What is design?	P4-p26 p466-p475	Questionnaire
3	8/20/24	IN PERSON	Discussion: Design for the Theatre	P27-p45 p325-p348	
4	8/22/24	IN PERSON	Watch: <i>Passing Strange - Act One</i>	PS Act 1	
5	8/27/24	IN PERSON	Watch: <i>Passing Strange - Act Two</i>	PS Act 2	
6	8/29/24	IN PERSON	Discussion & Activity : Lines	p83-p108	
7	9/3/24	NO MEETING - PROJECT WORK	Work on Lines Project		
8	9/5/24	NO MEETING - PROJECT WORK	Work on Lines Project		
9	9/10/24	VIRTUAL	Present Lines Projects		Lines Projects
10	9/12/24	IN PERSON	Discussion: Color	p110-p142	
11	9/17/24	IN PERSON	Color Perception Activity Day		
12	9/19/24	CANCELED			
13	9/24/24	NO MEETING - PROJECT WORK	Work on Color Projects		
14	9/26/24	CANCELED - HURRICANE DAY			
15	10/1/24	NO MEETING - PROJECT WORK	Work on Color Projects		
16	10/3/24	VIRTUAL	Present Color Projects		Color Projects
17	10/8/24	IN PERSON	Present Color Projects, Start Shapes		
18	10/10/24	IN PERSON	Discussion: Form, Texture	p143-p174 p213-p242	

<b>19</b>	<b>10/15/24</b>	IN PERSON	Continue Shape,, Form, Texture		
<b>20</b>	<b>10/17/24</b>	IN PERSON	Present Form & Texture Projects		Form & Texture Project
<b>21</b>	<b>10/22/24</b>	IN PERSON	Painting with Light	p267-p290	
<b>22</b>	<b>10/24/24</b>	IN PERSON	Painting with Light Project In-Class Work		
<b>23</b>	<b>10/29/24</b>	IN PERSON	Painting with Light Project In-Class Work		
<b>24</b> 🎃	<b>10/31/24</b>	IN PERSON (but spooky)	Discussion: Sound	(handout)	Light Painting Projects (Nov 1)
<b>25</b>	<b>11/5/24</b>	IN PERSON	Sound Continued		
<b>26</b>	<b>11/7/24</b>	IN PERSON	Present Sound Projects		Sound Projects
<b>27</b>	<b>11/12/24</b>	IN PERSON	Discuss Final Projects		
<b>28</b>	<b>11/14/24</b>	IN PERSON	In-Class Work: Final Projects		
<b>29</b>	<b>11/19/24</b>	IN PERSON	In-Class Work: Final Projects		Design Critiques
<b>30</b>	<b>11/21/24</b>	IN PERSON	Final Session - Reflection & Career Discussion		
	<b>12/1/24</b>	Final Projects - Submission Deadline			
	<b>12/3/24</b>	Zoom	Project Presentations - 2:00pm Class 1:00pm - 3:00pm on Zoom		
	<b>12/5/24</b>	Zoom	Project Presentations - 3:30pm Class 3:30pm - 5:30pm on Zoom		

## KSU Theatre Show Schedule:

<https://www.kennesaw.edu/arts/academics/theatre/performances-events/24-25-theatre-season.pdf>