



Course Outline

2026-2027 Catalog

DRAM 23 - Introduction to Stage Makeup

Catalog Description

Transfer Status: CSU/UC

Unit(s): 3.00

Activity: 102.00 Contact hours/51.00 Out of class hours/153.00 Total hours/3.00 Unit(s)

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Course Description: Students will receive instruction and practice in all phases of makeup specifically designed for theatrical use.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Identify the various types of makeup commonly used in theater.
2. Describe the steps used in makeup for a variety of characters.
3. Use makeup to interpret an author's characterization.
4. Analyze a visual characterization through makeup design.
5. Interpret a production through makeup design.
6. Examine safety procedures for the field of makeup design.
7. Demonstrate proper knowledge of the preparation of the skin and the removal of the makeup products.

Course Content

Topic Titles / Suggested Time Topic		
	<u>Lecture/Activity</u>	
<u>Topics</u>		<u>Lec Hrs</u> <u>Act Hrs</u>
Functions of makeup in the theater		9.00
Facial anatomy		6.00
Color theory		9.00
Design basics		6.00
Designing standard characters with paint		6.00
Three-dimensional techniques		6.00
Symbolic makeup design		6.00
Design character makeup for an entire production		18.00
Render designs using either computer enhancement or other method		6.00
Create Makeup Charts for each character		6.00
Show research for characters		6.00
Create hairstyles for each character		6.00
Use of airbrush		6.00
Application of facial hair		6.00
Total Hours:		0.00 102.00

Methods of Instruction

- A. Class Activities
- B. Collaborative Group Work
- C. Demonstrations
- D. Group Discussions
- E. Homework: Students are required to complete one hour of outside-of-class homework for every two hours of activity
- F. Instructor Demonstrations

Methods of Evaluation

- A. Exams/Tests
- B. Quizzes
- C. Portfolios
- D. Projects
- E. Demonstration
- F. Performance Examinations

Examples of Assignments

Reading Assignments

1. Read the chapter on Makeup. Be prepared to discuss and assess makeup needs in class.
2. Read the chapter on Making a Wig. Be prepared to discuss what you feel are the four most important aspects of designing and making a wig.

Writing Assignments

1. Read the script(s) for the production(s) at Butte College this semester and evaluate the makeup requirements for each character. Provide a written summary of the specific makeup needs for the cast.
2. Keep a journal to evaluate and reflect on your design projects. Submit weekly 300-word entries detailing your progress, challenges, and design choices.

Out-of-Class Assignments

1. Create a comprehensive 3-4 page make-up plan for an assigned production. The plan should include detailed designs for each character, addressing their specific makeup needs in relation to the script, character traits, and overall aesthetic vision for the production.
2. Write a 1,000-word critical analysis and evaluation of the artistic makeup elements of a production of your choice. The analysis should cover how the makeup design supports the characters, complements the overall aesthetic, and contributes to the storytelling. Discuss specific design choices, techniques used, and the effectiveness of the make-up in enhancing the production's themes and mood.

Recommended Materials of Instruction

Helen Casey. (2023). Wigs, Hair and Make-Up: A Backstage Guide (National Theatre Backstage Guides). *Methuen Drama*. 978-1350135871.

Other Learning Materials

Production scripts, instructor handouts

Minimum Qualifications

Drama/Theater Arts (Masters Required)

Stagecraft

Created/Revised by: Heimlich, Ryan

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