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THTR 577.02: Directing IV

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DIRECTING IV

School of Theatre & Dance – University of Montana

THTR 577 / Fall 2023 / 3 credits

SCHEDULE AS DETERMINED BY PRODUCTION OF A *MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM/LEGEND OF SLEEPY HOLLOW*

<u>Professor</u>	<u>Contact Info</u>	<u>Office / Office Hrs</u>
Dr. BERNADETTE SWEENEY/	Email: Bernadette.sweeney@mso.umt.edu General Office: 406-243-5216	BS: McGill 216 Mon 11-12, Weds 11-1
Prof. MARK PLONSKY	Email: Mark.plonsky@mso.umt.edu General Office: - 406-243-4481	PARTV 185 Mon1-2:30, Weds 1-2:30

COURSE AIM: *To understand the connections between production planning and production process, to demonstrate directorial practice through production, in generating dramaturgical materials for the development of a full understanding of the script by designers and actors, planning and running an appropriate rehearsal process and bringing the work to its audience.*

COURSE OUTCOMES: *By the end of the semester, you will demonstrate*

- An ability to interpret, analyze, and conceptualize scripts as appropriate to the graduate student's production assignment*
- An ability to coach actors in the areas of speech, movement and method according to the required styles*
- An appreciation of the heightened performance levels and staging/aesthetic possibilities of the period/s*
- A knowledge of the scripts, playwrights, theory, context, and history of the period/s*
- An ability to also directorially re-envision or reinterpret the relevant play through a contemporary staging lens*

REQUIRED TEXTS:

SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS: see moodle

ATTENDANCE: As a graduate level directing course there are no un-excused absences. Unexcused absences drop the final grade a third of a letter and so on. Two late arrivals equal one absence.

OVERALL COURSE ASSIGNMENTS / Criteria Grading Breakdown:

Grade is based on continual assessment. A single grade will be determined by faculty at the end of the project and determined by attendance; intellectual, creative and technical process work; engagement; preparedness; and progress.

Course Grade % Scale :

Grade Percent Grade Percent

A 94-100 4.0 C+ 77-79 2.3

A- 90-93 3.7 C 73-76 2.0

B+ 87-89 3.3 C- 70-72 1.7

B 83-86 3.0 D+ 67-69 1.3

B- 80-82 2.7 D 60-66 1.0

OTHER CRITICAL COURSE POLICIES & PROTOCOL

Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at www.umt.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/default.php.

We, the College of the Arts and Media at the University of Montana, have chosen to actively pursue equity and access for all persons. In this charge we will be researching, planning, and implementing ways in which our culture can be more accessible, inclusive, equitable, and sustainable. It is not enough to be anti-bias in principle without being equitable in action. We will implement these actions organized by a group of students, faculty, and staff across the entire College of the Arts and Media (CAM) in an ongoing way.

All Theatre & Dance students must have an in-depth knowledge of the practices and procedures outlined in the School of Theatre & Dance *Student Handbook*. The *Handbook* is available online at <https://www.umt.edu/theatre-dance/handbook.php>.

There is inherent risk involved in many Theatre & Dance classes as they are very physical in nature. Please proceed through class, shop time, or rehearsal with caution. Always be mindful of your personal safety and the safety of others. Students participating in class/shop/rehearsal/performance do so at their own risk.

Due to safety considerations, at **no** point during a student's time spent in class or serving on a production (in any capacity) should non-enrolled persons be guests of that student without my consent. Presence of such unauthorized persons in a class, shop, or any backstage/off-stage area will negatively affect a student's grade.

From the EO/AA Office:

Students with disabilities may request reasonable modifications by contacting me. The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and the Office for Disability Equality (ODE). "Reasonable" means the University permits no fundamental alterations of academic standards or retroactive modifications. For more information, please consult <https://www.umt.edu/disability/default.php>.

STATEMENT OF EMPOWERMENT

The School of Theatre and Dance recognizes that theatre and performance content and

processes can provoke; therefore, during the course of a class or rehearsal, students can choose to remove themselves from activities should they feel a threat to their well-being. Please communicate with your instructor and/or stage manager as soon as you can, either prior to or soon after leaving.

WELLNESS

Personal considerations such as health, wellness, and/or other issues can interfere with a student's ability to succeed and thrive in the university setting. For helpful resources, please contact the Curry Health Center Counseling department at 406-243-4711 or schedule an online appointment through the CHC Health Portal: <https://www.umt.edu/curry-health-center/>. For a crisis or for after-hours care, you can contact the emergency rooms at St. Patrick Hospital or Community Medical Center; the National Suicide Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255; or the Crisis Text Line: text MT to 741-741. For University of Montana Financial Aid, call 406-243-5373 or email finaid@umontana.edu. Please stay in communication with your faculty advisor and know that we are here to help. You can call in anytime to our office hours (posted on office doors) or email us to set up an appointment.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The University of Montana acknowledges that by virtue of the history of settler colonialism it is located in the aboriginal territories of the Séliš, Ksanka, and Q'íispé people. For thousands of years the Séliš, Ksanka, and Q'íispé people have been and continue to be the stewards of this land. It is with gratefulness and respect that we recognize the contributions, innovations, and contemporary perspectives of these sovereign native nations. We must honor the path shown to us in caring for this place for the generations to come.