

# THEA G179: THEATER SOUND TECHNOLOGY

Item	Value
Curriculum Committee Approval Date	10/01/2024
Top Code	100700 - Dramatic Arts
Units	3 Total Units
Hours	72 Total Hours (Lecture Hours 45; Lab Hours 27)
Total Outside of Class Hours	0
Course Credit Status	Credit: Degree Applicable (D)
Material Fee	No
Basic Skills	Not Basic Skills (N)
Repeatable	No
Open Entry/Open Exit	No
Grading Policy	Standard Letter (S), • Pass/No Pass (B)

## Course Description

This course is an introduction to basic sound design theory and technology, sound reinforcement techniques, and sound operations used in the performing arts. Students are required to attend Golden West College Theater Arts, Dance and Music department productions. Transfer Credit: CSU.

## Course Level Student Learning Outcome(s)

1. Course Outcomes
2. Create a basic sound design for a live theatrical production using basic theater amplification, sound reinforcement, and recording technologies.

## Course Objectives

- 1. Operate, maintain and troubleshoot basic audio equipment.
- 2. Analyze play scripts and librettos to determine necessary sound effects, amplification, reinforcement and music.
- 3. Mount and operate sound reinforcement systems for live theatrical productions.

## Lecture Content

Principles of sound and electrical theory The phenomenon of sound Digital audio Measurement of sound Basic acoustics Components of a sound system The recording system The playback system Digital CD/DVD/MiniDisc Computer The reinforcement system Selection and placement of equipment Operation during performance Sound equipment Mixing consoles and their operation Signal processing equipment Microphones Types Use and maintenance Speakers and amplifiers Sound design process Role of the sound designer Collaboration with the director and production team Function of sound in a theatrical production Script analysis to develop a design concept to support a production Sources for sound effects and music Research methods and resources for selecting appropriate historical music Sound plot development Production activities Record, edit, and refine cues Run rehearsals and sound checks

Run production Employment as a sound designer Qualifications and training Union requirements Networking

## Lab Content

Exercises in development of a sound design Recording Mixing Equipment Set-up Maintenance Operation

## Method(s) of Instruction

- Lecture (02)
- Lab (04)

## Reading Assignments

Text, play scripts and librettos Websites Handouts Analysis and critiques of aural materials (video, DVD, digital, online) as assigned

## Writing Assignments

Attendance at live theatrical productions for the purpose of critical evaluation of sound reinforcement and design. Develop written sound design plot appropriate to a live theatrical production.

## Out-of-class Assignments

Analysis and critiques of aural materials (video, DVD, digital, online) as assigned Attendance at live theatrical productions for the purpose of critical evaluation Acceptance of a sound crew assignment which will include a general overview of all aspects of theatrical sound design and specific instruction on rehearsal and performance protocol and procedures related to that assignment

## Demonstration of Critical Thinking

Students will analyze scripts to develop a sound design concept appropriate to the demands of the script and the director's concept.

## Required Writing, Problem Solving, Skills Demonstration

Students will analyze sound reinforcement and design in theatrical productions. Students will develop sound designs appropriate to a production. Students will operate sound equipment for performance.

## Eligible Disciplines

Drama/theater Arts: Master's degree or Master of Fine Arts in drama/theater arts/performance OR bachelor's degree or Bachelor of Fine Arts in drama/theater/performance AND master's degree in comparative literature, English, communication studies, speech, literature, or humanities OR the equivalent. Master's degree required. Stagecraft: Any bachelor's degree and two years of professional experience, or any associate degree and six years of professional experience,

## Textbooks Resources

1. Required Lebrecht, James and Kaye, Deena. Sound and Music for the Theatre, 4th ed. Routledge, 2015
2. Required Fry, G. Sound Design for the Stage, (Latest) ed. The Crowood Press, 2019 Rationale: Latest.