

Drafting for Theatre

THEA 3353-201, CRN 14008

Course Description: Principles in practice in hand and computer-aided drafting for the performing arts. Application of standard graphic language in scenic design and technical production.

Class Time: TR 12:30–1:50 PM

Class Location: Fain Fine Arts, B120

Instructor: Eric A. Koger

Office Phone: 940-397-4781

Email: Eric.Koger@msutexas.edu

Office Location: Fain Fine Arts, B123

Office Hours: 11:00 AM–12:00 PM MTWRF. In general, stopping by is an option but does not guarantee availability. Send an email to ensure a specific time. If I am not in my office, I may be in one of the two theatre spaces or in the scene shop.

Disclaimer

The information provided within this syllabus may be subject to change. Always assume that the syllabus is correct unless the instructor has made a formal amendment.

Course Objectives

This course will assist you in developing and demonstrating:

1. an understanding of drafting technique from hand drafting to CAD
 - a. Knowledge of the development of theatre
2. proper use of vocabulary relevant to drafting as it relates to theatre
 - a. Theoretical/conceptual knowledge and application
 - b. Employability
3. a firm knowledge of the industry expectations of a draftsman
 - a. Theoretical/conceptual knowledge and application
 - b. Employability
 - c. Professionalism

Course Requirements

1. Daily participation in all activities is mandatory. Foundational information is given and explained in class and then built upon over the semester.

By accepting this syllabus, you are indicating that you understand and accept all the policies listed herein.

2. Completion of assigned projects on the due date. Incomplete assignments will be graded as such and may be grounds for significant point loss. Late assignments will not be accepted.
3. Keep track of grades using the tentative schedule. If an assignment is returned on a day that you are absent, it is your responsibility to seek out the missing items and grade.
4. D2L will be utilized during this course.
5. Students must use official MSU student email for course communication.
6. Assignment headers must contain the student's first and last name, date of submission, and class name and number. Work must be typed, printed, stapled, spell-checked, and grammar-checked prior to class beginning.
7. Students are responsible for cleaning their desk and work materials with antibacterial spray before leaving class or lab hours.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

Allen, Kevin Lee. Vectorworks for Entertainment Design: Using Vectorworks to Design and Document Scenery, Lighting, and Sound. Focal Press. 2015. ISBN: 978-0-415-72613-9

Supplies

None needed.

Distance Learning Preparation

To ensure preparedness for any potential health concerns, students should be able to transition to an online modality. A working video camera with sound and a stable internet connection are vital. When attending through Zoom, students are expected to remain visible and participate from an environment free of distraction and significant background noise.

Grading

Makeup policy: Late assignments will NOT be accepted. D2L assignments must be uploaded before class on the day they are due. Quizzes missed due to absenteeism cannot be made up.

Point value/grade distribution: 100–90%=A, 89–80%=B, 79–70%=C, 69–60%=D, 59–0%=F.

The source syllabus states that 110 points are possible, with grades calculated on a 100-point scale. The Fall 2026 tentative schedule should be treated as the controlling point ledger after instructor review.

A separate Tentative Schedule provides the dated Point Breakdown. Students should use the Earned Points column to maintain their own running grade record.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all meetings of the classes in which they are enrolled. Although in general students are graded on intellectual effort and performance rather than attendance, absences may lower the student's grade where class attendance and class participation are deemed essential by the faculty member. In this course, attendance and participation are essential. Attendance is recorded daily. Excessive absences may result in a course consequence consistent with General University Policies. Students are responsible for material missed due to absence and must follow the course-specific attendance requirements stated below.

Course-specific attendance requirements: Attendance is mandatory. Unavoidable absences should be communicated to the instructor by email as soon as possible and should include the student's name, class period (day/time), and situation. Students are responsible for information missed due to absenteeism. Attendance is taken at the beginning of class, and excessive lateness may count as an absence as determined by the instructor. Late assignments will not be accepted unless the instructor states otherwise in writing. Quizzes missed due to absenteeism cannot be made up.

Cell Phones and Other Recording Devices

Cell phones must be silenced, put away completely out of sight, and not accessed until after class. The use of cell phones and other electronic devices is prohibited during class unless the instructor specifically authorizes their use for a legitimate course-related purpose.

Recording class sessions is prohibited unless it is part of a reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or is authorized in writing by the instructor. When recording is authorized, recordings are for personal use only and may not be uploaded to the internet or otherwise shared, transmitted, or published without the instructor's prior consent.

Computer, Laptop, and Tablet Usage

Computers, laptops, tablets, and other electronic devices may be used when required or authorized for course-related instruction, drafting, computer-aided design, assignments, or other designated activities. Personal or non-course-related use of electronic devices is prohibited during class. Students should follow the instructor's directions regarding when devices should be used or put away.

Conduct Statement

Classroom behavior that interferes with the instructor's ability to conduct class or with other students' ability to benefit from instruction may result in removal from class.

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of

crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

ChatGPT and AI

The Spring 2024 source syllabus states that AI writing tools are not permitted for any stage or phase of work in this class and that use would be considered academically dishonest. This policy is carried forward from the source document and should be reviewed by the instructor against current university policy before publication.

Student Privacy Statement

In accordance with federal privacy laws, student personal information is protected. The instructor will not share grades or personal information without written consent.

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Student Wellness Center, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to Disability Support Services.

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: Campus Carry Rules and Policies. Areas excluded from concealed carry are appropriately marked, in accordance with state law.

Fall 2026 Course Calendar Exceptions

Thursday, October 22, 2026 — NO CLASS — Instructor Professional Travel.

Thursday, November 26, 2026 — NO CLASS — Thanksgiving Holiday.

Departmental Production Dates

Tower Stories — September 10–12, 2026.

Ordinary Days — September 24–27, 2026.

The Crucible — November 12–15, 2026.

Final Examination

Thursday, December 10, 2026, 10:30 AM–12:30 PM. MSU Texas's Fall 2026 final-exam schedule places TR/T/R classes meeting at 12:00 PM or 12:30 PM in this examination block.

Tentative Schedule

See the accompanying Fall 2026 Tentative Schedule for the complete dated schedule, Point Breakdown, Earned Points tracking area, departmental production dates, and course-calendar exceptions.