

# THEA-2440: SOUND FOR THEATRE

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## Cuyahoga Community College

**Viewing: THEA-2440 : Sound for Theatre**

**Board of Trustees:**

2012-01-26

**Academic Term:**

2012-08-27

**Subject Code**

THEA - Theatre Arts

**Course Number:**

2440

**Title:**

Sound for Theatre

**Catalog Description:**

Introduction to the essentials of theatrical sound. Topics covered include microphone use, microphone placement, amplification, theatrical acoustics, Foley sound, recorded effects, and production methodology.

**Credit Hour(s):**

3

**Lecture Hour(s):**

2

**Lab Hour(s):**

2

## Requisites

**Prerequisite and Corequisite**

THEA-1430 Introduction to Scenery and Stagecraft, and RAT-1300 Introduction to Recording, and RAT-1310 Studio Operations.

## Outcomes

**Course Outcome(s):**

Apply knowledge of the nature of theatre sound, sound equipment, and sound design software to create soundscapes for musical productions.

**Objective(s):**

1. Create and edit recorded sound cues
2. Open and operate sound design software.
3. Utilize Foley effects for both live and prerecorded cues
4. Assemble a basic amplification system and demonstrate knowledge of individual components.
5. Identify and differentiate the basic function and operation of microphones in a theatrical setting.
6. Discuss the methodology or creating a sound design utilizing script analysis techniques.
7. Demonstrate an understanding of the theatre sound rehearsal process from pre-production through strike.
8. Prepare a musical soundscape for a production.

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**Methods of Evaluation:**

1. Classroom participation
2. Class projects
3. Quizzes
4. Final design project

**Course Content Outline:**

1. Concepts
  - a. Sound theory
  - b. Recording
  - c. Playback
  - d. Microphones
  - e. Theatre rehearsal and preproduction
    - i. Preproduction
    - ii. Paper tech
    - iii. Cue to cue
    - iv. Final dress
  - f. Theatrical sound software - SFX
  - g. Music for theatre
    - i. Preshow
    - ii. Underscore
    - iii. Transition
    - iv. Intermission
    - v. Curtain call
    - vi. Postshow
2. Skills
  - a. Creation of Foley effects
    - i. Recorded effects
    - ii. Live effects
  - b. Utilizing microphones
    - i. Stage and house placement
    - ii. Costume specific placement
  - c. Operation of playback equipment
    - i. Digital equipment
    - ii. Analogue equipment
  - d. Operation of amplifiers
  - e. Operation of mixers
  - f. Installation and placement of speakers
  - g. Basic theatrical sound software techniques
    - i. File creation
    - ii. Cue building
    - iii. Show sequencing
    - iv. File saving
3. Issues
  - a. Proper use of microphones and sound equipment
  - b. Long and short term care of equipment
  - c. Proper protocol for teamwork

**Resources**

Carter, Paul. *Backstage Handbook: An Illustrated Almanac Of Technical Information*. 3rd ed. Shelter Island, NY: Broadway Press, 2003.

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Parker, W. Oren, R. Craig Wolf and Dick Block. *Scene Design and Stage Lighting*. 9th ed. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Cengage Learning, 2009.

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Gillette, J. Michael. *Theatrical Design and Production An Introduction to Scene Design and Construction, Lighting, Sound, Costume, and Make up*. 6th ed. Boston: Mcgraw Hill, 2008.

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Hendrickson, Alan. *Mechanical Design for the Stage*. St Louis: Focal Press, 2008.

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Leonard, John A. *Theatre Sound*. New York: Routledge, 2001.

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Kaye, Deena and James LeBrecht. *Sound and Music for the Theatre: the art and technique of design*. 3rd ed. Amsterdam; Boston: Focal Press, 2009.

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Holloway, John. *Illustrated Theatre Production Guide*. 2nd ed. Boston, MA: Focal Press, 2010.

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