

THTR 440A: BASIC THEATRICAL MAKEUP NONCREDIT

Foothill College Course Outline of Record

Heading	Value
Effective Term:	Summer 2025
Units:	0
Hours:	3 lecture, 3 laboratory per week (72 total per quarter)
Degree & Credit Status:	Non-Degree-Applicable Non-Credit Course
Foothill GE:	Non-GE
Transferable:	None
Grade Type:	Non-Credit Course (Receives no Grade)
Repeatability:	Unlimited Repeatability

Student Learning Outcomes

- A successful student will demonstrate skills in the design and application of theatrical makeup.
- A successful student will employ basic design skills, including drawing, painting and clay modeling.
- A successful student will identify and compare the use and effectiveness of available makeup products and materials.
- A successful student will locate and give examples of facial anatomy as it pertains to various character factors, including age, gender, race, and species.

Description

A practical introduction to the techniques of applying theatrical makeup for the stage.

Course Objectives

The student will be able to:

1. Analyze and appraise differences and similarities of facial anatomy
2. Describe, differentiate, and compare facial types and how these may be simulated through theatrical makeup
3. Understand the process of researching and designing makeup for production
4. Recognize and acquire skills in the application of available makeup products, understanding how to substitute and adjunct products where specific applications or shortages require
5. Understand the process of designing, creating, and applying prosthetic makeup

Course Content

1. Study facial anatomy
 - a. Student's individual type
 - b. Various age, gender, and ethnic types
 - c. The effect of stage lighting on facial anatomy

2. Identify and practice enhancement of characterization through makeup techniques
 - a. Straight makeup
 - i. Basic
 - ii. Corrective/beauty
 - b. Character makeup
 - i. Creative/clown
 - ii. Age
 - iii. Facial hair
 - iv. Animal/character
 - c. Specialty makeup
 - i. Three-dimensional effects/non-prosthetic
 - ii. Three-dimensional effects/prosthetic
3. Practice researching and designing assigned makeup projects
 - a. Compile a makeup morgue including categories for each assigned makeup project
 - b. Render makeup designs using basic art tools (pencils, colored pencils, pastels, etc.)
4. From instructor demonstrations, learn to identify and subsequently experiment with a wide variety of makeup materials
 - a. Become familiar with the minimum contents of an "all purpose makeup kit," including foundations, highlights and shadows, liners, powder, brushes, makeup removers, etc.
 - b. Compare and contrast products from a variety of manufacturers and distributors of theatrical makeup, learning how to substitute when necessary for manufactured makeup or prohibitively expensive products
 - c. Practice using materials for special character effects
 - i. Facial hair (crepe wool, gauze, latex, spirit gum, etc., as well as a familiarity with human hair and ventilated appliances)
 - ii. Three-dimensional effects/non-prosthetic, using:
 1. Facial feature reconstruction materials (wax, putty, etc.)
 2. Special effects materials for cuts, bruises, burns, scars, etc. (liquid latex, cotton, tissue, gelatin, rigid collodian, blood, etc.)
5. Design, create and apply basic prosthetic makeup, using:
 - a. Life-mask casting materials (alginate, plaster, etc.)
 - b. Modeling materials (plastalina clay, modeling tools, etc.)
 - c. Basic appliance making materials (liquid rubber latex, makeup, etc.)

Lab Content

1. Practice with and application of specified makeup materials and techniques
2. Cooperative creation of plaster "life-masks"
3. Observation and categorization of facial features, character types, and artistic inspirations

Special Facilities and/or Equipment

1. Ben Nye Makeup Kit or its equivalent, and various casting/mold making and art supplies.
2. Stage space or classroom, with appropriate lighting capabilities and table, to accommodate full class instructor demonstrations.
3. Protective clothing suitable for work that requires the application of stage makeup.
4. Dressing and makeup rooms equipped with running water, lockers, showers, makeup tables, and mirrors.

5. Lighted makeup preparation station for each student.
6. When taught via Foothill Global Access: on-going access to computer with email software capabilities; email address; JavaScript-enabled internet browsing software.

Method(s) of Evaluation

Methods of Evaluation may include but are not limited to the following:

Demonstrated effort and skill in mastery of makeup technique in in-class assignments

Creation of makeup "morgue" of varied and interesting real face photos and art samples, including models from a variety of racial and ethnic backgrounds, as a term project

Makeup designs developed into completed makeups, one of which is a final project

Method(s) of Instruction

Methods of Instruction may include but are not limited to the following:

Lecture

Discussion

Cooperative learning exercises

Field work

Laboratory

Demonstration

Representative Text(s) and Other Materials

Corson, Richard, James Glavan, and Beverly Norcross. Stage Makeup, 10th ed., 2009.

Although this text is older than the suggested "5 years or newer" standard, it remains the seminal text in this area of study.

Types and/or Examples of Required Reading, Writing, and Outside of Class Assignments

1. Reading specified chapters of required textbook
2. Reading and referral to available makeup technique books and magazines
3. Demonstration and application notes compiled in personal makeup morgue

Discipline(s)

Theater Arts