

BFA SET CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGIES

Course Overview 2024

First Year

SEMESTER ONE

SET102A Interdisciplinary Collaboration A (20 credit points)

You will work with students in other disciplines to collaboratively produce a number of productions per year. You will take on roles as scenic assistants and crewing positions allied to the discipline. Production projects are allocated with design requirements taken into consideration, and each student's interests where possible.

SET7103A Professional Practice A (5 credit points)

You will be introduced to the tools of project management, including managing workflows and resource management, through the analysis of project plans and models. You will also be introduced to computer-aided design as used in scenic construction projects.

SET7104A Scenic Construction and Stage Machinery A (15 credit points)

You will learn how to apply a basic knowledge of metal and timber construction techniques commonly used in a scenic workshop. You will also develop a basic understanding of mechanical engineering within a theatrical context.

SET7105A Rigging in Live Performance A (5 credit points)

You will be introduced to the equipment and practice of rigging for live performance through theory classes and practical exercises in theatre environments.

COM7101A Performance and Ideas A (10 credit points)

You will engage in a theoretical and critical analysis of key forms and conventions of performance in a range of historical and intercultural contexts up until the beginning of the 21st century. You will also explore how these ideas and practices inform a range of contemporary arts practices.

COM7103A Performance Makers A (5 credit points)

You will be introduced to the foundational skills, vocabularies and processes which will underlie your ongoing engagement in the BFA courses, and the development of your practice as creative storytellers. This includes processes for ensuring safe and sustainable collaborative practices and maintaining good mental health and wellbeing across your academic and artistic careers.

SEMESTER TWO

SET102B Interdisciplinary Collaboration B (20 credit points)

You will continue to collaborate with other disciplines in the realisation of several productions per year. You will take on roles as scenic assistants and crewing positions allied to the discipline, while factoring fabrication decisions, time management, and work health and safety considerations into your practice.

SET7103B Professional Practice B (5 credit points)

You will develop project management skills in scoping the brief through venue surveys, communicating with the client, and identifying risks and problems. You will gain an understanding of relevant WHS legislation and develop skills in risk analysis and mitigation.

SET7104B Scenic Construction and Stage Machinery B (15 credit points)

You will apply a broad knowledge of construction techniques commonly used in a scenic workshop. You will also use mechanical engineering concepts to animate a piece of scenery from a self-devised brief.

SET7105B Rigging in Live Performance B (5 credit points)

You will further examine the practice of rigging for performance and its application in scenic transitions through the realisation of effects.

COM7101B Performance and Ideas B (10 credit points)

You will explore the impact that a range of 20th century artistic movements and key performance practitioners have on contemporary creative practices. You will also begin to contextualise your own creative and intellectual foundations as an emerging practitioner.

COM7103B Performance Makers B (5 credit points)

You will further develop the skills, vocabularies and processes which support your practice as emerging arts professionals in the second semester of this interdisciplinary subject. This includes considering and actioning sustainable practices, integrating emerging technologies into storytelling practices, and developing foundational entrepreneurial skills.

Second Year

SEMESTER ONE

SET7202A Interdisciplinary Collaboration A (10 credit points)

You will draw on skills and knowledge attained throughout the course integrate them into a technical design project from a given brief. You will be mentored in the project by staff and/or industry professionals, who specialise in the area being investigated. The outcome will be documentation aimed at selling the technical design solution to a prospective production house.

SET7203A Professional Practice A (5 credit points)

You will learn technical writing skills and oral presentation techniques. You will develop and present a technical pitch to a mixed discipline audience, selling your solution to a production brief.

SET7204A Scenic Construction and Stage Machinery A (10 credit points)

You will demonstrate an ability to design and construct complex mechanical systems and actuate them using electrical and fluid power. You will research componentry and develop and anticipate their performance through theory and prototyping.

SET7205A Rigging in Live Performance A (5 credit points)

Working with specialist practitioners, you will experience the field of personnel flying using human counterweight techniques both from rigger and performer perspectives.

SET7206A Expanded Staging Practice A (10 credit points)

You will focus on the film environment, the similarities and differences in workflow and role demarcation, as well as construction practices in a range of screen-based contexts.

SET7207A Mechanical and Digital Automation A (10 credit points)

You will be introduced to electrical engineering concepts, how they enable us to specify cable for power distribution, and how we can employ them to acuate and control mechanical systems for performance.

COM7201A Contexts for Performance A (10 credit points)

You will engage in discussion and inquiry about the ideas and practices that inform contemporary performance in a variety of forms and contexts and apply these to your own disciplines. This subject aims to develop your knowledge and critical response to modern and contemporary performance.

SEMESTER TWO

SET7202B Interdisciplinary Collaboration B (10 credit points)

You will work collaboratively on several projects applying the skills you have acquired. This includes working with practicing artists/curators to create and/or exhibit artworks, as well as a collaborative film project. You will engage in the full production process from initial design consultations through to planning, construction and rehearsal process, then further onto technical rehearsals, performance and bump-outs.

SET7203B Professional Practice B (5 credit points)

You will be asked to survey and quote on a scenic element or aspect of a local performance venue that needs repair and/or refurbishment.

SET7205B Rigging in Live Performance B (5 credit points)

Following from SCT7205A, you will be taken out of the theatre environment to investigate creating aerial rigs for performance using architecture and earth as anchor points.

SET7206B Expanded Staging Practice B (15 credit points)

You will investigate the intersections between fine art creation, immersive environments, installation, and the performing arts, by working with practicing artists/curators to realise an artwork or exhibition.

SET7207B Mechanical and Digital Automation B (10 credit points)

You will be introduced to electrical engineering concepts concerned with positioning and control of mechanical staging devices. You will learn how to conceptualise and programme logic systems for the stage.

COM7204B Contexts of Performance B (10 credit points)

You will continue to engage in cross-disciplinary discussion and inquiry about the ideas and practices that inform contemporary performance in a variety of forms and contexts and apply these to your own disciplines.

COM7203 Student Led Project B (5 credit points)

In cross-cohort collaborative teams, you will draw on the individual strengths, knowledge and abilities of each member, as well as techniques for devising new work, to contribute to the development and realisation of a short performance.

Third Year

SEMESTER ONE

SET7302A Interdisciplinary Collaboration A (20 credit points)

You will experience working in a team as a technical manager or construction manager. In this role you will interact with colleagues from all disciplines and negotiate technical design outcomes on a fully-realised production.

SET7303A Professional Practice A (15 credit points)

You will develop your knowledge of professional industry contexts related to the legal and business aspects of professional practice, including report and grant writing, setting up a small business, interpreting contractual agreements and exploring pathways to employment.

SET7308A Independent Research Project A (25 credit points)

You will apply advanced theoretical and practical knowledge to satisfy aesthetic, structural and mechanical requirements particular to the specification and planning of a self-generated technical design concept.

SEMESTER TWO

SET7302B Interdisciplinary Collaboration B (20 credit points)

Working as a technical manager or construction manager, you will interact with colleagues from all disciplines and negotiate technical design outcomes on another fully-realised production.

SET7303B Professional Practice B (15 credit points)

You will investigate the non-discipline specific skills and knowledge you will require to successfully pursue careers within a professional artistic environment. This subject will also commence your introduction and integration into professional industries, networks and communities.

SET7308B Independent Research Project B (25 credit points)

Following SCT7304A, you will apply advanced theoretical and practical knowledge to accurately realise a finished work and satisfy the design criteria developed from your specification. You will then present your work to the school in a presentation devised by you and your fellow Set Construction Technologies graduating year.