

PROJECT and GRADING STATEMENTS

Project Statement

Project work provides the vehicle for the core of your learning in this course. There are a total of nine individual projects (including associated work) that represent the majority of your work throughout the semester.

If your goal is to learn as much as you can about design for the stage, or scenography, and to do well in this course, the individual projects become very important. Therefore, when submitting projects at the end of each unit please submit all notes, research, drawings, photocopies, and other process materials. These materials, especially your research, notes, and drawings, are the best way for the instructor to see how you are interpreting the play and formulating ideas for design solutions.

Design is very time consuming because it integrates an entire process from textual understanding to final scenographic image. The suggestion here is to begin the projects once they are assigned. Work out ideas over a period of several days instead of waiting for a last-minute push. The thinking, or incubation process, is very important in theater and dance and requires time.

Artistic process is always a variable—sometimes you will have intense periods of work while at other times it seems there is little to do. Anticipating project work and working ahead will help to even out this pace.

Finally, your instructor is always available outside of class to help with project work or to answer questions about the class. Colby prides itself on an open door policy—you just need to go through the door.

Grading Statement

An “A” represents excellence. To achieve excellence means you typically need to go beyond the assigned work and push yourself. Much of the design process will be new to many of you which is great; therefore, you will need to set time aside to draw, think, conceptualize, and eventually pull your ideas together in a presentational way. The Department of Theater and Dance grading policy is as follows:

“All empirical grading will be based on the following criteria: “C” will be awarded for average work – completing the assignment as requested, nothing more. “B” will be awarded to students who exceed the requirements and do above-average work. “A” is reserved for those students who excel in all expectations and aspects of an assignment. “D” represents less-than-average work, and “F” is for failure to complete work with any degree of satisfaction.”