



Special Topics/Fashion Design: **Mask Making**

FSHD 1291-0001

Spring 2014

Course # 74816

Course Location: FANNIN building Room 222

Course Semester Credit Hours: 2

Course Length: 8 weeks Jan 13- March 9th Mondays 10am-3:20pm

Type of Instruction: LECTURE/LAB

Jessica Dolan, BA

Fashion Design Professor

Lifestyle Arts Department

713-718-6152

Fax 713-718-6188

**dolan\_j23@hotmail.com** (Remember to allow a minimum 24-hour response time.)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This is an introductory course in the construction of masks through several techniques. The students will use their creativity to put their own spin on a traditional craft. They will also learn how to apply these skills to earn employment in the theatre or other industries.

**COURSE PREREQUISITE(S)**

NONE

**INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS**

No textbook required for this class. Supplementary materials will be provided.

**COURSE GOALS:**

This class is designed to enhance the student's enjoyment and understanding of mask making. It will provide a guide to understanding the steps needed to design, construct, and realize ideas for creating a successful mask.

**COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLO)**

1. Students will gain an awareness, appreciation, and understanding of the use and ritual of masks in many cultures.
2. Students will gain perspective on the characteristics within masks – the exaggeration, distortion, and symmetry of elements.
3. Students will create sculptural masks by covering underlying structures with paper mache, instant mache, and plaster gauze exhibiting a strong foundation for their mask.
4. Students will finalize their thoughts and designs in the creative completion of their mask through details/embellishments, and choice of finishing.

**SCANS (Secretary's Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills)**

The U.S. Department of Labor's Secretary's Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills (SCANS) to



enter the workplace determined that specific competencies must be addressed. HCCS is committed to preparing every student with the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in today's work environment. The following competencies will be addressed in this course:

1. **Resources**— Students will organize, and allocate time, money, and materials. An emphasis will be placed on their planning skills in relation to preparing, working, and completing 8 masks by a deadline.
2. **Interpersonal**—Each student will teach the class about masks used in a culture of their choice through a short research paper and interpretations of this in 2 masks they make. In discussions for final presentation they will emphasize their personal lessons and challenges of the activities.
3. **Information**— Students are required to acquire information through magazines, internet, visits to museums, etc. They are expected to organize this information as a guide for their masks.
4. **Systems**—Students are expected to monitor and correct their personal performance, and know how to improve in their future attempts.
5. **Technology**—Students should use computers as a source for inspiration of masks they would like to attempt to make, find instructional videos for embellishing, etc.

The three SCANS foundation skills identified by the Commission are the following:

1. **Basic Skills**—Reading, writing, mathematics, listening, and speaking.
2. **Thinking Skills**—Students need to think critically and creatively so that they may adjust to changes they may encounter when 1<sup>st</sup> solution may not work. Students will stretch their minds and find new answers while turning their design ideas into concrete physical objects.
3. **Personal Qualities**—Responsibility, self-esteem, sociability, self-management, and integrity. Throughout their lives, students will need to get along with others: with classmates, friends and family, customers, and coworkers. Collaboration and brainstorming is encouraged. We are all in this together!

### **CLASS ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT.**

It is the policy of the department that **there are no excused absences**. Just as in the workforce, you are responsible for all material assigned and/or covered during the missed session. Attending class is vital to understanding, integrating, and applying the concepts discussed in class. When you miss class, you are a step behind other students. Get to know your fellow students in order to have a source for lecture notes and handouts if you cannot attend a class session... **GET A NUMBER AND EMAIL OF SOMEONE IN HERE TODAY!** Students are expected to assume the responsibility for learning. Your instructor may choose to assist you, but the actual responsibility rests with you.

### **PLEASE BE COURTEOUS.**

Students arriving late or leaving early should notify the instructor ahead of time, please do not disrupt the class. Disruptive activity that hinders other students' learning or deters an instructor from effective teaching will not be tolerated under any circumstances. If a student arrives more than 10 minutes late for any scheduled class times or presentations, the instructor may lock the classroom door and the student will not receive credit for that class.

**PUNCTUALITY IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT! DO NOT COME LATE!**



### **DON'T MISS CLASS OR ARRIVE LATE!**

The class will start with a mini lecture and demo every class. Be respectful to me and your classmates by arriving on time so we can all complete this portion together and move on to the hands on part of class. If you are late you will miss important information. I will not wait to start, class starts at 10, not anytime after.

Your attendance score accounts for 25% of your final grade. In accordance with HCC Policy, if you miss more than 12.5% of your scheduled classes (**only 1 class for this course!**) you will be dropped from the course. Dropping this course is the responsibility of the student, NOT the instructor. If the student has not withdrawn from the course by the last drop-date, the student will receive a failing grade.

### **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES.**

Any student with a documented disability who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the Disability Services Office at Central College at the beginning of each semester. Faculty are authorized to provide only the accommodations requested by the Disability Support Services Office. If you have any questions, please contact a disability counselor.

### **EGLS3- EVALUATION FOR GREATER LEARNING STUDENT SURVEY SYSTEM**

At Houston Community College, professors believe that thoughtful student feedback is necessary to improve teaching and learning. During a designated time, you will be asked to answer a short online survey of research-based questions related to instruction. The anonymous results of the survey will be made available to your professors and division chairs for continual improvement of instruction. Look for the survey as part of the Houston Community College Student System online near the end of the term.

### **TEXAS SENATE BILL 1107**

Texas Senate Bill 1107 passed in May 2011, requires that new HCC students and former HCC students returning after an absence of at least one fall or spring semester who are under the age of 30 are required to present a physician-signed certificate showing they have been vaccinated against bacterial meningitis. Beginning with Spring registration, November 7, students will have to satisfy this requirement prior to enrollment. For more information and a list of exemptions please go to <http://www.hccs.edu/hccs/admissions-registration-center/new-student-general-admissions-steps/submit-meningitis-documentation>

**FOR ALL OTHER HCCS POLICIES ...** Grade appeal, attendance, withdrawal policies, refunds, discipline issues, etc.- please refer to the HCCS student handbook, the HCCS catalog and/or the class schedule .

### **INSTRUCTOR GRADING CRITERIA**

Projects 50%                      Participation/Homework 25%                      Attendance 25%

Come to class. Follow directions. Be creative! If you can manage this, a good grade is assured.

### **STUDENT ASSIGNMENTS**

**I want you to complete 6 masks by the end of the course.** It may seem like a lot, but it works out to 2 per instructional class/ technique. To secure jobs or make money selling creations you have to learn how



to produce multiples and in a swift manner. This is cost effective and will yield a higher profit margin in the end.

Mask themes needed:

1 animal      1 fairytale character      1 Venetian inspired      1 plastic mask transformed

1 ethnic inspired mask. I want you to research the culture you chose so you can share with the class in your final critique. Talk about common themes in the culture, colors, symbolism, etc. How are masks used in that culture? A brief typed summary to turn in to me. Most museums have cultural masks in permanent exhibits, go get inspired by real life not just behind a computer screen!!!!

1 remaining masks you can do whatever subject you choose!

(All masks should have 3 dimensional features such as eyebrows, ears, etc- not just flat masks).

You will also need to turn in a mask specification sheet for one of your masks ( I will provide this sheet) This will include a sketch of one mask (to show where it covers the face), swatches of fabrics trims, paints used, any details for design used along with estimated completion time. Also include any inspiration research (photos of style, shape, color themes, texture ideas, etc)

Project Evaluation:

The final critique of all your masks will be graded based in the following manner:

25% Completion	(Completion of all 6 masks in the assigned categories)
20% Neatness, clarity	(Are the masks presentable and a clear reflection of ideas)
20% Creativity	(Is your design thought out and interesting?)
20% Practicality	(Is the mask designed to be worn or hung? Could it be sold?)
15% Presentation	(Expression of your journey in this class, understanding of culture you chose)

### **Instructor Evaluation:**

1. Did students exhibit an awareness/understanding of masks from various cultures?
2. Did students integrate planning into their own mask design? Need to map out plan.
3. Did students break the form with added sculptural relief?
4. Did students exhibit craftsmanship in applying layers of paper maché?
5. Did students complete design creativity in finishing their mask and applying embellishments?

Student Presentation:

1. Describe our masks one by one. (What you made and how, why, and the materials you used.)
2. Describe one new thing you learned through making this mask, or looking at and discussing the masks from various cultures.
3. Describe how you have communicated a specific idea through making this mask.
4. Describe what you enjoyed the most about this project and the least.
5. If you were to do this project again, what might you change to make it more successful?

MAKE-UP TESTS & ASSIGNMENT POLICY:



Deadlines are VERY important. As they say, “the show must go on. “

**LATE ASSIGNMENTS ARE UNACCEPTABLE!!!**

All masks will be due the final day of class. **If an extreme circumstance occurs contact me immediately.** Grades are turned in that last day of class, and if you do not alert me you will fail for missing the final critique. 15% of your project grade is the presentation to the class, so if you miss critique, you will not be able to make an A.

**If something is going on LET ME KNOW!**

GRADES ARE EVALUATED ON THE FOLLOWING SCALE:

A (90-100/Excellent)-4 points per semester hour

B (80-89/Good)--3 points per semester hour

C (70-79/Fair)-2 points per semester hour

D (60-69/Passing\*)-1 point per semester hour

F (Failing)-0 points per semester hour

(\*A grade of "0" is not a passing grade in developmental courses.)

COURSE CALENDAR

The Tentative schedule for the class is as follows (This may change!!!)

**MON JAN 13:** Syllabus/Intros

**HOMEWORK:** Buy supplies and find 10 photos of masks that you like or want to recreate. Bring to next class for a grade.

Ethnic report due **next class**. Short summary of the culture of your choosing. **DO NOT TURN IN A PRINTED OUT GOOGLED FINDING!!!** This **MUST** be in **YOUR** own words. Plagiarism is unacceptable.

**MON Jan 20:** NO CLASS MLK Day

**MON Jan 27:** NO CLASS. FIND YOUR INSPIRATION!!! You must have this before you create any project! Research day to gather inspiration and work on cultural mask report.

The Halloween & PartyExpo & HauntCon at George R Brown this day. Not required, but highly suggest you look into classes/demos being held that day. This is an amazing opportunity to have this huge industry event in Houston. Admission also allows entrance to walk the floor of the Halloween expo, a wholesaler industry buying convention. (basic entry fee is \$45, some workshops may have a fee)  
<http://hauntcon.com/>

**MON Feb 3:** Cultural papers turned in and brief presentation at **beginning of class**. Late arrivals will have deductions in grade of this assignment! 2 techniques to follow:

Paper mache- paper layering technique & Instant paper mache- pulp sculpting technique

**MON Feb 10:** Impregnated gauze/ embellishing masks from last week.

**MON Feb 17:** NO CLASS PRESIDENTS DAY



**MON Feb 24:** Fabric, interfacings, and buckram. Demo of leather

**MON March 3:** Final critique of completed masks!

#### General Rules

1. Sign-in each class. Late students need to put the time in which they are arriving. Don't think I won't notice, I will pay close attention to arrivals and keep my own log as well. **NO EXCUSES!!!**
2. No food or drinks in the classroom. Students are only allowed close cap drinks. If you need to take a break to grab a snack you are allowed to take when needed after lecture is done.
3. Return all supplies to their respective places. (mask forms to dry in cabinet)
4. Each student is in charge of their table area. When finished for the day, clean assigned area, wipe down table, sweep if needed, and push chairs under the table. Points will be deducted from class participation grade if area is not maintained.
5. Label all supplies. It is your responsibility to keep up with your items.
6. No talking on cell phone during class hours. They must be turned off or put on silent. Points will be deducted for interruption. If there is an emergency, please be discrete and go outside.
7. **NO CHILDREN** of any age is allowed in classroom at any time as there are industrial equipment in the classroom which can cause serious injuries. This rule is also in the Houston Community College handbook. Also do not bring friends to class. We are limited on space as it is!
8. If students do not have all required material and supplies for the day, the professor reserves the right to ask the student to leave, no questions asked. Yes, this will affect you class participation and attendance grade.
9. Keep eyes on what you are working on at all times. Using glue guns and the iron can be dangerous. Not only does prevent mistakes on projects, it keeps you from getting injured.
10. Always place the iron on the silicone plate, face-down when not in use. Do not leave it anywhere else on the ironing board or it will burn.

Please feel free to contact me concerning any problems that you are experiencing in this course. Do not wait until the bitter end before asking for my assistance. Your performance in my class is very important to me. I am available to hear your concerns and to discuss how to help make the semester a success.

#### **Important Dates to REMEMBER:**

January 22	70% refund
January 26	25% refund
February 18	Last day for Administrative/ Student Withdrawals 4:30 pm