

CLAIRE ABERNATHY

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PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION

M.F.A., The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, May 2009

Concentration: Costume and Lighting Design

B .A., Theatre, Samford University, May 2004

Concentration: Lighting Design

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS:

Arkansas State University

Professor: Fall 2024 - Present

Associate Professor: Fall 2018 - 2024

Assistant Professor: Fall 2012 – 2018

Instructor: Fall 2010 - 2012

Old Dominion University

Instructor: Fall 2009 – 2010

The University of North Carolina, Greensboro

Graduate Assistant/Instructor: 2006-2009

COURSES TAUGHT:

Costume Construction (Also taught as an honors course)

- Demonstrate basic techniques for costume construction
- Assist students on a weekly basis as they practice construction basics, including: reading, marking and cutting out a pattern, using hand sewing and machine sewing techniques
- Introduce basic pattern drafting skills, as well as dart and seam manipulation
- Aid students in constructing a final project of their choosing that incorporates many of the skills and techniques they have acquired
- Grade stitch samplers, construction projects and final exam

Costume Construction II

- Demonstrate intermediate techniques for costume construction
- Assist students on a weekly basis as they practice garment construction, including: welt pockets, zippers, methods for finishing seams, plackets, boning and boning channels, and rolled, scalloped and picot hems
- Introduce basic pattern drafting skills, including dart and seam manipulation, slashing and spreading, slopers, sleeves, collars, and skirts
- Grade stitch samplers and construction projects

Costume History

- Introduce students to basic historical silhouettes and terms specific to costume history
- Lecture twice weekly, showing illustrated or photographed examples of period appropriate garments
- Discuss cultural events and how they impacted fashion throughout history
- Grade weekly drawings to improve students drawing skill and ability to see period detail in a garment

- Write and grade exams and semester project

Costume Design

- Lecture 8-12 students twice weekly
- Give extensive response and feedback to students on design projects regarding the elements of design, concept development, communication with a director, design presentation, research, and drawing skill
- Engage students with in-class activities demonstrating various design components and drawing techniques
- Grade weekly drawings to improve students' drawing and visual communication skills

Principles of Design (Also taught as an honors course)

- Lecture 14-28 students twice weekly
- Introduce students to basic principles of design
- Illustrate fundamentals of drawing with an emphasis on theatre design applications
- Provide in class drawing opportunities and feedback 10 times over the course of the semester
- Grade weekly drawings, quizzes, design projects and presentations

Stage Makeup (Also taught as an honors course)

- Lecture 17 students twice weekly and demonstrate basic makeup applications, including: Corrective, Old Age, Cuts and Bruises, 3-D Modeling, and Animal
- Introduce basic wig care and appropriate techniques for wearing and applying wigs
- Grade make-up applications, character analyses, and makeup schematics for a variety of projects
- Assist students on a weekly basis as they practice application techniques
- Encourage students to develop preliminary design proficiency, in addition to practical skills, through an assortment of in-class activities

Stage Makeup I

- Provide demonstrations for basic makeup applications, including: Corrective, Character, Trauma, and 18th Century
- Assist students on a weekly basis as they practice application techniques
- Prepare students for involvement in productions as performers and wardrobe/makeup crew members
- Introduce basic wig care and appropriate techniques for wearing and applying wigs
- Grade make-up applications, practice days, and makeup schematics for a variety of projects

Advanced Stage Makeup (Also taught as an honors course)

- Observe and respond to students twice weekly as they practice basic makeup techniques, including: Corrective, Old Age, 3-D Modeling, and Facial Hair/Wigs, as well as advanced makeup skills including: Latex Prosthetics, Period Applications, and Bald Caps
- Introduce techniques for blood and special effects, including homemade blood recipe and application practices
- Aid students in casting life masks, followed by sculpting and casting custom latex prosthetics
- Grade make-up applications, character analyses, sketches, and makeup schematics for a variety of projects
- Encourage students to develop preliminary design proficiency, in addition to practical skills, through an assortment of in-class activities
- Meet with students on an individual basis regarding design projects

Fine Arts Theatre

- Lecture 48 students twice weekly
- Write Final Exam and performance follow-up exams
- Engage students with activities in-class
- Collaborate with other faculty to develop course materials, including but not limited to: course text, supplemental readings and articles, videos, and quizzes

BFA Senior Project Mentor (Also taught as an honors course)

- Meet with student on a weekly basis to discuss progress, research, challenges, etc.
- Available to student throughout the week to answer questions as progress is made
- Attend all design meetings, production meetings, and technical rehearsals with the student
- Help student develop design presentation and communication skills through rehearsal and follow-up conversations
- Keep in touch with faculty designer and any concerns or problems he/she might encounter with the student designer
- Oversee student's final presentation, in addition to evaluating her final product and scheduling a follow up assessment with him/her at the end of the semester

STUDENT RESEARCH ACTIVITIES MENTOR:

<i>The Complete Works...</i>	Jo Crites	Costumes	2026
<i>The Thanksgiving Play</i>	Dee Flax	Lighting	2025
<i>The Thanksgiving Play</i>	Selena Hinds	Costumes	2025
<i>Stuck on the Train...</i>	Judith Bossi	Costumes	2025
<i>Bright Star</i>	Skyla Conger	Hair & Makeup	2024
<i>Noises Off</i>	Selena Hinds	Costumes	2023
<i>The Curious Incident...</i>	Destiny Johnson	Hair & Makeup	2023
"Beneath the Fur"	Loretta Lyon	Honors Thesis	2023
<i>Little Women</i>	Raven Raleigh	Honors Thesis	2023
<i>Gruesome Playground Injuries</i>	Robyne Richards	Costumes	2022
<i>Gruesome Playground Injuries</i>	Destiny Johnson	Hair & Makeup	2022
<i>She Kills Monsters</i>	Lukas Lawley	Create@State	2021
<i>She Kills Monsters</i>	Lukas Lawley	Filter Engineer	2020
<i>Graceland</i>	Michaela Partridge	Hair & Makeup	2019
<i>Into the Woods</i>	Precious McCullough	Hair & Makeup	2019
<i>Soft Animals</i>	Zac Passmore	Costumes	2019
<i>Godspell</i>	Amy Faugh	Hair & Makeup	2019
<i>Silent Sky</i>	Davis Campbell	Hair & Makeup	2018
<i>In the Next Room</i>	Davis Campbell	Hair & Makeup	2018
<i>As You Like It</i>	Davis Campbell	Hair & Makeup	2017
<i>Words, Words, Words</i>	Irene Taylor	Costumes	2017
<i>Universal Language</i>	Justin Almager	Costumes	2017
<i>Sure Thing</i>	Justin Almager	Costumes	2017
<i>Zombie Prom</i>	Justin Almager	Hair & Makeup	2017
<i>Laundry and Bourbon</i>	Zac Passmore	Costumes	2017
<i>Vintage Hitchcock</i>	Justin Almager	Hair & Makeup	2016

<i>Shakespeare's R&J</i>	Betsy Hegger	Costumes	2016
<i>The Miss Firecracker Contest</i>	Betsy Hegger	Hair & Makeup	2016
Historical Corset Construction	Marie Bonds	BFA Honors Project	2015
<i>Deathtrap</i>	Marie Bonds	Hair & Makeup	2014
<i>Dracula</i>	Matt Currie	Costumes	2013
<i>Rhinoceros</i>	Matt Currie	Costumes	2013
<i>Boeing, Boeing</i>	Samantha Cole	Costumes	2013
<i>Patchwork</i>	Matt Currie	Costumes	2013
Historical Garment Construction	Samantha Cole	BFA Honors Project	2013
<i>I Love You... Now Change</i>	Samantha Cole	Costumes	2012

ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

ACADEMIC MENTORING

- Answer questions and provide guidance to students regarding course selection, graduation requirements, and other academic concerns
- Advise students as to which courses should be taken each semester
- Help students stay on track for graduation in a timely manner while making sure they have met all the necessary requirements
- File appropriate paperwork for class substitutions and graduation

DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES

- Assessment, 2012 – present
- Budget Committee, 2017 - present
- Chair Search Committee, 2018 - 2022
- Curriculum Committee, 2012-2026, Chair 2026-present
- Dance Faculty Search Committee, Chair 2017
- Dance Faculty Search Committee, 2025-present
- Department of Art Fashion Marketing Search Committee, 2023
- Design Faculty Search Committee, 2017
- Design Faculty Search Committee, 2025-present
- Fine Arts Theatre Course, 2012 - present
- Handbook Committee, Chair 2017 - 2024, member 2024-present
- Playbill, 2010 - present
- Performance Faculty Search Committee, 2015-2016
- Promotion and Tenure, Chair 2018 - present
- Recruitment, Chair 2016 - 2024, member 2024-present
- Scholarship Committee, 2012 - 2020, Chair 2020-present
- Season Selection, 2010 - present
- Theatre Curriculum, 2012 - present

COLLEGE COMMITTEES

- Arts Advocacy, 2013 - 2015
- Curriculum, 2026-present
- Grievance, 2023-present
- Recruitment and Retention, 2016 - present
- Student Research Advisory/Create@State, 2017 - present
- Promotion and Tenure, 2018 - present

UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES

- Faculty Senate, Member 2010 – 2017
- Faculty Senate, Vice Chair, 2017 - 2018
- General Education, Member, 2025-present

COSTUME DESIGNS

	Director:	Year:
ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY		
<i>Little Shop of Horrors</i>	Dayday Robinson	2026
<i>Leading Ladies</i>	Dayday Robinson	2026
<i>9 to 5</i>	Dallas Martinez	2026
<i>Emma</i>	Brianna Larson	2025
<i>Cinderella</i>	Dallas Martinez	2025
<i>The Revolutionists</i>	Dayday Robinson	2024
<i>Bright Star</i>	Martinez & Larson	2024
<i>Noises Off</i>	Dallas Martinez	2023
<i>Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime</i>	Dayday Robinson	2023
<i>The Trail to Oregon</i>	Dallas Martinez	2023
<i>Peter and the Starcatcher</i>	Dayday Robinson	2023
<i>Little Women</i>	Brianna Larson	2022
<i>Head Over Heels</i>	Virginia Hirsch	2022
<i>Stop Kiss</i>	Dayday Robinson	2022
<i>A Christmas Carol</i>	Virginia Hirsch	2021
<i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i>	Brianna Larson	2021
<i>Revue: A Musical Retrospective</i>	Brianna Larson	2021
<i>Everybody</i>	Virginia Hirsch	2021
<i>She Kills Monsters: Virtual Realms</i>	Dayday Robinson	2020
<i>The Wolves</i>	Virginia Hirsch	2020
<i>The Tempest</i>	Marc Williams	2020
<i>God of Carnage</i>	Brandon Sterrett	2019
<i>Fringe Festival</i>	Various	2019
<i>Into the Woods</i>	Marc Williams	2019
<i>Godspell</i>	Marc Williams	2019
<i>Animal Farm</i>	Jeff McLaughlin	2018
<i>Silent Sky</i>	Marc Williams	2018
<i>Stuart Little</i>	Jeff McLaughlin	2018
<i>The Adventures of Littlebeard</i>	Tim Bohn	2018
<i>The 25th Annual Putnum County Spelling Bee</i>	Lisa Bohn	2018
<i>In the Next Room</i>	Marc Williams	2018
<i>As You Like It</i>	Marc Williams	2017
<i>All in the Timing</i>	Tim Bohn	2017
<i>Pinocchio 3.5</i>	Tim Bohn	2017
<i>The Garden of Riki Tiki Tavi</i>	Tim Bohn	2017
<i>1959 Thunderbird</i>	Marc Williams	2017
<i>Zombie Prom</i>	Lisa Bohn	2017
<i>The Diary of Anne Frank</i>	Tim Bohn	2017
<i>Vintage Hitchcock</i>	Jeff McLaughlin	2016

<i>Charlotte's Web</i>	Tim Bohn	2016
<i>The Wizard of Oz</i>	Lisa Bohn	2016
<i>The Miss Firecracker Contest</i>	Lisa Bohn	2016
<i>The Trojan Women</i>	Lisa Bohn	2015
<i>Anton in Show Business</i>	Tim Bohn	2015
<i>Miss Electricity</i>	Tim Bohn	2015
<i>Galoshes of Fortune</i> (co-design)	Jeff McLaughlin	2015
<i>Dead Man's Cell Phone</i>	Tim Bohn	2015
<i>Twelve Angry Men</i>	Lisa Bohn	2015
<i>Deathtrap</i>	Molly Simpson	2014
<i>Mother Courage and her Children</i>	Tim Bohn	2014
<i>The Reluctant Dragon</i>	Jeff McLaughlin	2014
<i>Three Bully Goats Griff</i>	Bob Simpson	2014
<i>Tartuffe</i>	Tim Bohn	2014
<i>You're a Good Man Charlie Brown</i>	Lisa Bohn	2013
<i>Dracula</i> (Blood and Special Effects only)	Tim Bohn	2013
<i>The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse</i>	Molly Simpson	2013
<i>Rhinoceros</i> (Hair and Makeup only)	Tim Bohn	2013
<i>The Voice of the Prairie</i>	Lisa Bohn	2013
<i>Nickel and Dimed</i>	Jeff McLaughlin	2012
<i>Pierre and Marie</i>	Molly Simpson	2012
<i>Private Lives</i>	Lisa Bohn	2011
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	Tim Bohn	2011
<i>The Visit</i>	Tim Bohn	2011
<i>The Butler Did It</i>	Molly Simpson	2011
<i>Nice People Dancing to Good Country Music</i>	Bob Simpson	2010
<i>Wonder of the World</i>	Tim Bohn	2010
THE LINK		
<i>Dear Evan Hansen</i>	Joe Langworth	2027
<i>Spelling Bee</i>	Joe Langworth	2025
<i>Into the Woods</i>	Joe Langworth	2024
<i>You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown</i>	Joe Langworth	2023
<i>The Sound of Music</i>	Steve Pacek	2023
<i>She Loves Me</i>	Joe Langworth	2023
<i>All in the Timing</i>	Matt Cavanaugh	2022
<i>The Fantasticks</i>	Matt Cavanaugh	2020
BROADWAY BOUND THEATRE FESTIVAL		
<i>The Field</i>	Emily Emerson	2018
THE MAGIC OF DAVID GARRARD		
Fool Us, National Television Event	David Garrard	2016
OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY		
<i>Dracula</i>	Katherine Hammond	2009
THEATRE 232, GREENSBORO, NC		
<i>Redbeard's Revenge</i>	Jim Wren	2008
<i>Sleeping Beauty or Coma</i> , scenography	Jay Putnam	2007
THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT GREENSBORO		
<i>The Revenger's Tragedy</i>	Jim Wren	2008
<i>The Country Wife</i>	Jim Wren	2008
<i>Degas' Little Dancer</i>	Jennifer Ridgway	2008

LIGHTING DESIGNS

THE LINK

<i>Spelling Bee</i>	Joe Langworth	2025
<i>You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown</i>	Joe Langworth	2023
<i>The Sound of Music</i>	Steve Pacek	2023
<i>She Loves Me</i>	Joe Langworth	2022
<i>All in the Timing</i>	Matt Cavanaugh	2022
<i>The Fantasticks</i>	Matt Cavanaugh	2020

ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

<i>Vintage Hitchcock</i>	Jeff McLaughlin	2016
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OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY

<i>aDreamPlay</i>	Lee Smith	2010
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TRIAD STAGE, GREENSBORO, NC

<i>Beautiful Star</i> , Associate Lighting Design	Preston Lane	2007, 2008
<i>Doubt</i> , Associate Lighting Design	Preston Lane	2008
<i>Bloody Blackbeard</i> , Assistant Lighting Design	Jim Wren	2008

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT GREENSBORO

<i>Picnic, The Opera</i>	David Holley	2008
<i>Big River</i>	John Gulley	2008
<i>The Rimers of Eldritch</i>	Michael Flannery	2007
<i>Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street</i>	Christine Morris	2007
<i>Private Lives</i>	Jim Wren	2007

GUILFORD COLLEGE, GREENSBORO, NC

Dance Concert	Various	2007-2009
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COSTUME SHOP EXPERIENCE:

Costume Shop Manager, 2010 - present

Arkansas State University, Jonesboro, AR

- Manage three to nine students in the costume shop four to five days a week (12-15 hours)
- Give instruction in various techniques including but not limited to hand sewing, use of sewing machine and serger, hemming, alterations, and methods for affixing buttons, hooks, bars, and snaps
- Oversee all fittings and alterations for pulled, purchased or built garments
- Pattern garments when necessary and build them accordingly
- Purchase necessary shop supplies
- Sort and organize stored garments in an orderly and practical manner
- Establish costume shop procedure and expectations
- Maintain shop and production budgets
- Oversee and assess student designers
- Attend all production meetings, design meetings, appropriate rehearsals, technical rehearsals, and performances

Costume Shop Manager, 2009-2010

Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA

- Manage three to seven students in the costume shop four days a week
- Give instruction in various techniques including but not limited to hand sewing, use of sewing machine and serger, hemming, alterations and methods for affixing buttons, hooks, bars, and snaps

- Oversee all fittings and alterations for pulled, purchased or built garments
- Communicate with current costume designer about production needs
- Pattern garments when necessary and build them accordingly
- Purchase necessary shop supplies
- Sort and organize stored garments in an orderly and practical manner
- Establish costume shop procedure and expectations

PUBLICATIONS

- Creating Focus Part I, *USITT Projects for Teaching Scene Design: A Compendium* (Fall 2016)
- Creating Focus Part II, *USITT Projects for Teaching Scene Design: A Compendium* (Fall 2016)
- Research - Factual or Conceptual, *USITT Projects for Teaching Scene Design: A Compendium* (Fall 2016)
- *Sew What?*, Self-Published (Fall 2016)
- *Why Theatre?: The Essential Questions*, Arkansas Digital Press (Accepted for Publication)

CONFERENCES, PRESENTATIONS & RESEARCH

- Couture Butterflies, Hand & Lock London, 2025
- Beginner's Masterclass in Leather Armour, Costumes and Accessories, Black Raven Academy, 2025
- Draping Womenswear Design, UAL Central Saint Martin, 2024
- 18th Century Stay-Making, 2024
- Sustainable Cutting and Draping, UAL Central Saint Martin, 2024
- Vintage Millinery, UAL Central Saint Martin, 2024
- "Virtual Costume Design: Creating Snap Camera Filters" poster presentation, USITT Costume Design and Technology, 2021
- "#noFilter" poster presentation, USITT Lighting Design and Technology, 2017
- "#noFilter" poster presentation, USITT Costume Design and Technology, 2017
- "Tattoos for Stage" and "Rendering Tips and Techniques," Arkansas Thespian Festival, 2017
- "Larger than Life" poster presentation, USITT Scene Design and Technology, 2016
- Portfolio Reviewer, USITT, 2015
- "Strike a Pose" and "Dart Manipulation," Arkansas Thespian Festival, 2011-2013
- Design Advisor for 10-Minute Play Festival, Southeastern Theatre Conference, 2013
- "Factual and Conceptual Research," Valley View High School, 2013
- Fine Arts Inter-Generational Mini Camp, Arkansas State University, 2013
- Puppet Workshop, Fowler Center Family Friendly Series, 2013
- 24 Hour Play Festival, Design Coordinator, Southeastern Theatre Conference, 2013
- Member, USITT, 2013 - present
- Member, SETC, 2013
- Adjudicator (including: Costume Design, Lighting Design, T-Shirt Design, Costume Construction), Arkansas Thespian Festival, 2011-2015

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE:

- Fulton Opera Theatre, Teaching Artist, Summer 2010, 2011
- 18 Years Ballet, Tap, and Jazz
- Magician's Assistant
- Quick Change Artist Costume Techniques

- Self Publication: *Costume Construction Handbook*, Fall 2014 (created for class use)

REFERENCES:

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