

Theatre Courses

Thtr 001 Theatre Participation

In keeping with the department's commitment to active, process-oriented learning, this course requires participation in each departmental production. Required activities include auditions, cast and/or crew, work calls, box office management, company meetings, strike and other departmental events. Specific assignments will be made by departmental faculty. Successful completion of departmental screening process is also required. 0 credits. **Required every semester for majors and students on Theatre Scholarship; minimum of one semester required for minors and teacher certification in Theatre Arts.**

Thtr 101 Script Analysis

This fundamental course will focus on the systematic analysis of dramatic texts. The course will emphasize the careful reading of play scripts for understanding, interpretation, and production. Students in the course will learn techniques to improve their critical analysis of play texts so as to develop their work as theatre artists. The course serves as the basic course in the theatre major. Includes Service Learning Component. ART, CRITTHNK, and WRITCOM. Four credits. *Offered every semester.*

Thtr 112 Discovering Theatre

An introduction to the many activities involved in theatre production from script to performance arts. Students will read, discuss, analyze, and read about plays and live productions as a means to heighten their understanding of theatre in today's society. Includes Service Learning Component. ART. Four credits. ORALCOM. *Offered every semester.*

Thtr 115 Voice Work for the Actor and Presenter

The goal of this course is to expose students to vocal training for stage and presentation work. By studying the work of Kristin Linklater, one of the world's best known teachers of voice production, students from differing majors can benefit from the development of their vocal instrument. The main focus of the class will be on freeing the student's natural voice from habitual psychophysical tension and work to discover and access their full vocal range. ARTS and ORALCOM. Four credits.

Thtr 120 Makeup Application and Design for the Stage

This course is a laboratory-format course concentrating on the materials, skills and techniques used for applying theatrical makeup and designing makeup for the stage. Students will develop several makeups, addressing problems related to compensating for theatrical lighting, aging the youthful face, emphasizing character, effects and simple prosthetic techniques. A lab fee will cover the cost of purchasing a student makeup kit and other makeup supplies for class projects. Two credits. *Offered every fall semester.* Lab fee is required.

Thtr 121 Technical Production Skills: Set, Lighting, Costume, Makeup for the Theatre

This course will introduce students to the basic technical theatre skills necessary for the production of scenery, principals of safe tool operation, basic set construction techniques, basic electrical and lighting principles, costume construction and makeup application skills. The course will involve practical exercises as well as theoretical investigation of the subjects. Includes Service Learning Component. Four credits. *Offered every fall semester.*

Thtr 122 Theatre Practicum

This course is a guided execution of a major responsibility in performance, design, management or technical production for a Theatre Simpson project. Prerequisite: sophomore standing and permission. One credit. May be repeated unlimited times.

Thtr 123 Introduction to Design for the Stage

This course introduces students to the basic elements of visual design and to the rudiments of Scene, Costume and Makeup design. Students will demonstrate the ability to manipulate line, shape, value, texture, color composition and spatial relationships as well as proficiency with common media used in these design areas. This will include the processes and products of designers in each area, practical exercises to demonstrate level of skill mastery, and investigation of theoretical knowledge of the subjects. Includes Service Learning Component. ART. Four credits. *Offered each spring semester.*

Thtr 124 Costume Construction

Course will provide an overview/introduction to costume construction techniques. Particular emphasis will be made on the application of techniques as used in theatrical production contexts. A selection of techniques and materials will be explored in order to create baseline knowledge for the theatre artisan and springboard for student creativity. Two credits. *Offered every other year in the fall.*

Thtr 130 Acting I

This beginning acting course is designed to acquaint the actor with the importance of action based work. Emphasis will be placed on finding the action of a scene, working toward objectives and utilizing circumstances to flesh out a performance. Beginning scene analysis will be combined with exercises to develop the actor's focus, relaxation, awareness and communicative abilities. By the end of the course the student should feel more comfortable performing in front of an audience. Includes Service Learning Component. ART and ORALCOM. Four credits. *Offered every semester.*

Thtr 180 Independent Study in Theatre**Thtr 190 Special Topics in Theatre****Thtr 198 Independent Research in Theatre**

Thtr 201 Playwriting

This course is an introduction to the fundamentals of writing for performance. Students will engage in writing exercises that help them understand the development of character, image, and action for the stage while activating their imaginations and helping them to develop their own voice. Study of contemporary produced plays will enhance the student's critical evaluation of writing. Student will develop a one-act play for their final project. Prerequisites: Thtr 101 or permission of the instructor. Four credits. *Offered once every two years.*

Thtr 209 Vocation and the Performing Arts I

Through readings, exercises, class discussions, and conversations with guest professionals the student will begin the process of intentional self-reflection about their gifts and interests and potential career options in the performing arts. The student will also develop their skills for applying for internships and jobs. Skill development will include preparing a resume, audition monologues and headshot; writing cover letters and a personal statement, creating effective portfolios, and developing interview techniques. Prerequisite: One theatre course. *Alternate years, normally spring semester.*

Thtr 210 Stage and Theatre Management

A study of the principles and techniques of stage and theatre management. The relationship between aesthetic product and management structure as well as audience development will be emphasized. Includes Service Learning Component. Prerequisite: Thtr 101. Four credits.

Thtr 221 VectorWorks: Computer Aided Drawing & Design for the Stage

This course builds upon the rudimentary CAD skills introduced in the introductory Tech Production and Intro to Design for the Stage courses. Students will enhance their understanding of and facility with the use of VectorWorks (a computer aided drafting and design software.) through completing a series of structured exercises and projects involving 2-D drafting, 3-D modeling and Spotlight, the lighting design feature of the software. Lab computers are available for in-classroom use. Lab computers are available for in-classroom use. Students are encouraged to use their own computers for which free downloads of the CADD software is available from the publishers through a student license. A modest lab fee will support the cost of materials. Prerequisites: Thtr 121 or Thtr 123. Four credits. *Offered spring semester of odd numbered years.* A lab fee is required.

Thtr 224 Costume History

This will be an in-depth study of the clothing styles of western civilization from 5 BCE to 1917. Students will study clothing items, period silhouettes and the socioeconomic factors that have influenced the evolution of dress. Four credits. *Offered every other fall semester.*

Thtr 230 Acting II

This course continues the study of basic techniques explored in Acting I. More emphasis will be placed on imaging and character development. The actor will be required to prepare a number of scenes working toward a personal process that incorporates textual analysis, script scores, and rehearsal work. Includes Service Learning Component. Prerequisite: Thtr 101 and Thtr 130. Four credits.

Thtr 232 Directing I

This course will focus on the theories, practices and techniques of directing for the stage. The course will help students develop an understanding of the fundamentals of directing, including text analysis, conceptualization, staging and rehearsal techniques. Includes Service Learning Component.

WRITCOM. Prerequisites: Thtr 101, 121 and 130 or permission of instructor. Four credits. *Offered every spring.*

Thtr 235 Women and Theatre

This course will investigate contemporary theatrical material created and performed by women in America. Students will examine the work of women theatre artists, generally focusing on the work of playwrights and directors, as a way to investigate contemporary social conditions. This course will also examine the ways that meaning is constructed in theatrical writing and performance. Same as English 235. DIVRSTY, and WRITCOM. Four credits.

Thtr 245 Theatre and Social Change

Theatre can be a powerful vehicle for change, and this course will explore the role that socially-conscious theatre has played over the course of our modern era. Students will become familiar with both conventional and non-conventional plays and performance pieces that have sought to intervene on both local and global levels, as well as learn techniques for creating socially-aware pieces of their own. Topics of study may include class and race; gender and sexuality; politics and oppression; and environmental awareness. Prerequisites: Thtr 101 or permission of instructor. CIVIC. Four credits. *Offered once every two years.*

Thtr 255 Theatre and Drama in America

This course will survey the history of theatrical practice and drama in America from the 17th Century European settlements to the present. Students will gain an understanding of the complexities of the development of American theatre as both entertainment and as a reflection of cultural history. By surveying the work of men and women who both fostered and reacted against the "mainstream," and by reading plays which represent a wide range of voices, the student will have a sense of the unique characteristics of American theatrical practice and its place in American history. Includes Service Learning Component. HISTRCL, and WRITCOM. Four credits.

Thtr 265 World Theatre

This course explores theatre and performance practices from around the world in order to investigate how humanity's impulse for shared creativity manifests itself in different cultural contexts. Students will read, analyze, and discuss plays as well as consider the circumstances of live productions in order to both understand and appreciate the same-nesses and differences shared among theatres from around the world. Possible sites of study include Ireland, Australia, and Canada; China, Japan and India; the Caribbean; Mexico and Central America; South Africa and Africa; Argentina and South America; and Egypt and the Middle East. Prerequisites: Thtr 101 or permission of instructor. GLOBAL, INFOLIT, and ORALCOM. Four credits. *Offered once every two years.*

Thtr 280 Independent Study in Theatre**Thtr 290 Special Topics in Theatre****Thtr 298 Independent Research in Theatre****Thtr 319 Internship in Theatre****Thtr 321 Lighting Design for the Theatre**

Thtr 321 Lighting Design for the Theatre

This course will address the basics tools of lighting design, beginning with electrical theory and safety, theatrical lighting equipment, trouble-shooting and safe practice in hanging and focusing. In addition the students will learn the fundamentals of lighting design: Functions and qualities of light, script analysis, and the basic documents associated with a lighting design. Two credits. *Offered spring of alternate years.*

Thtr 322 Sound Design for the Stage

This course focuses on the rudiments of sound equipment and the creative conventions of sound design for the theatre. Students will engage in practical exercises and creative projects concentrating on the creation and manipulation of sound effects and music and basic sound reinforcement for live production. An emphasis is placed on learning to create, edit and manipulate digital sound using computers and relatively accessible sound editing software. Students will also learn the fundamentals of SFX for the cuing and playback of sound for live production. Lab computers are available for in-class use. Students are encouraged to use their own computers for which free downloads of the sound editing software is available. A modest lab fee will support the cost of materials. Prerequisites: Thtr 123. Two credits. *Offered fall of odd numbered years.* A lab fee will be required.

Thtr 324 Costume Rendering and Design

In this course the student will learn the fundamentals of the costume design process and apply them through work on assigned projects. Prerequisites: Thtr 123. Two credits. *Offered every other year in the spring.*

Thtr 32.5 Set Rendering and Design

This course continues the student's study of set design through the practice of skills and techniques necessary for the effective communication of design to colleagues. Students will build upon proficiency begun in THTR 123 with CAD, drawing and rendering, paint elevation, and scale model construction in a laboratory setting. The course will involve practical exercises to demonstrate level of skill mastery and investigation of theoretical knowledge of the subjects. Lab computers are available for in-classroom use. Students are encouraged to use their own computers for which free downloads of the CADD software is available from the publishers through a student license. A lab fee will support the cost of most supplies and materials. Prerequisites: Thtr 123. Two credits. *Offered fall semester of even numbered years.*

Editorial note: Students having taking THTR 121 before this course will have enhanced skills with 2-D & 3-D CAD that will better prepare them for many aspects of this course; however, students having only the preparation gained in THTR 123 should be able do well in the course without it.

Thtr 332 Directing II

This advanced directing course will help extend the student's understanding of creating a performance text. The course will combine further study of textual analysis with analysis of how to construct a performance text and exploration of production styles by investigating various production modes and conventions. Includes Service Learning Component. Prerequisite: Thtr 101 and 232. WRITCOM. Four credits. *Offered alternate fall semesters.*

Thtr 371 Plays and Performance in Ancient through 18th Century Cultures

This course will examine the literature and history of theatrical practice from the ancient world through the 18th Century with a focus on the Western experience, broadly construed. Includes Service Learning component. Prerequisites: Thtr 101 or permission of instructor. HSTRCL, INFOLIT and WRITCOM. Four credits. *Offered alternate fall semesters.*

Thtr 375 Plays and Performance in 18th Century through Contemporary Cultures.

This course will examine the literature and history of theatrical practice from the 18th Century through the present with a focus on the Western experience, broadly construed. Includes Service Learning Component. Prerequisites: Thtr 101 or permission of instructor. HISTRCL, INFOLIT and WRITCOM. Four credits. *Offered alternate spring semesters.*

Thtr 380 Independent Study in Theatre

Thtr 385 Theatre Seminar

A capstone course that synthesizes research, reading, and production techniques. Topic area may be defined by a genre, an historical period, the works of an individual or group of artists, or other similar limits. Within the parameters of the topic area, students will undertake a series of research activities and projects. The course culminates in the production of a group of one act plays and a public presentation of research findings, projects, or papers. Course instructor and department faculty will determine the student's production area assignment, based in part on the "Goals and Plans" document submitted by each student in the Junior year. COLLABLD. Prerequisites: Completion of all other courses in "Required Departmental Core" for Theatre Arts Major and senior standing, or permission of instructor. Four credits. *Offered every spring.*

Thtr 390 Special Topics in Theatre

Designed for the major or non-major in an area of general interest. Different each time. One to four credits.

Thtr 398 Independent Research in Theatre