

THEATRE *College of Arts, Letters & Education*

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| Marvin Smith, Chair | 107 RTV Building | 509.359.6390 |
| BA | Minors | |
| <i>Faculty:</i> S. Goff, D. McLaughlin, J. Sanders | | |

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

The Theatre Program offers a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre for those who wish to enter the profession or prepare for graduate school. A minor is available. This program is designed to give the student thorough preparation in all aspects of theatre, with the knowledge and skills to support any graduate school specialty. The range of elective courses permits a small amount of specialization within the curriculum, but the primary intention is to provide fundamental preparation for theatre professionals. In addition to classroom studies, the program offers valuable "hands-on" experience in virtually every phase of theatrical production, including acting, directing, singing, costuming and technical and design skills. Each major is expected to be available to work on every production in the department's season.

Each university season is chosen for balance and variety. Productions range from classical to modern plays. Plays are produced in the University Theatre, a modern, well-equipped plant, opened in 1972 and historic Showalter Hall.

The University Theatre is located in the university's Fine Arts Complex in close proximity to the Music, Art and Film programs. Students are encouraged to supplement their theatre studies with study in other fields in order to better understand theatre as an art form, a field of study in the liberal arts and as an area of human activity and endeavor.

Graduates with Bachelor of Arts degrees are traditionally employed in a variety of careers including: professional actors, dancers, arts administrators, and technicians in scenery, lighting, properties and sound design. Graduates are also employed in public relations, sales, management and other careers that require daily person-to-person contact and effective self-presentation. Recent Eastern graduates have been accepted in nationally recognized graduate programs in theatre and related fields. Many also teach at the elementary, middle and high school levels.

General Admissions Requirements for Theatre: High school graduates and community college transfer students who want to major in theatre should possess high verbal aptitude and effective skills in reading and writing. Moreover, theatre majors should possess an attitude of teamwork, strong self-discipline and a commitment to hard work for long hours. Previous coursework and participation in music, dance, acting, singing and back stage production is highly desirable, but not mandatory.

Students wishing to major in theatre should declare this major early in their university career. Entering freshman or transfer students should contact the Theatre and Film Department Chair immediately upon arrival at the campus for the assignment of an academic advisor and evaluation of transfer credits.

Required courses in the following programs of study may have prerequisites. Reference the course description section for clarification.

BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA)

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES – STUDENTS WILL:

- demonstrate the ability to act and direct in live theatre;
- analyze, interpret and apply a knowledge of dramatic literature, cultural history and aesthetics to aspects of production;
- articulate the role of the theatre within our own culture and the culturally diverse world;
- utilize the mechanics and aesthetics of technical theatre in design and production of live theatre;
- describe, demonstrate and communicate the knowledge of one through four above to elementary, middle school and high school students.

THEATRE MAJOR (69 CREDITS)

Theatre majors are expected to complete a senior thesis and participate in the public performance program offered by the Theatre Program.

Note: two years of a single high school foreign language or one year of a single college level foreign language is required.

Required Courses (57 credits)

- FILM 221 Narrative Writing for Film (5)
- THTR 110 Movement and Voice (3)
- THTR/HUMN 202 Theatre in the Humanities (5)
- THTR 210 Acting I (4)
- THTR 226 Stage Make-Up (1)
- THTR/HUMN 303 Survey of Theatre History (5)
- THTR 310 Acting II (4)
- THTR 330 Stage Costume (3)
- THTR 331 Design and Technology I (5)
- THTR 332 Design and Technology II (5)
- THTR 395 University Theater Internship (1+1+1)*
- THTR 421 Directing I (4)
- THTR 422 Directing II (4)
- THTR 491 Senior Thesis Project (5)

Electives—students must select from the following (12 credits)

- THTR 150 Fundamentals of Music/Dance Theatre (3)
- THTR 312 Special Skills for Actors (1)
- THTR 326 Creative Dramatics (3)
- THTR 410 Acting III (4)
- THTR 425 Professional Stage Management (3)
- THTR 412 Acting: The Profession (4)
- THTR 430 Theatre Design and Technology III(5)
- THTR 495 Field Experience in Theatre (1–15)
- THTR 497 Creative Arts Summer Festival (1–5)
- THTR 498 Seminar (Theatre) (1–5)
- THTR 499 Directed Study (1–5)

Required program credits

57 credits

Elective credits

12 credits

Total credits for above major

69 credits

**THTR 202 also satisfies a general university requirement for Humanities, Fine Arts.*

Note: students can use selected THTR 496 courses as electives with permission of the program director.

**1 credit course repeatable for credit, 4 credits required.*

MINORS

THEATRE MINOR (26 CREDITS)

Required Courses

- FILM 221 Narrative Writing for Film (5)
- THTR 110 Movement and Voice (3)
- THTR/HUMN 202 Theatre in the Humanities (5)
- THTR 210 Acting I (4)
- THTR 226 Stage Make-up (1)
- THTR 331 Theatre Design and Technology I (5)
- THTR 395 University Theatre Internship (1+1+1)*

Total credits for above minor

26 credits

**1 credit course repeatable for credit, 3 credits required.*

THEATRE/ELEMENTARY OR SECONDARY MINOR (53 CREDITS)

This minor satisfies the endorsement for preschool to grade 12.

Required Courses

- FILM 221 Narrative Writing for Film (5)
- THTR 110 Movement and Voice (3)
- THTR 150 Fundamentals of Music/Dance Theatre (3)
- THTR/HUMN 202 Theatre in the Humanities (5)
- THTR 210 Acting I (4)
- THTR 226 Stage Make-up (1)
- THTR 303 Survey of Theatre History (5)
- THTR 310 Acting II (4)
- THTR 326 Creative Dramatics (3)
- THTR 330 Stage Costume (3)
- THTR 331 Theatre Design and Technology I (5)
- THTR 332 Theatre Design and Technology II (5)
- THTR 395 University Theatre Internship (1+1+1)*
- THTR 421 Directing I (4)

Minimum credits for above minor

53 credits

**1 credit course repeatable for credit, 3 credits required.*

Theatre Courses

Terms offered: check with the department or EagleNET.

THTR 110 Movement and Voice (3)

Movement and Voice is beginning training in the use of voice and body for the actor. The course is designed to offer students a wide variety of exercises and experiences that contribute to self-awareness, ensemble building, actor preparation, effective communication and strength and flexibility.

THTR 150 Fundamentals of Music/Dance Theatre (3)

An introduction to skills necessary to perform musical theatre roles. Fundamentals of singing and basic dance techniques are emphasized.

THTR 202 Theatre in the Humanities (5) [satisfies the GEGR for humanities and fine arts, list 2, fine arts.]

Elements of theatre, dramatic structure, types and styles; tradition, values and ideas of the theatre and humanity's relationship to it. (Cross-listed HUMN 202)

THTR 203 Theatre Graphics (5)

The first in a series of courses in technical theatre. Introduction to drafting, blueprint reading, sketching, perspective drawing, rendering in watercolor and model making for theatrical settings, lighting and properties.

THTR 210 Acting I (4)

Prerequisite: THTR 110.

Acting I is an introduction to the actor's creative process using exercises, improvisations and scenes with a special emphasis on the Stanislavski method.

THTR 226 Stage Make-Up (1)

Lecture and laboratory where the student may learn basic and advanced techniques and principles of straight and character make-up.

THTR 295 University Theatre Internship (1)

Internship experience at University Theatre in the scene shop, costume shop or publicity office.

THTR 303 Survey of Theatre History (5)

Prerequisite: THTR 202 or upper class standing.

Surveys the major periods of Western theatre from Greek to modern trends. (Cross-listed HUMN 303)

THTR 310 Acting II (4)

Prerequisite: THTR 202 and THTR 210.

Acting II is a continuation of Acting I. Acting II continues an exploration of the Stanislavski method through exercises, improvisations and advanced scene-work.

THTR 312 Special Skills for Actors (1-5)

Prerequisite: THTR 110.

Special Skills for Actors is a practical course in developing special skills for actors, such as juggling, dialects and theatrical swordplay. (This course is repeatable six times for credit with permission of instructor.)

THTR 319 Rehearsal and Performance (1-5)

Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.

Performance on stage in a University Theatre production. Amount of credit is determined by role played. Course is repeatable for credit.

THTR 321 Play Production (3)

Techniques of producing a play for public performance. Methods of selecting scripts, casting, rehearsal procedure and performance responsibilities. Elements of the business of production, including contractual policies and limitations.

THTR 326 Creative Dramatics (3)

Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.

Aims, objectives and role of creative dramatics in education; includes participation with children.

THTR 330 Stage Costume (3)

Principles of costumes for the stage. The nature and function of this area of production including procedures, policies, sources plus historical and professional data.

THTR 331 Theatre Design and Technology I (5)

Theatre Design and Technology I introduces students to design and execution of theatre scenery, lighting and sound.

THTR 332 Theatre Design and Technology II (5)

Prerequisite: THTR 331

Theatre Design and Technology II continues to help students develop skills in the scenographic arts. Students will operate the machinery and utilize the crafts of scenic construction including rigging, painting, rendering, modeling, drafting and wiring. Programming for sets, lights and audio in the theatre are other topics covered in this course.

THTR 336 Stage Lighting (5)

Prerequisite: THTR 203 or consent of instructor.

A beginning course in basic electricity and lighting for the theatre. Introduction to types of instruments and lamps, their uses and capabilities. Color media, circuitry and patching for manual and computer boards. Computation of electrical loads; safety measures. Three lectures and two laboratory sessions per week.

THTR 338 Concepts of Scene Design (2)

A beginning course in the styles, history and examples of theatrical scenic design.

THTR 339 Acting Workshop: Variable Topic (4)

Prerequisite: THTR 110

Acting Workshop is a special topics performance course, including, but not limited to, The Meisner Technique, Chekhov and improvisation.

THTR 340 Scene Construction (5)

Prerequisite: THTR 203 or consent of instructor.

Introduction to style and types of scenery; materials; tools; stage mechanics and construction. Three lecture hours and two two-hour laboratory sessions per week.

THTR 380 Theatre Experience (1)

Prerequisite: THTR 202

Theatre Experience provides students with internship experience at the University Theatre in the scene shop, costume shop, publicity office, box office, stage management or in performance. (Repeatable for credit up to eight times with instructor approval.)

THTR 395 University Theatre Internship (1)

Prerequisite: permission of the instructor, department chair and college dean.

THTR 399 Special Studies (1-5)

Prerequisite: permission of the instructor, department chair and college dean.

Subjects studied vary according to faculty and student interests.

THTR 410 Acting III (4)

Prerequisites: THTR 310.

Acting III combines an intensive practical analysis of heightened language with the performance skills needed to bring classic plays to life.

THTR 412 Acting: the Profession (4)

Prerequisite: THTR 110.

Students will acquire practical skills to select, prepare and perform audition pieces. They will learn about headshots, resumes, unions and professional etiquette.

THTR 419 Rehearsal and Performance (1-5)

Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.

Practical experience of working backstage during actual stage productions. Amount of credit to be determined by work done on the production. (Course is repeatable for credit.)

THTR 421 Directing I (4)

Prerequisite: THTR 303, THTR 310, THTR 330, THTR 332

Directing I focuses on the process of stage directing, with emphasis on action analysis, principals of staging, composition, picturization, casting, effective use of a rehearsal process, artistic vision and collaboration with designers.

THTR 422 Directing II (4)

Prerequisite: THTR 421.

Directing II builds upon the foundation of *Directing I*. The focus is on creating believable and engaging dramatic action and exploring the primary relationship between the actor and director through intensive scene-work.

THTR 425 Professional Stage Management (3)

A study into the pre-show production and post-show requirements, supervised by a stage manager. Includes work description of related department heads and the interaction therein, both in academic and professional theatre.

THTR 430 Theatre Design and Technology III (5)

Prerequisite: THTR 332.

Theatre Design and Technology III serves as the advanced coursework in design arts for the theatre and methodology of constructing, rigging, painting, shifting, lighting, wiring and finishing of set pieces and properties for theatrical stage production.

THTR 438 Scene Design (3)

A course in the methods available to the scene designer in presenting the design idea.

THTR 439 Topics in Theatre (1-5)

Prerequisite: THTR 202.

Topics in Theatre examines specific issues related to theatre arts.

THTR 445 Scene Painting (2)

A practicum in techniques and mechanics of choosing, mixing and applying scene paint for theatrical production.

THTR 491 Senior Thesis Project (5)

[satisfies senior capstone university graduation requirement]

The final exit assessment instrument for graduation. Senior theatre majors expecting to graduate following the spring quarter of their senior year must undertake either the direction or design of a one-act play produced and presented on the main stage of the University Theatre as a capstone project during spring quarter. This project will result in the production of a major thesis document. The project will be conducted under the supervision of the faculty.

Senior theatre majors whose schedules will not allow them to complete this course as their capstone, must enroll in an ITGS 400 course and complete the theatre department's senior comprehensive written and oral examination. The examination may be scheduled during any quarter.

THTR 494 Stage Door to the Future (1-5)

Opportunity to work with professional theatre company on two or more productions each summer.

THTR 495 Field Experience in Theatre (1-15)

Prerequisite: permission of the instructor, department chair and college dean.

Experience in production, performance or management of a theatre outside the university. Amount of credit is dependent on responsibilities undertaken.

THTR 496 Experimental Course in Theatre (1-5)

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THTR 497 Creative Arts Summer Festival (1-5)

THTR 498 Seminar (1-5)

THTR 499 Directed Study (1-5)

Prerequisite: permission of the instructor, department chair and college dean.

Individual study projects in a selected special field of theatre. Limited to senior and graduate students.