

Theatre

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Departmental Mission Statement: The theatre department provides all interested students the opportunity to pursue their goals in the theatre. The curriculum and production program furnishes a strong undergraduate background in practical experience in the theatre and in the study of dramatic literature and history.

Communicating Plus - Theatre: The core courses in the theatre major address written and oral communication skills, critical thinking, and problem solving. These skills are imbedded in the course work. If these courses are taken in a normal consecutive sequence, the student works on developing and mastering skills in all areas of Communicating Plus. The courses at the 100- and 200-levels introduce students to these skills and the courses in the 300- and 400-levels help the students master these skills.

The theatre department has three distinct minor options: theatre production, teaching minor in theatre production, and dramatic literature. All minors develop skills in written and oral communication, problem-solving and critical thinking.

Requirements for a major in theatre: THE 101 or 175, 130 or 131, 231, 232, 255, 333, 412; one course selected from THE 300, 301, 352, 362, 363; English 340; a minimum of four credit hours in 200 and/or 210 and/or 212.

Requirements for a teaching major in theatre: THE 101 or 175, 130 or 131, 231, 232, 255, 301, 333, 412; a minimum of four credit hours in 200 and/or 210 and/or 212.

Requirements for a minor in dramatic literature: Select five of the following: THE 101, 231, 232, 234, 333 or ENG 340. An appropriate 300-level class may substitute for one of the above.

Requirements for a minor in theatre production: THE 101, 131, 255; two courses selected from: THE 260, 268, 270, 300, 301, 362, 363, 412; minimum of four credit hours in 200 and/or 210 and or 212.

Requirements for a teaching minor in theatre production: THE 101, 131, 255, 301, 412; minimum of four credit hours in 200 and/or 210 and/or 212.

Recommended for majors: Electives develop special skills or knowledge and at least one is recommended beyond the minimum requirements: any 200 or 300 level course, or ENG 340.

Course Substitution: THE 101 or 175 can be waived for students with extensive high school course work and production experience, however, the total hours of theatre courses must be satisfied by substituting an upper level course.

101. Introduction to Theatre: Understanding and Making Theatre K. Hill

Four credits. Offered in fall.

An introduction to all aspects of the theatre and to the unifying principles of a theatre production. The course touches upon the historical development of the theatre and upon its dramatic literature. Some practical application and work. Exposure to live theatre productions on campus and via scheduled field trips. Field trip fee range: \$0 - \$25.00.

130. Beginning Improvisation Amsden

Four credits. Offered in fall.

Fundamental skills, guidelines and the theory of improvisation are presented in a studio atmosphere. Lively participation in theatre games and improvisations develop and challenge the imagination, the physical actor and improve skills in responding creatively and genuinely in the moment. Progressive challenges are offered in preparation for final in-class improv performances (public performance optional at instructor's discretion). Evaluation is based on utilization of improv guidelines, improvement, participation and tests/quizzes. Live theatre attendance required. Field trip fee range: \$0.00-\$25.00

131. Beginning Acting Amsden

Four credits. Offered in spring.

Fundamental skills and theories of the craft of acting are introduced and explored through in-class acting exercises, discussion, and the performance of in-class scenes. Areas of exploration are: imagination, psycho-physical connection, Stanislavski's theory of acting, and fundamentals of improvisation. Evaluation is based on participation, scene analyses, memorized and performed scenes, tests/quizzes and live theatre attendance.

200. Acting Lab Staff

One credit.

Participation as cast member of departmental production(s). Responsibilities established individually with instructor after auditions. Credits may be counted toward graduation, but not toward fine arts exploration requirement. Grading is Pass-Fail. *Prerequisite: consent of instructor.*

202. Topics in Theatre and Drama**Staff**

Variable credit course, 1-4 credits.

Special subjects in theatre not covered by regular courses. This course may be repeated for credit when topics change. Please see the pertinent Schedule of Courses for the listing of topics courses and possible prerequisites. Some topics may count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information.

210. Production Lab**Dalziel/Staff**

One credit.

Participation as a member of production staff for departmental production(s). Responsibilities established individually with instructor after first production meeting. Credits may be counted toward graduation, but not toward fine arts exploration requirement. Grading is Pass-Fail. *Prerequisite: consent of instructor.*

212. Production Lab - Costumes**S. Hill**

One credit.

Participation as a member of production staff for departmental production(s). Responsibilities established individually with instructor after first production meeting. Credits may be counted toward graduation, but not toward fine arts exploration requirement. Grading is Pass-Fail. *Prerequisite: consent of instructor.*

231. Theatre and Drama I: Ancient and Medieval Europe**Amsden**

Four credits. Offered in fall 2016 and alternate years.

The dramatic literature, history and production practices of ancient Greece, Rome and medieval Europe. Understanding dramatic structure, metaphoric significance and thematic content in historical context is emphasized. Lectures, group discussion, play script analysis, readings in theatre history, reader response assignments, research and creative projects/papers. Field trip fee range: \$0 - \$40.00.

232. Theatre and Drama II: Renaissance through Romantic**K. Hill**

Four credits. Offered in spring 2017 and alternate years.

The course encompasses the dramatic literature, history and production practices in Europe. The styles of theatre covered are: Italian Renaissance and commedia dell'arte, Elizabethan, Spanish Golden Age, French Neoclassic, Restoration, English 18th Century, melodrama and Romanticism. Understanding dramatic structure and thematic content in historical context is emphasized. Lectures and group discussions, play script and theatre history readings, reader response assignments, research and creative projects/papers. Field trip fee range: \$0 - \$25.00.

234. Asian Theatre and Drama**Amsden**

Four credits. Offered spring 2018 and alternate years.

An introduction to the drama, history and production practices of selected Asian theatre forms from earliest practices and drama to contemporary fusions. The genres are selected from Central Asia (Indian subcontinent), North East Asia (Japanese/Korean), East Asia (China and surrounding areas) and Southeast Asia including Bali. The course content contextualizes dramatic form and performances within a region's cultures and religions. Lectures, group discussions, videos of performances, playscript study, reader and viewer response assignments, reading in theatre history and a research project. Possible field trip fee of \$25 if appropriate live performance is available. May count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information.

248. The Actor's Voice for Stage and Media**K. Hill**

Four credits. Offered in fall 2016 and alternate years.

Vocal and physical techniques of expression are developed as the student gains performance skills, poise, and confidence in public presentations. The steps in preparing a piece of literature for public presentation are studied: selection, analysis, and rehearsal. The course emphasizes development of vocal techniques, analysis, the performance of dramatic literature, prose, and poetry.

255. Stagecraft**Dalziel**

Four credits. Offered in fall.

Various aspects of technical theatre are covered: scenery construction, scene painting/texturing, property construction, lighting, sound, drafting, and stage management. Individual projects and production preparation/participation form the core of the course. Materials fee: \$25.00.

256. Topics in Design, Technology and Management**Dalziel**

Four credits. Offered on demand.

Special topics in theatre design, technology and management, such as properties design and construction, sound design, scene painting, specialized scenery construction, scenery projection techniques, stage management, computer drafting/rendering, portfolio building or other special topics. Three

topics will be covered in a semester and will vary from year to year. A practical class that prepares students for greater production involvement on campus and future endeavors in theatre. Projects for staged productions, tests, skills tests. Repeatable for credit.

260. Introduction to Lighting Production and Design **Dalziel**

Four credits. Offered in spring 2017 and alternate years.

The student develops a method of analyzing and responding to play scripts as a lighting designer. Basic skills in drafting, sketching, and visual research are introduced. Projects move the student from initial intuitive responses to completed production plans for lighting. The technical aspects of safe stage lighting and safety with electricity are covered through practical projects in plot execution, trouble shooting, minor maintenance and the operation of computer-controlled dimming equipment. Lectures and demonstrations, discussions, technical and design projects, and examinations.

268. Makeup Design and Application **S. Hill**

Four credits. Offered in spring 2017 and alternate years.

A study of and development of skills in the art of makeup design and application. Character analysis, period application, character aging, and special materials techniques are included in makeup design. Lectures/demonstrations, discussions, design, and application projects.

270. Introduction to Theatrical Design **Dalziel**

Four credits. Offered in spring 2018 and alternate years.

The process of design and collaboration in the theatrical setting is the core of this course. Design projects throughout the course develop skills in script analysis, collaboration, drawing, drafting, rendering, model-making, and current technologies (computer-aided design and rendering).

300. Departmental Studies **Staff**

Variable credit course, 1-4 credits.

Variable topics in theatre not covered by regular courses. This course may be repeated for credit when topics change. Sometimes taught in conjunction with THE 202. Please see the pertinent Schedule of Courses for the listing of topics courses and possible prerequisites. Some topics may count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information.

301. Classroom and Children's Theatre **K. Hill**

Four credits. Offered in spring 2018 and alternate years.

The course is an exploration of theatre for young audiences and examines techniques for using theatre in the classroom. Topics will include acting, directing, designing, and playwriting for young audiences. Students will develop the resources needed to function as theatre teachers and develop an appreciation for the dramatic literature of children's theatre. Lectures, group work, presentations, play analysis, adaptations, live theatre, design projects, and lesson plans. Field trip fee range: \$0 - \$25.00.

333. Theatre and Drama III: Modern and Contemporary **Amsden**

Four credits. Offered in fall 2017 and alternate years.

The course encompasses the dramatic ideas, history and general production practices of European realism, non-realism and postmodernism from the late 19th century to the contemporary. Lectures, videotapes, group discussions, play script and theatre history readings, reader response assignments, research projects and/or papers. Field trip fee range: \$0 - \$25.00. *Prerequisites: THE 231 or 232 or 234, or ENG 230; and junior or senior status, or consent of the instructor.*

352. Acting II: Topics in Acting **Staff**

Four credits. Offered in spring 2017.

Special topics: mask improvisation workshop and auditioning alternate. A practical upper-level acting course that develops various acting skills. Mask improvisation develops the actor's psycho-physical connection to the character, helping the actor physically clarify the character for the audience. Auditioning provides the actor with basic monologue and scene preparation strategies and skills for all types of auditions. Performance projects. May be repeated for credit. Materials fee for mask workshop-\$20.00. *Prerequisite: THE 131 or 175 or 248, or consent of the instructor.*

362. Scenic Design **Dalziel**

Four credits. Offered spring 2017 and in alternate years.

The student develops a method of analyzing and responding to play scripts. Projects move the student from initial and intuitive responses through play script analysis and visual research to completed designs. Rudimentary skills in drafting, drawing, imagining, color rendering, and scenic model making are introduced. Lectures, demonstrations, discussions, design and research projects. *Prerequisite: THE 101 or consent of the instructor.*

363. Costume Construction and Design**S. Hill**

Four credits. Offered in spring 2018 and alternate years.

The course will provide an introduction to costume design and basic sewing techniques and costume construction. Students will develop methods for costume design and execution, the imaginative process, and visual research of plays. Topics include costume construction techniques, reading and adjusting patterns, costume rendering, and historical costume research. Materials fee: \$25. *Prerequisite: THE 101 or 268, or consent of the instructor.*

412. Senior Seminar in Directing Theories and Practices**K. Hill**

Four credits. Offered in spring.

Theories and history of directing and practical experience through the presentation of a one-act play for the public. The means of instruction are: discussions, reports, lectures, assigned readings, in-class scene preparation. *Prerequisites: THE 101, 131, junior or senior status and the approval of the theatre department's faculty.*

541, 542. Independent Study**Staff**

Variable credit course, 2-4 credits each semester.

Creative research or production project in the student's chosen area of concentration. Students contemplating enrollment in independent study must submit to the department chair a written proposal covering the work to be done at least three weeks before the beginning of the semester in which the work is to be done. No more than twelve credit hours of independent study or internship may be taken, and no more than eight credit hours may be in one department. A registration form is required. *Prerequisites: junior or senior standing, consent of the department chair and a department project director, and 12 credits toward the major.*

551, 552. Independent Study: Internship**Staff**

Variable credit course, 2-5 credits each semester.

Supervised field study, normally involving an internship in an outside theatre. The student will write a paper describing and critically analyzing the field experience. A limited number of positions are available and will be allocated competitively; senior theatre majors are given preference. Interested students should consult with the department chair well in advance of preregistration. No more than twelve credit hours of independent study or internship may be taken, and no more than eight credit hours may be in one department. A registration form is required. *Prerequisites: junior or senior standing, consent of the department chair and a department project director, and at least 16 credits toward the major.*