THEATRE ARTS (THEA)

Courses

THEA 111 | THEATRE AND SOCIETY
Units: 3 Repeatability: No
This course studies theatre as an art form and examines the historical role of theatre in the world and its significance as a cultural force. It involves attending plays, designing projects and/or performing. Satisfies the core curriculum fine arts requirement.

THEA 115 | THEATRE PRACTICUM I FOR NON-MAJORS
Units: 1 Repeatability: Yes (Can be repeated for Credit)
A course for non-majors/non-minors only. Students serve on a faculty-supervised running crew for a minimum of 30 crew hours (most productions and projects will require more hours). This course is repeatable for up to three units.

THEA 116 | THEATRE PRACTICUM I
Units: 1 Repeatability: Yes (Can be repeated for Credit)
A course for majors and minors only. Students serve on a faculty-supervised running crew for a minimum of 50 crew hours (most productions and projects will require more hours). This course is repeatable for up to 3 units.

THEA 117 | THEATRE PRACTICUM - PRODUCTION RUN CREW
Units: 1 Repeatability: Yes (Can be repeated for Credit)
A course for majors and minors only. Students serve on a faculty-supervised production for a minimum of 50 crew hours (most productions and projects will require more hours). This course is repeatable for up to 3 units.

THEA 155 | THEATRE IN EDUCATION
Units: 3
This course is designed specifically for future elementary school teachers enrolled in the liberal studies major as an introduction to the use of theatre and dance in the classroom. It involves theatre and dance through form, style, history, and cultural perspectives. Students learn the structure and vocabulary of theatre and dance, as well as practical methods of application in the classroom.

THEA 201 | THE CREATIVE MIND
Units: 3
This course is designed to build the infrastructure of creative thinking through exploratory engagement with daily life and the world around us. The creative and performing arts provide models for risk taking, confidence in performance and public presentation, and reenvisioning the familiar. Students will experience problem re-framing, collaborative solutions, sensory imagery, and compassionate innovation challenges to develop a vocabulary of creative thinking that can inform artistic practice and build the skills of charismatic leadership.

THEA 205 | TECHNICAL THEATRE WITH LAB
Units: 4 Repeatability: No
This course covers the primary technical process, the behind-the-scenes work, necessary to mount a theatrical production. It involves stagecraft vocabulary, set construction, lighting and sound technology, stage management, production organization, and theatre architecture. In the technical theatre lab portion of this course, students learn how to put theory into practice in the support of the semester’s theatrical productions. It involves the construction and installation of sets, hanging and focusing lights, and the installation and configuration of the sound system. Hours outside scheduled class time will be required, including some weekends.

THEA 220 | FUNDAMENTALS OF THEATRICAL DESIGN
Units: 3
This course focuses on understanding foundational elements of theatrical design and developing the skills to translate text into visual content. It involves script analysis, research, creative exploration, and visual communication. Satisfies the core curriculum fine arts requirement.

THEA 230 | ACTING I
Units: 3
This course examines the tradition of the actor as storyteller and challenges students to increase their ability to express their own experience and the experience of others. It involves improvisation, monologue, and scene work, technical methods in voice, physical action, and text analysis. Satisfies the core curriculum fine arts requirement.

THEA 294 | THEATER ELECTIVE
Units: 3

THEA 302 | ACTING II
Units: 3
Prerequisites: THEA 230
Focusing on contemporary dramatic scripts and actor transformation, this course teaches students to work creatively within a structure and to develop an acting process that balances and integrates text analysis and creative imagination.

THEA 303 | COSTUME CONSTRUCTION
Units: 3
Prerequisites: THEA 111 and (THEA 220 or THEA 230)
This course introduces theatrical costume construction techniques, procedures, and overall process. Students develop basic machine and hand-sewing skills, become familiar with costume-shop tools and equipment, pattern development, and all aspects of costume building. Also involves costume history, millinery, costume props, and accessories. Extra class laboratory hours for semester theatrical productions are required.

THEA 315 | THEATRE PRACTICUM II FOR NON-MAJORS
Units: 1 Repeatability: Yes (Can be repeated for Credit)
A course for non-majors/non-minors only. Students serve on a faculty-supervised running crew for a minimum of 30 crew hours (most productions and projects will require more hours). This course is repeatable for up to 3 units.

THEA 316 | THEATRE PRACTICUM - COSTUME CONSTRUCTION
Units: 2 Repeatability: Yes (Can be repeated for Credit)
Prerequisites: THEA 205
A course for majors and minors only. Students serve on a faculty-supervised production for a minimum of 50 crew hours (most productions and projects will require more hours). This course is repeatable for up to 3 units.

THEA 317 | THEATRE PRACTICUM - STAGE CRAFT
Units: 1 Repeatability: No
Prerequisites: THEA 205
A course for majors and minors only. Students serve on a faculty-supervised production for a minimum of 50 crew hours (most productions and projects will require more hours). This course is repeatable for up to 3 units.

THEA 320 | SCENIC DESIGN
Units: 3 Repeatability: No
Prerequisites: THEA 220
This course is an advanced study of theatrical set design. It involves script analysis, research, sketching, model building, drafting and presentations. Students are required to attend theatrical productions, both on and off campus.

THEA 330 | COSTUME DESIGN
Units: 3
Prerequisites: THEA 220
This course is an advanced study of the process of costuming a theatrical production. It involves how the social impact of clothes translates to theatrical costuming, visual and textual research, play analysis, costume history, rendering, design elements, production procedures, and collaboration with other artists.
THEA 340 | VOICE AND SPEECH  
Units: 3  
Prerequisites: THEA 111 or THEA 230  
This course will integrate various vocal training approaches and methods in order to encourage vocal growth in the areas of breath support, clarity of speech, diction, and range. It is specifically designed for actors, but can benefit anyone interested in public speaking or in communicating with more clarity and confidence. It involves cultivating vocal potential and performing monologues, scenes, and poetry.

THEA 345 | PHYSICAL ACTOR  
Units: 3  Repeatability: No  
Prerequisites: THEA 230  
Through this course, students will discover the body and its movement through space as an inspiration for the actor and the primary generator of meaning in theatre. Using the three main components of the course - neutral mask, Richard Schechner's Rasaboxes™, and red-nose clown - as agents for psycho-physical release, students will achieve the freedom of expression required to play diverse characters, free from personal physical and psychological habits and mannerisms.

THEA 350 | MOVEMENT FOR ACTORS  
Units: 3  
Prerequisites: THEA 111 or THEA 230  
This course focuses on physical communication through exploring personal habit, body language, character development, transformation, and style through physical action.

THEA 355 | COMMEDIA DELL'ARTE  
Units: 3  Repeatability: No  
Prerequisites: THEA 230  
This course is an introduction to the masked performance form of Commedia dell'Arte, including the history of the form, experience with masked acting, exploration of Commedia's principal characters, the creation of comedic business, and improvising on scenarios. The semester's work will culminate with a public performance of a Commedia scenario.

THEA 360W | THEATRE HISTORY  
Units: 3  
Prerequisites: THEA 111  
Centering on the contributions of theatre in mirroring cultures, this course examines the roots and development of world theatre, from ancient Greece to modern realism. It involves, along with the reading of plays, the historical approaches to studying the creation of theatre.

THEA 365W | PLAYWRITING  
Units: 3  Repeatability: No  
Prerequisites: THEA 111 and (THEA 230 or ENGL 121)  
This course focuses on writing scenes and creating work in playwriting format, through reading, writing, and acting exercises. The final project is an original one-act play.

THEA 367 | LONDON PLAYS IN PRODUCTION  
Units: 3  Repeatability: No  
A study abroad course, which immerses students in London theater. Students study and read a range of work that may include classical, modern, multi-cultural, and experimental plays and musicals, and visit venues ranging from the Royal National Theatre to abandoned warehouses. This course is cross-listed between English and Theatre, and can fulfill the Literary or Artistic Inquiry Core requirement, and major or minor upper division requirements in English or Theatre Arts.

THEA 369 | CONTEMPORARY THEATRE  
Units: 3  
Prerequisites: THEA 111  
This course examines diverse contemporary plays, including alternative and avant-garde forms of theatre. It involves textual analysis, production history, and critical theory as is applicable to current dramatic criticism and interpretation.

THEA 370 | PERFORMANCE STUDIES  
Units: 3  
Prerequisites: THEA 111  
This course focuses on the critical terms and practices of the contemporary study of performance. Several key terms and important genres of artistic and social performance will be engaged through an in-depth analysis of live and recorded performances as well as performance texts. The course will draw disciplinary methodologies from anthropology and ethnography in addition to employing concepts from literary and cultural theory. Projects combine written and performance elements to help students develop as scholar-practitioners.

THEA 375C | THEATRE AND COMMUNITY  
Units: 3  
Prerequisites: THEA 111 or THEA 230  
This course focuses on the use of theatre and performance as a means of exploring social and political issues. Students will examine the skills needed to create theatre for and about specific communities and their concerns. It involves all levels of creation, including researching, interviewing, writing, and performing. When available and appropriate, students will be guided in establishing partnership building with community-based organizations. Cross-listed with community service-learning.

THEA 385 | ACTING FOR THE MUSICAL THEATRE  
Units: 3  Repeatability: No  
Prerequisites: THEA 230  
This course cultivates the skills of analyzing, interpreting, and performing the two primary texts of the musical theatre song: lyrics and music. By learning the performer's mind/body connection through researching musical theatre repertoire, students ultimately are prepared for an effective musical theatre singing audition.

THEA 415 | ACTING III  
Units: 3  
Prerequisites: THEA 230 and THEA 302  
This course will focus on performing classical texts. Students will address the challenges of heightened language, rhetoric, argumentation, style, scansion, poetry, and period movement.

THEA 445 | PRODUCING AND DIRECTING  
Units: 3  Repeatability: No  
Prerequisites: THEA 205 and THEA 230  
This course examines the process of producing and directing for the theatre. It involves choosing a play, securing performance rights, paying royalties, negotiating contracts, casting, scheduling, design collaboration, script analysis, actor coaching, blocking, publicity, marketing, and house management.

THEA 455 | STAGE MANAGEMENT  
Units: 3  Repeatability: No  
Prerequisites: THEA 116 and THEA 205 and THEA 230  
This course, by examining the role of the stage manager in the theatrical process, prepares students for practical experience and employment in educational or professional theatre, as well as for developing stage management skills in other arts-related or non-related fields. It involves field experience/observation of productions on and off campus.

THEA 494 | SPECIAL TOPICS IN THEATRE  
Units: 3  Repeatability: Yes (Repeatable if topic differs)  
Courses examining specific aspects of theatre not covered in other classes. See program listing each semester.
THEA 496 | SENIOR PROJECT IN THEATRE
Units: 1-3
Individual directed study under the supervision of a faculty member.

THEA 498 | PROFESSIONAL INTERNSHIP
Units: 1-3

THEA 499 | INDEPENDENT STUDY
Units: 1-3