

Theatre

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The EOU Theatre Program, with a diversified curriculum leading to a B.A. or B.S. in theatre, places an emphasis on academic excellence, production, creativity, and hands-on learning. Both the B.S. and the B.A. explore the role of theatre as a voice and a mirror for the cultural behaviors of all human beings. Our objective is to prepare students in the theatrical world for either graduate work in the discipline, teaching, or other creative professional endeavors. Students after completing the Theatre required core can finish their degree as actors, directors, designers, stage managers, dramaturges or theatre generalists. One major aspect of the Theatre major when coupled with a Music minor geared toward the vocal performer would create a degree that encompasses Musical Theatre that includes acting, voice and dance. Another aspect for those students contemplating a minor is that with in the Theatre minor an at a distance student may complete those courses with in the minor that are taught online and complete the Theatre minor.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- *Content Knowledge:* Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of theatre literature and history.
- *Critical Thinking:* Use critical thinking to demonstrate understanding/appreciation of all aspects of theatre production including performance and design.
- *Integrated and Applied Learning:* Use integrated and applied learning to demonstrate hands-on experience in a variety of theatre disciplines to bring a production from conceptualization to opening night.
- *Teamwork:* Employ teamwork to gain an understanding/ appreciation of the collaborative process that makes theatre possible.
- *Civic Engagement:* Dedication to civic engagement and service to society through a season of plays covering a diverse range of topics and content.

In addition, students will gain specific proficiencies in the following areas:

- Musical Theatre, Acting, Directing, Design, Stage Management or Dramaturgy.
- Hands-on experience in the creation of the “visual world” of the theatre
- The development of the actor’s instrument (voice, body, and imagination) through exercises, scenes, and improvisation
- The ability to direct using the skills of movement, text analysis, character motivation, and visualizing the environment
- The ability to apply theatre to a major production or scholarly experience

MEANS OF ASSESSMENT

Theatre majors are evaluated in many distinct ways. They complete the required and elective courses in the discipline that reinforce creative response, historical knowledge, and analytical thinking. In musical theatre students learn the meaning of the “triple threat” performer who can act, sing and dance thus being a complete theatre practitioner and marketable to a wider theatre career. By acting in plays, students refine their physical instrument, the body, by creating believable characters. By designing sets, lights, and costumes for plays, they are given avenues of expression in theatrical production and

execution, which also provide “hands-on” experiences. In directing courses, theatre majors demonstrate a mastery of textual analysis, form, visualization, and structure. In their capstone experiences, they showcase abilities as a “culmination experience” in musical theatre, acting, design, directing, dramaturgy or stage management.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE BACHELOR OF ARTS OR BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN THEATRE ARTS

In addition to General Education and other institutional graduation requirements students should complete 60 credit hours in Theatre. A grade of “C-” or better is required in all Theatre courses counting toward the major and minor with an overall GPA of 2.00. It is understood that a maximum of 90 credit hours in one discipline may be applied to the B.S. degree. B.A. students must complete the language requirement that follows.

Theatre Major Required Core Courses (BS & BA):

- THEA 111** Script Analysis (3)
- THEA 112** Introduction to Theatre*APC (3)**
- THEA 150** Acting I (4)
- THEA 260** Theatre History*AEH (5) UWR, DPD**
- THEA 264** Stagecraft*APC (4)
- THEA 266** Fund Costuming*APC (3)
- THEA 267** Fund Stage Makeup*APC (3)**
- THEA 274** Design for Theatre*APC (5)**
- THEA 330** Stage Management (3)
- THEA 353** Fund of Directing (3) UWR
- THEA 355** Prod & Perf (6-total)*
- THEA 406** Senior Project (3)
- THEA 407** Senior Seminar (1)

* The added requirement for the Production and Performance 355 course is that a student must complete work in three different areas of Theatre as per the syllabus. An example would be acting, design, stage management.

Core Total: 46 credits

Majors must also take a minimum of 14 credit hours of Theatre course electives to complete their degree of which a minimum of 9 must be upper division:

THEA216 Dance for Musical Theatre (5) APC

THEA249 Musical Theatre Perf (3) APC

THEA250 Acting II (4) APC

THEA256 Fund of Stage Combat (3) APC

THEA349 Adv. Musical Theatre Perf. (3)

THEA350 Acting III Advanced Acting Technique (4)

THEA362 Irish Drama (3) UWR, DPD**

THEA363 Banned Plays (3) UWR, DPD**

THEA369 History of Musical Theatre (3)**

THEA425 The Theatre (3)**

THEA475 Hollywood, the American Film Exp (3)**

Total Degree Credit Hours: BS 60 min

**These courses are offered on-campus as well as online in a rotating schedule and would complete a Theatre minor that is available at a distance.

TYPICAL FOUR YEAR PLAN FOR BS IN THEATRE:

Fall Freshman Year

*** Math 100 level (4)

WR115/121 (4)

UNI/CORE101 Humanities (1)

***THEA111** Script Analysis (3)

***THEA150** Acting I*APC (4)

Winter

UNI/CORE102 Humanities (1)

***THEA264** Stagecraft*APC (4)

***THEA112** Intro to Theatre*APC (3)

Gen. Ed. (6)

Spring

***THEA266** Fund. Of Costuming*APC (3)

Theatre Electives Lower Division (6)

Gen. Ed. (6)

Fall Sophomore Year

***THEA260** Theatre History*AEH (5)UWR,DPD

***THEA267** Fund. Of Stage Makeup*APC (3)

Theatre Electives Lower Division (3)

Gen. Ed. (6)

Winter

***THEA274** Design for Theatre*APC (5)

***THEA330** Stage Management (3)

Theatre Electives Upper Division (3)

Gen. Ed. (4)

Spring

***THEA353** Fund. Of Play Directing (3) UWR

Theatre Electives Upper Division (6)

***THEA355** Prod. And Performance (1-3)

Gen. Ed. (6)

Fall Junior Year

Theatre Electives Upper Division (3)

***THEA355** Prod. And Performance (1-3)

Minor Degree Courses (12)

Winter

***THEA355** Prod. And Performance (1-3)

Minor Degree Courses (14)

Spring

***THEA355** Prod. And Performance (1-3)

Theatre Elective Upper Division (3)

Minor Degree Courses (10)

Fall Senior Year

***THEA407** Senior Seminar (1)

***THEA355** Prod. And Performance (1-3)

Theatre Elective Upper Division (3)

Minor Degree Courses (10)

Winter

***THEA355** Prod. And Performance (1-3)

Theatre Elective Upper Division (6)

Minor Degree Courses (9)

Spring

***THEA406** Senior Project Capstone (3)

***THEA355** Prod. And Performance (1-3)

Theatre Elective Upper Division (10)

* Required Core Theatre Courses.

*** If placed in pre-college math, you will have additional math credits to complete.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MINOR IN THEATRE ARTS

• A minimum of 31 graded credits in Theatre are required for the minor:

Required:

THEA 112 Introduction to Theatre*APC (3)**

THEA 150 Acting I*APC (4)

THEA355 Production & Performance (3)

Choose Two Courses:

THEA249 Musical Theatre Perf*APC (3)

THEA250 Acting II*APC (4)

THEA256 Fund of Stage Combat*APC (3)

THEA260 Theatre History*AEH (5)UWR, DPD**

THEA274 Design for Theatre*APC (5)**

THEA264 Stagecraft*APC (4)

THEA266 Fund of Costuming*APC (3)

THEA267 Fund of Stage Makeup*APC (3)**

Choose Five Courses:

THEA330 Stage Management (3)

THEA349 Adv. Musical Theatre Perf. (4)

THEA350 Acting III: Adv Acting Tech (4)

THEA353 Directing for Theatre (3)

THEA362 Irish Drama (3)UWR, DPD**

THEA363 Banned Plays (3)UWR, DPD**

THEA369 History of Musical Theatre (3)**

THEA425 The Theatre (3)**

THEA475 Hollywood, American Film Exp(3)**

Upper Division: 15 credits

Theatre Minor Minimum Total: 31 credits

• A grade of "C-" or better in each course counting toward the minor and an overall GPA of 2.00.

• A minimum of 10 credit hours counting towards the minor must be completed at Eastern.

**These courses are offered on-campus and online and would complete a Theatre minor that is available at a distance.

Proposed Program Total: 31 credits

THEATRE ARTS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

THEA 110 - Selected Topics (Credits: 1 to 6)

Topics of current interest/relevance to students and faculty.

THEA 111 - Script Analysis (Credits: 3)

Students will be introduced to the intellectual tools with which to critically and artistically examine a play script. Historical and contemporary methods of analysis will be studied and used as models from which to build a personal set of critical questions. Scripts and artists studied will encompass a variety of historical and cultural perspectives allowing a broad background from which to view theatre past and present.

THEA 112 - Introduction to Theatre *APC (Credits: 3) Gen Ed Core-Artistic Process & Creation

Theatre as a collaborative, vital and multi-faceted art form that reflects and impacts culture and society will be explored. Through study of theatre practice and various dramatic texts from Ancient Greece to contemporary times, this course will examine how the written word is translated into action and images on stage. Emphasis is on theatre as a profound measure of social, political and religious climates through the ages.

THEA 150 - Acting I*APC (Credits: 4) Gen Ed Core-Artistic Process & Creation

A performance-oriented overview of the acting process, aimed at providing a basic understanding of the elements of acting including character development, the actor's instrument, scene work and monologue work.

THEA 210 - Selected Topics (Credits: 1 to 6)

Topics of current interest/relevance to students and faculty.

THEA 216 - Dance Musical Theatre*APC (Credits: 5) Gen Ed Core-Artistic Process & Creation

The basics of Classical Ballet, Jazz, Tap and Modern forms of Dance are explored as it pertains to the genre and the performance of Musical Theatre. Basic movement techniques of each style will be covered as well as the history of the genres.

THEA 249 - Musical Theatre Performance*APC (Credits: 3)

Gen Ed Core-Artistic Process & Creation

This course explores performance in musical theatre with an emphasis on ensemble and small group dynamics. Students will be given opportunities to create and express characters through musical pieces. Emphasis will be on developing the musical theatre character.

THEA 250 - Acting II*APC (Credits: 4) Gen Ed Core-Artistic Process & Creation

A practical approach to acting technique as required by the demand of rehearsal. Students learn the vocabulary, discipline and analytical skills needed to prepare a role in a full-length play. In addition, a workshop in auditioning develops monologue and cold reading skills. Prerequisite: Acting 1 and consent of instructor.

THEA 255 - Production & Performance (Credits: 1 to 3)

Application of principles of acting and dramatic production. Credit available for students acting in or handling technical demands of scheduled performances. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

THEA 256 - Fund Stage Combat*APC (Credits: 3) Gen Ed Core-Artistic Process & Creation

Introduction to techniques used when staging combat sequences in live stage productions. Basic techniques of tumbling open and closed hand to hand combat and sword fighting will be taught and practiced.

THEA 260 - Theatre History*AEH (Credits: 5) Institutional Graduation Requirement – DPD, UWR

The course is an introduction and covers the history of Theatre from Ancient Greece to the present day. Actors, playwrights, directors, designers and the plays are included. Period theatrical movements, styles and genres will be explored and analyzed. Emphasis on the plays from history will be used to understand their periods and meaning in the context of their time. Students will also see through the drama and the historical context the struggle of theatre and the artists who have created it through the ages those cultural, governmental and religious censorship, banning and suppressive moments that at times even outlawed the art of theatre.

THEA 264 - Stagecraft*APC (Credits: 4) Gen Ed Core-Artistic Process & Creation

A backstage introduction to standard techniques and tools in mounting stage productions in scenery, lighting, construction, scene painting and properties. Included are 20 Lab hours based on the current terms' season of shows.

THEA 266 - Fund of Costuming*APC (Credits: 3) Gen Ed Core-Artistic Process & Creation

Demonstration of the basic working components of the costume designer including sewing, dyeing, painting, hat making and mask-making for the stage. Students will also practice basic construction techniques while building costumes for current productions.

THEA 267 - Fund of Stage Makeup*APC (Credits: 3) Gen Ed Core-Artistic Process & Creation

Demonstration of and practice in the use of makeup for the stage - includes character, aging, "facial" hair, and three dimensional techniques.

THEA 274 - Design for Theatre*APC (Credits: 5) Gen Ed Core-Artistic Process & Creation

Theory and techniques of basic stage scene, costume and lighting design for Theatre. The course includes research, conceptualization, drafting, sketching, rendering, models, light plots and presentation techniques connected to a set of play projects.

THEA 310 - Selected Topics (Credits: 1 to 6)

Topics of current interest/relevance. Prerequisites on occasion. Student must have at least sophomore standing to register for this course.

THEA 319 - Projects in Theatre (Credits: 1 to 3)

Opportunities for participation in special interest areas of theatre, such as reader's theatre, theatre sports, or mime. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. Student must have at least sophomore standing to register for this course.

THEA 330 - Stage Management (Credits: 3)

An introduction to the role of the stage manager in professional and most amateur theatre. Responsibilities of the stage manager in pre-production, rehearsal, performance and postproduction situations will be discussed. The indispensability of the well-trained stage manager will be emphasized. Student must have at least sophomore standing to register for this course.

THEA 349 - Advanced Musical Theatre (Credits: 3)

This course explores advanced performance in the musical theatre genre with an emphasis on solo and duet performance style and technique. Students will be given opportunities to create and express characters through musical pieces. Emphasis will be on developing the musical theatre character. This advance course is a continuation of THEA 249 basic skills.

THEA 350 - Acting III: Advanced Acting Technique (Credits: 4)

The study of advanced acting technique for the performer. The approaches covered may include Shakespearean performance styles, form of other methods such as the Meisner technique, or film acting. Prerequisites: Junior Standing.

THEA 351 - Acting IV (Credits: 3)

Expanding the actor's instrument, particularly the voice is achieved through the study of Shakespeare's verse and characters. Vocal diagnostic and exercises are employed as well as analysis of verse through scansion technique. Prerequisite: Acting 1, 2, and 3, and consent of instructor. Student must have at least sophomore standing to register for this course.

THEA 353 - Play Direction (Credits: 3)

Institutional Graduation Requirement – UWR
Exploring the principles and practices in beginning directing. Skills are learned through exercises and analysis, then applied to rehearsing a scene for public performance. Prerequisite: THEA 150 and 250. Student must have at least sophomore standing to register for this course.

THEA 354 - Advanced Directing (Credits: 3)

Advanced projects in directing are designed to challenge and stretch basic technique. Students are encouraged to develop a personal approach to their craft through work on stylized material and one-act plays performed for the public. Prerequisite: THEA 353. Student must have at least junior standing to register for this course.

THEA 355 - Production & Performance (Credits: 1 to 3)

Application and principles of acting and dramatic production. Credit available for students acting in or handling technical demands of scheduled performances. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. Student must have at least sophomore standing to register for this course.

THEA 362 - Irish Drama (Credits: 3)**Institutional Graduation Requirement – DPD, UWR**

The Emerald Isle is explored through the history of its national theatre and the playwright's words from the last century to the present. The course makes connections through the history and culture of Ireland and how it produced the Irish drama we have from its past to today. The Abbey Theatre, Ireland's National Theatre will be emphasized through its history and the playwrights that participated in it from its inception. What about this Island's spirit that creates the play? Through the texts the student will be given new insights to this question. Student must have at least junior standing to register for this course.

THEA 363 - Banned Plays (Credits: 3)**Institutional Graduation Requirement – DPD, UWR**

This course covers those plays that, over the course of history, have been banned, censored, or suppressed. The propaganda, societal, religious, cultural, and political aspects of why plays have been "banned" will be covered from ancient to modern times. Students will analyze the plays in their historical context as well with a contemporary eye. Plays from Hamlet to Hair to Oedipus Rex to West Side Story are covered. Student must have at least junior standing to register for this course.

THEA 369 - History of Musical Theatre (Credits: 3)

This course explores the history and development of the genre of musical theatre. Emphasis will be placed specifically on the American Musical Comedy of the 20th century.

THEA 405 - Read & Conf (Credits: 1 to 5)

An intensive study of a playwright, a theatrical style, a theme, or other specialized topic not normally included in course offerings. Prerequisite: Upper division standing. Student must have at least junior standing to register for this course.

THEA 406 - Senior Project (Credits: 3)

The design, research and implementing of a project that reflects the student's expertise in an area of theatre scholarship or production. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. Student must have at least junior standing to register for this course.

THEA 407 - Seminar (Credits: 1 to 5)

Intensive study of theatre topics with emphasis on student and faculty information exchange. Shared presentations, resumes, graduate school information and Senior interests and ideas will be highlighted. Student must have at least junior standing to register for this course.

THEA 409 - Practicum (Credits: 1 to 15)

Selected students will gain practical supervised experience in some aspect of theatre productions. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. Student must have at least junior standing to register for this course.

THEA 410 - Selected Topics (Credits: 1 to 6)

Topics of current interest/relevance to students and faculty. Student must have at least junior standing to register for this course.

THEA 425 - The Theatre (Credits:3)

The Theatre is an advanced course covering specific aspects of Theatre throughout its history. From the

plays of Sophocles to Christopher Durang, from the Restoration Comedies to the realism of Ibsen may be included. Samples of all styles, genres, playwrights and movements are explored in a given term. Course is offered on-campus and on-line through alternating years. Student must have at least junior standing to register for this course.

THEA 475 - Hollywood, the American Film Experience (Credits: 3)

This advanced course covers aspects of Hollywood, the American Film experience from its inception to the present day. It will include but not be limited to genres, themes, styles, actors, directors, movements and the history of film in America.