THEA - Theatre

**Course Descriptions**

### THEA 1000 Production Applications (1-2)
Production crew assignments are intended to bolster a student’s understanding of the theatre-making process. Students in the BA theatre studies and dramaturgy program are required to complete at least 1 non-dramaturgical crew assignment (e.g., build, lighting, sound, running crew) and 1 dramaturgical crew assignment (e.g., program note, lobby display, study guide) either in a Conservatory or a Repertory production. Crew assignments are determined at the beginning of each semester by the Crew Committee in the Conservatory of Theatre Arts. **Prerequisites:** Permission of instructor and acceptance to BA program.

### THEA 1005 Theatre Going (1)
Through play attendance, reading and guest speakers students experience, observe, discuss and assess as they explore what theatre means to them personally as well as the role this art form plays in their daily lives. Repeatable for credit as content changes.

### THEA 1050 Theatre Appreciation (3)
The course examines how theatre art is created, from concept to curtain call. Students will be required to see several live theatre performances. Emphasis is placed on how theatre art involves audiences in the exploration of the themes of the human condition. **GCP Coding:** (ARTS) (WCOM)

### THEA 1080 Studio Acting I (2-3)
This is an introduction to naturalistic acting. Course includes basic awareness exercises, as well as theoretical and practical application of the Stanislavsky system. **GCP Coding:** (ARTS) (OCOM)

### THEA 2030 History of Theatre: Greeks to Elizabethan (3)
This course investigates the beginnings of western theatre in ancient Greece and traces its development through to the Elizabethan period. Through a combination of reading plays and history, lectures and hands-on projects this class will aim to engage and excite students about the beginnings of western theatre through to Shakespeare and the Elizabethan period. Through discussion and class presentations the course will begin to identify for the student areas of personal interest in the study of theatre history while exploring influences of previous theatrical periods on the theatre of our times. **GCP Coding:** (ROC) (WCOM)

### THEA 2040 History of Theatre: Restoration to 1915 (3)
This course investigates western and world theatre from the Restoration of Charles II in England to the beginning of World War I. Through a combination of reading plays and history, lectures and hands-on projects, this class will aim to engage and excite students about the development of theatre from Restoration Comedy to the formulation of modern realism. Through discussion and class presentations, the course will begin to identify for the student areas of personal interest in the study of theatre history while exploring influences of previous theatrical periods on the theatre of our times. **GCP Coding:** (ROC) (WCOM)

### THEA 2050 History of Theatre: 1915 to Present (3)
This course investigates western and world theatre from the modern era to the contemporary moment. Through a combination of reading plays and history, lectures and hands-on projects this class will aim to engage and excite students about the development of theatre from “ism”s in the early to mid-20th century to current theatre practices. Through discussion and class presentations the course will begin to identify for the student areas of personal interesting the study of theatre history while exploring influences of previous theatrical periods on the theatre of our times. **GCP Coding:** (ROC) (WCOM)

### THEA 2060 Introduction to Dramaturgy and Play Analysis (3)
In this class, we will consider the multiple roles that dramaturgs often take in the production process. Specifically, we will home in on a dramaturgical approach to play analysis and to writing about theatre. At its core, dramaturgy involves inquiry, research and contextualization. Through a variety of exercises and projects, students will investigate the world that a play seeks to create, consider how that world fits within current theatrical production and explore various means of communicating ideas about the play to different audiences. **GCP Coding:** (ARTS) (WCOM)

### THEA 2080 Studio Acting II (3)
This course is a continuation of Studio Acting I. It will take the fundamentals learned in THEA 1080 and apply them to scene and monologue work from play scripts. **Prerequisite:** THEA 1080.

### THEA 2100 Introduction to Theatre Design (3)
In this project-driven class, students learn about and explore processes of theatre design. The class focuses predominantly on crafting visual and aural concepts to fit a performance text.

### THEA 2620 Practicum: Freshmen or Sophomores (1-16)
On-the-job experience, an internship, fieldwork, an apprenticeship and direct participation in community or professional activity
are all possible within the framework of a practicum. Evaluation is usually based on the quality of the student's performance in the chosen practicum setting and on reflective analysis of the experiential learning. May be repeated for credit if content differs. **Prerequisite:** Permission of the Department Chair.

**THEA 2630 Independent Study: Freshmen or Sophomores (1-16)**

Independent study involves research work on a specialized subject or project, artistic work or study of an interdisciplinary nature. In contrast to a practicum, the emphasis in an independent study is usually on individual pursuit of a specific content area. May be repeated for credit if content differs. **Prerequisite:** Permission of Department Chair.

**THEA 3030 Topics in Theatre (2-3)**

**THEA 3040 Topics in Theatre (2-3)**

A series dealing with various topics in theatre, such as creative dramatics, museum studies, design applications, women in theatre, black theatre, gay and lesbian theatre, contemporary theatre, the avant-garde and a history of acting. The courses may be repeated for credit if content differs.

**THEA 3060 Theatre in the Elementary Classroom (3)**

Students will learn to use the educational power of theatre as both an instructional and assessment tool by creating a multidisciplinary theatre based on literature appropriate for 5th and 6th graders.

**THEA 3070 Creative Dramatics: Social Issues (3)**

This course will focus on researching current social issues that affect teens and adolescents. The class will then write, produce and perform a social issues review at local high schools. **Prerequisite:** Permission of instructor

**THEA 3710 Directing I (2)**

Acquaints the student with the basic principles of directing. These principles of analysis, composition, movement and picturization are discussed in class. The student then attempts to apply these principles by directing short scenes during the class. The class then discusses the scenes. The student director defends the choices made or concurs that another choice may have been more effective. Scenes are reworked in class. **Prerequisite:** THEA 2040 or acceptance into the directing program, or permission of the instructor.

**THEA 3720 Directing II (2)**

This course is a continuation of THEA 3710. The student continues to direct scenes and apply the basic principles. The final project is to direct a 10-minute scene and to go through the full directorial process. The best scenes are presented to the Conservatory. **Prerequisite:** THEA 3710.

**THEA 4060 Advanced Dramaturgy Seminar (3)**

Advanced Dramaturgy Seminar challenges students with projects that working dramaturgs regularly tackle. Students will deepen the skills introduced in THEA 2060 and work collaboratively on dramaturgical case studies that include, for example, research packets for production teams, playbook notes, study guides and lobby displays. Students will be able to augment a professional portfolio with these assignments. By leading class discussions, presenting research orally and participating in exercises that model play rehearsals, students will also hone skills necessary for professional environments. Finally, we will turn our attention in this class to theories of dramaturgical practices and theatre criticism. In so doing, we will sharpen our abilities to evaluate and to advocate for our work. **Prerequisite:** THEA 2060 or permission of instructor.

**THEA 4500 London Theatre (3)**

Students will spend a minimum of two weeks in London, viewing at least ten plays and visiting museums. They will keep detailed journals including substantial critiques of plays and productions. There will be a preparation period of discussions with a mentor to select plays and prepare for the experience, as well as discussions of the experience with the mentor on the students' return. **Prerequisites:** ENGL 1510 and ENGL 1520, THEA 2030 and THEA 2040.

**THEA 4610 Reading Course (1-6)**

**Prerequisite:** Filing of the official form.

**THEA 4620 Practicum: Juniors or Seniors (1-16)**

On-the-job experience, an internship, fieldwork, an apprenticeship and direct participation in community or professional activity are all possible within the framework of a practicum. Evaluation is usually based on the quality of the student's performance in the chosen practicum setting and on reflective analysis of the experiential learning. May be repeated for credit if content differs. **Prerequisite:** Permission of the Department Chair.

**THEA 4630 Independent Study: Juniors or Seniors (1-16)**

Independent study involves research work on a specialized subject or project, artistic work or study of an interdisciplinary nature. In contrast to a practicum, the emphasis in an independent study is usually on individual pursuit of a specific content area. May be repeated for credit if content differs. **Prerequisite:** Permission of Department Chair.

**THEA 4710 Directing III (2)**

Emphasizes learning by the student's directing a minimum of four one-act plays. It includes discussions on analysis, function of director as interpreter, organizer, teacher; problems of involved physical staging; and relationship to designers. Special emphasis is placed on creative interrelationship between the actor and director interpretation and acting out the play through improvisation. Student work in process will be videotaped from casting to performance and discussed in class. These will be performed for the Conservatory with no budget and modular furniture. Directors from the Repertory Theatre St. Louis and Conservatory are guest lecturers. **Prerequisite:** THEA 3720.

**THEA 4720 Directing IV (2)**

This course is a continuation of THEA 4710. **Prerequisite:** THEA 4710.