## Theatre

Learning Goals (p. 356)  
**Department of Music, Theatre, and Dance**

**Department Chair:** Ian Greitzer

**Assistant Department Chair:** Alan Pickart

**Theatre Program Faculty: Professors** Abernathy, Pickart, Wilson Jr.; **Assistant Professor Seymour Kim**

Students **must** consult with their assigned advisor before they will be able to register for courses.

Theatre B.A.

Course Requirements

Courses

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| THTR 091 | Portfolio Review | 0 | F, Sp |
| THTR 105 | Introduction to Theatre | 3 | F, Sp |
| THTR 110 | Fundamentals of Theatrical Design and Production | 3 | F, Sp |
| THTR 178 | Theatre Production I | 1 | F, Sp |
| THTR 278 | Theatre Production II | 1 | F, Sp |
| THTR 460 | Seminar in Theatre | 3 | Sp |

Note: THTR 178: (must be taken for 2 semesters)

Note: THTR 278: Students who select the musical theatre concentration are not require to take THTR 278.

CHOOSE concentration A, B, C, or D below

A. Design/Technical

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| THTR 217 | Fundamentals of Stage Management | 3 | Sp |
| THTR 228 | Basic Design Principles for Theatre | 3 | F |
| THTR 230 | Stagecraft | 3 | Sp |
| THTR 231 | Scenography | 3 | Sp |
| THTR 232 | Technical Theatre Principles | 3 | Sp |
| THTR 233 | Architecture and Décor | 3 | Sp |
| THTR 330 | Theatrical Design Concepts | 3 | F |
| THTR 378 | Theatre Production III | 1 | F, Sp |
| THTR 440 | History of Theatre Origins-1800 | 4 | F |
| THTR 441 | History of Theatre 1800-Present | 4 | Sp |
| THTR 478 | Theatre Production IV | 1 | F, Sp |

Note: THTR 378, THTR 478: (must be taken 2 semesters)

FOUR COURSES from

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| THTR 411 | Technical Direction | 3 | As needed |
| THTR 412 | Scene Design for the Theatre | 3 | As needed |
| THTR 413 | Sound Design for the Theatre | 3 | As needed |
| THTR 414 | Costume for the Theatre | 3 | F |
| THTR 415 | Lighting for Theatre and Dance | 3 | As needed |
| THTR 416 | Makeup for the Stage, Film, and Television | 3 | Annually |
| THTR 417 | Stage Management for Theatre and Dance | 3 | As needed |
| THTR 418 | Scenic Painting | 3 | As needed |
| THTR 425 | Fundamentals of Directing | 3 | Annually |
| THTR 480 | Workshop in Theatre | 3 | As needed |
| THTR 490 | Independent Study in Theatre | 3 | As needed |
| THTR 491 | Independent Study I | 3 | As needed |
| THTR 492 | Independent Study II | 3 | As needed |
| THTR 493 | Special Problems in Design | 3 | As needed |

Total Credit Hours: 57

B. General Theatre

THTR 120 Acting I: Improvisation 3 F, Sp

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| THTR 440 | History of Theatre Origins-1800 | 4 | F |
| THTR 441 | History of Theatre 1800-Present | 4 | Sp |

ONE COURSE from

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| THTR 229 | Playwrighting | 3 | F, Sp |
| THTR 241 | American Musical Theatre | 3 | F (even years) |
| THTR 425 | Fundamentals of Directing | 3 | Annually |
| THTR 430 | Creative Drama with Children and Youth | 3 | F |
| THTR 477 | Touring Theatre Production | 3 | Sp |

TWO COURSES from

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| THTR 411 | Technical Direction | 3 | As needed |
| THTR 412 | Scene Design for the Theatre | 3 | As needed |
| THTR 414 | Costume for the Theatre | 3 | F |
| THTR 415 | Lighting for Theatre and Dance | 3 | As needed |
| THTR 416 | Makeup for the Stage, Film, and Television | 3 | Annually |
| THTR 417 | Stage Management for Theatre and Dance | 3 | As needed |
| THTR 480 | Workshop in Theatre | 3 | As needed |

TWO ADDITIONAL COURSES in theatre with the exception of THTR Connections courses.

Cognates

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| TWELVE CREDIT HOURS OF COURSES from | Art, communication, dance, English, film studies, health and physical education, music, and/or psychology. | 12 |  |

Note: Connections courses cannot be used to satisfy these requirements.

Total Credit Hours: 50

C. Musical Theatre

An audition is required for acceptance into the musical theatre concentration.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| MUS 241 | Musical Theatre Singing | 1 | F, Sp |
| THTR 120 | Acting I: Improvisation | 3 | F, Sp |
| THTR 121 | Acting II: Movement | 3 | F, Sp |
| THTR 200 | Musical Theatre Company | .5 | F, Sp |
| THTR 223 | Acting III: Technique and Scene Study | 3 | F |
| THTR 227 | Advanced Movement | 3 | Sp |
| THTR 241 | American Musical Theatre | 3 | F |
| THTR 246 | Musical Theatre Scene Study | 3 | Sp |
| THTR 322 | Acting V: Advanced Scene Study | 3 | F |
| THTR 346 | Musical Theatre Performance | 3 | Sp (even years) |
| THTR 421 | Acting VIII: Collaborative Devising | 3 | Sp |
| THTR 450 | Topics in Musical Theatre | 3 | F, Sp |
|  |  |  |  |

Note: THTR 200 must be taken for a minimum of six semesters; transfer students will only need to take for a minimum of four semesters



Cognates: Dance

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| DANC 110 | Introductory Ballet | 2 | F |
| DANC 112 | Introductory Jazz | 2 | F |
| DANC 114 | Introductory Tap Dance | 2 | F (odd years) |
| DANC 210 | Intermediate Ballet | 2 | Sp |
| DANC 212 | Intermediate Jazz | 2 | Sp |
| DANC 321 | Dance for Musical Theatre | 3 | Sp |

Note: Students must take DANC 112 or DANC 212 for 2 semesters at the discretion of the Director of Dance

Cognates: Music

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| MUS 091 | Student Recital Series | 0 | F, Sp |
| MUS 174 | Voice | 1 | F, Sp, Su |
| MUS 202 | Basic Music Theory for Vocalists | 1 | F, Sp, |
| MUS 204 | Sight Singing and Ear Training | 1 | Sp |
| MUS 274 | Voice | 2 | F, Sp, Su |

Note: MUS 091: (must be taken for six semesters)

Note: MUS 174: (must be taken for four semesters)

Note: MUS 274: (must be taken for two semesters)

Total Credit Hours: 70-71

D. Performance

An audition is required for acceptance into the theatre performance concentration.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| THTR 120 | Acting I: Improvisation | 3 | F, Sp |
| THTR 121 | Acting II: Movement | 3 | F, Sp |
| THTR 223 | Acting III:Technique and Scene Study | 3 | F |
| THTR 224 | Script Analysis | 3 | Sp |
| THTR 226 | Acting IV: Voice and Articulation | 3 | Sp |
| THTR 227 | Advanced Movement | 3 | Sp |
| THTR 322 | Acting V: Advanced Scene Study | 3 | F |
| THTR 323 | Acting VI: Shakespeare | 3 | Sp |
| THTR 420 | Acting VII: Period Styles of Acting | 3 | F |
| THTR 421 | Acting VIII: Collaobative Devising | 3 | Sp |
| THTR 424 | Auditioning Techniques | 3 | Annually |
| THTR 440 | History of Theatre Origins-1800 | 4 | F |
| THTR 441 | History of Theatre 1800-Present | 4 | Sp |

FOUR COURSES from

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| THTR 229 | Playwrighting | 3 | F, Sp |
|  |  |  |  |
| THTR 346 | Musical Theatre Performance | 3 | Sp (even years) |
| THTR 416 | Makeup for the Stage, Film, and Television | 3 | F |
| THTR 425 | Fundamentals of Directing | 3 | Annually |
| THTR 430 | Creative Drama with Children and Youth | 3 | F |
| THTR 477 | Touring Theatre Production | 3 | F |
| THTR 480 | Workshop in Theatre | 3 | As needed |



Total Credit Hours: 65

Course Descriptions:

Music

MUS 170-189 - Applied Music (1)

Private study is given in any of the instruments listed below. Study consists of fourteen weekly, thirty-minute private lessons. A fee is charged in addition to the regular college fees. This course may be repeated for credit.  
170 Violin, 171 Viola, 172 Cello, 173 String Bass, 174 Voice, 175 Clarinet-Saxophone, 176 Flute, 177 Oboe-English Horn, 178 Bassoon, 179 Trumpet, 180 French Horn, 181 Trombone-Baritone, 182 Tuba, 183 Organ, 184 Piano, 185 Classical Guitar, 186 Percussion, 187 Applied Jazz, 188 Harp, 189 Harpsichord

Prerequisite: Consent of department chair.

Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MUS 201 - Survey of Music (4)

Musical eras, styles, forms, and basic vocabulary are introduced to the nonmusic major through music literature. An ability to read music is not required. Online in summer.

General Education Category: Arts - Visual and Performing.

Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

**MUS 202 – Basic Music Theory for Vocalists (1)**

Musical Theatre or Theatre majors enrolled in voice lessons study basic music theory, including sight reading, sight singing, rhythm, basic keyboard skills and more, to become more self-sufficient singers.

Offered: Fall, Spring

MUS 203 - Elementary Music Theory (4)

Fundamentals of scale construction, intervals, syllables, clefs, rhythms, and form are studied, with emphasis on musical acuteness through ear training, sight singing, and dictation.

General Education Category: Arts - Visual and Performing.

Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MUS 204 - Sight Singing and Ear Training (1)

Students develop basic sight-singing and rhythm-reading techniques, using the movable "do" system. Included is melodic material based on pentatonic scales, major and minor scales, and triadic patterns. 2 contact hours.

Offered: Spring.

MUS 205 - Music History and Literature I (3)

Students become familiar with the first three of six eras of Western art music history (medieval, Renaissance, and baroque) and explore the scores, styles, genres, composers, and historical and cultural events.

Prerequisite: MUS 230 and MUS 232, or consent of instructor.

Offered: Fall.

## THTR - Theatre

THTR 091 - Portfolio Review (0)

At the conclusion of each semester, students present their course work to a panel of professors for critique. The critique focuses on the student's progress and on preparing the student for future job interviews and employment. Grading is S or U.

Offered: Fall, Spring.

THTR 105 - Introduction to Theatre (3)

The basic principles of playwriting, acting, and directing are examined.

Offered: Fall, Spring.

THTR 110 - Fundamentals of Theatrical Design and Production (3)

The basic principles and practices of design and production are examined.

Offered: Fall, Spring.

**THTR 120 – Acting I: Improvisation (3)**

The actor is introduced to self-discovery in performance. Improvisational techniques free the beginning actor physically, vocally, and emotionally. (formerly THTR 222 The Actor’s Self: Improvisation and Technique)

Offered: Fall, Spring

**THTR 121 – Acting II: Movement (3)**

The performer is trained in controlling, shaping, and moving the body. Attention is given to the development of physical characterization. (formerly THTR 221 Movement for the Actor)

Offered: Fall, Spring

THTR 178 - Theatre Production I (1)

Students work on RIC theatre productions under faculty supervision (in performance, technical theatre, costumes/makeup, or stage/theatre management). This course must be taken twice. Grading is S or U.

Offered: Fall, Spring.

**THTR 200 – Musical Theatre Company (.5)**

Musical theatre students are taught physical and vocal conditioning and are exposed to workshops in music, theatre, and dance. Needs to be repeated for credit; minimum of six times for RIC students, four times for transfer students.

Prequisite: Admission to Musical Theatre program

Offered: Fall, Spring

THTR 217 - Fundamentals of Stage Management (3)

The basic principles of stage management are covered.

Prerequisite: THTR 105 and THTR 110, or consent of department chair.

Offered: Spring.

THTR 223 – Acting III: Technique and Scene Study (3)

Through the study, analysis, and performance of scenes and monologues, the actor is introduced to Constantin Stanislavski’s system of actor training.

Prerequisite: THTR 120, or by consent of department chair.

Offered: Fall

THTR 224 – Script Analysis (3)

Students learn how to analyze scripts and search for playable dramatic values that reveal central unifying patterns, which shape plays from the inside and coordinate all of their parts.

Prerequisite: THTR 223

Offered: Spring

**THTR 226 – Acting IV: Voice and Articulation (3)**

The fundamentals of voice production and articulation are studied from the physiological and phonetic bases of speech. (formerly THTR 220 Voice and Articulation for the Performer)

Offered: Spring

THTR 227 – Advanced Movement (3)

Using inspiration from a deep observation of the world, the elements, materials,colours, light, music, animals and humans will be used to create characters in performance.

Prerequisite: THTR 121

Offered: Fall

THTR 228 - Basic Design Principles for Theatre (3)

Students are introduced to the language of design. The elements and principles of design and basic drawing techniques are also examined.

Prerequisite: THTR 105 and THTR 110, or consent of department chair.

Offered: Fall.

THTR 229 – Playwrighting (3)

Students will learn to craft short playwrighting exercises resulting in the writing of a ten muinute play.

Prerequisite: THTR 223 and THTR 224

Offered: Fall, Spring

THTR 230 - Stagecraft (3)

The basics of drafting, theatrical building practices, electrical, and sound pathways are introduced. Research and shop projects are required.

Prerequisite: THTR 105 and THTR 110, or consent of department chair.

Offered: Spring.

THTR 231 - Scenography (3)

Theatrical rendering techniques and the fundamentals of the theatrical scenic model are studied.

Prerequisite: THTR 105 and THTR 110, or consent of department chair.

Offered: Spring.

THTR 232 - Technical Theatre Principles (3)

Advanced technical concepts and systems are examined. Focus is on how different systems are interrelated on stage.

Prerequisite: THTR 230.

Offered: Spring.

THTR 233 - Architecture and Décor (3)

The history of visual style is explored. Clothing, art, and architecture are examined through various key periods of history.

Prerequisite: THTR 105 and THTR 110, or consent of department chair.

Offered: Spring.

THTR 240 - Appreciation and Enjoyment of the Theatre (4)

The theatrical process—from playwriting to performance to criticism—is studied. Attendance at theatre productions is required.

General Education Category: Arts - Visual and Performing for nonmajors.

Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

THTR 241 - American Musical Theatre (3)

The development of musical comedy and its variations within the United States from the eighteenth century to the present are traced.

Offered: Fall

THTR 242 - Acting for Nonmajors (4)

This course is for non-theatre majors. Students are introduced to acting, with focus on acquainting students with the basic concepts and principles of acting, including script analysis, character development, and ensemble playing.

General Education Category: Arts - Visual and Performing.

Offered: Summer.

**THTR 246 – Musical Theatre Scene Study (3)**

Students study musical theatre, emphasizing performance techniques and stylistic characteristics unique to the genre in the performance of musical scenes.

Prerequisite: MUS 241

Offered: Spring

THTR 261 - Contemporary Black Theatre: Cultural Perspectives (4)

African American theatre in America and English-speaking Africa since the 1960s is studied, with emphasis on representative plays, playwrights, movements, and artists.

General Education Category: Connections.

Prerequisite: FYS 100, FYW 100/FYW 100P/FYW 100H and 45 credit hours.

Offered: Annually.

THTR 278 - Theatre Production II (1)

Students work on RIC theatre productions under faculty supervision (in performance, technical theatre, costumes/makeup, or stage/theatre management). This course must be taken twice. Grading is S or U.

Prerequisite: THTR 178.

Offered: Fall, Spring.

THTR 322 – Acting V: Advanced Scene Study (3)

The actor will learn to develop techniques that will enable them to create characters through the methods of Grotowski, Linklater, Laban, Anne Bogart, and Shakespeare and Company.

Prerequisite: THTR 223, or by consent of department chair.

Offered: Fall

THTR 323- Acting VI: Shakespeare (3)

The actor is trained in the performance of the plays of William Shakespeare.

Prerequisite: THTR 322, or by consent of department chair.

Offered: Spring

THTR 330 - Theatrical Design Concepts (3)

The differences and similarities within the design disciplines are explored. Students create multiple designs for a single production.

Prerequisite: THTR 228 and THTR 231, or consent of department chair.

Offered: Fall.

THTR 346 - Musical Theatre Performance (3)

The performance of music for musical theatre is studied in its theatrical context. Emphasis is on performance techniques and stylistic characteristics unique to the genre in solo and ensemble performance.

Prerequisite: MUS 241, and THTR 246,

Offered: Fall

THTR 378 - Theatre Production III (1)

Students work on RIC theatre productions under faculty supervision (in performance, technical theatre, costumes/makeup, or stage/theatre management). This course must be taken twice. Grading is S or U.

Prerequisite: THTR 278 or consent of department chair.

Offered: Fall, Spring.

THTR 390 - Directed Study (3)

The directed study is designed to be a substitute for a traditional course under the instruction of a faculty member.

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor, department chair and dean.

Offered: As needed.

THTR 411 - Technical Direction (3)

The skills needed by a technical director in both commercial and noncommercial theatre are introduced and developed.

Prerequisite: 60 credit hours of undergraduate courses, including THTR 232, or consent of department chair.

Offered: As needed.

THTR 412 - Scene Design for the Theatre (3)

The design process as it relates to the production as a whole is explored. Designer's concepts are translated into practical, theatrical, visual terms through sketching, mechanical drawings, and model building.

Prerequisite: THTR 231, or consent of department chair.

Offered: As needed.

THTR 413 - Sound Design for the Theatre (3)

The art and technology of theatrical sound are explored. Topics include recording, editing, and reinforcement techniques and equipment. This course may be repeated once for credit.

Prerequisite: THTR 231, or consent of department chair.

Offered: As needed.

THTR 414 - Costume for the Theatre (3)

Theoretical and practical design concepts, civil dress history, and characterizations are studied through theatre application and projects.

Prerequisite: THTR 231, or consent of department chair.

Offered: Fall.

THTR 415 - Lighting for Theatre and Dance (3)

Lighting for the stage is explored.

Prerequisite:: THTR 231, or consent of department chair.

Offered: As needed.

THTR 416 - Makeup for the Stage, Film, and Television (3)

Techniques of makeup, chart construction, and research are studied. Twenty hours of laboratory experience on a major Rhode Island College Theatre production are required.

Prerequisite: THTR 110 or consent of department chair.

Offered: Annually.

THTR 417 - Stage Management for Theatre and Dance (3)

Focus is on the responsibilities of a stage manager for both commercial and noncommercial theatre and dance companies. 3-4 contact hours.

Prerequisite: 60 credit hours of undergraduate courses, including THTR 105, THTR 110, and THTR 217, or consent of department chair.

Offered: As needed.

THTR 418 - Scenic Painting (3)

The basic principles and techniques of scenic painting are examined. This course may be repeated once for credit.

Prerequisite: THTR 231, or consent of department chair.

Offered: As needed.

**THTR 420 – Acting VII: Period Styles of Acting (3)**

Students will analyze and perform scenes and monologues from periods and stylistic genres such as Ancient Greece, the Commedia dell’arte, Moliere, the Restoration, farce, melodrama, and absurdism.

Prerequisite: THTR 322, **or by consent of department chair.**

Offereed: Fall

**THTR 421 – Acting VIII: Collaborative Devising (3)**

A creative exploration into the development and performance of original work, emphasizing process, collaboration, and the creation of an original product.

Prerequisite: THTR 322, **or by consent of department chair.**

Offered: Spring

THTR 424 - Auditioning Techniques (3)

Through the selection, preparation, presentation, evaluation, and coaching of audition materials, students improve their auditioning skills.

Prerequisite: 60 credit hours of undergraduate courses, including THTR 322, and THTR 323, or consent of department chair.

Offered: Annually.

THTR 425 - Fundamentals of Directing (3)

Basic play interpretation, casting, rehearsal procedures, and other directorial duties are covered. Student-directed scenes involve problems in composition, movement, tempo, and rhythm.

Prerequisite: THTR 322, or consent of department chair.

Offered: Annually.

THTR 430 - Creative Drama with Children and Youth (3)

Improvised drama is explored as a process in fostering creative expression in children and youth in a variety of educational and community settings.

Prerequisite: Theatre majors: 60 credit hours of undergraduate course work or consent of department chair. Elementary education students: ELED 300 or consent of department chair.

Offered: Fall.

THTR 440 - History of Theatre: Origins to 1800 (4)

Students examine the development of the physical theatre and of dramatic art from their origins to 1800. THTR 440 and THTR 441 do not have to be taken in sequential order.

Prerequisite: Two 200-level theatre courses or consent of department chair.

Offered: Annually.

THTR 441 - History of Theatre: 1800 to the Present (4)

Students examine the development of the physical theatre and of dramatic art from 1800 to the present. THTR 440 and THTR 441 do not have to be taken in sequential order.

Prerequisite: Two 200-level theatre courses or consent of department chair.

Offered: Annually.

THTR 460 - Seminar in Theatre (3)

A selected area of theatre is explored in depth, culminating in a major research paper and oral presentation.

Prerequisite: Senior standing or consent of department chair.

Offered: Spring.

THTR 475 - Theatre Internship (9)

Students gain a comprehensive understanding of theatre arts through on-the-job training. Full-time work with an approved theatre company is required. (6 credit hours for summer.) Grading is H, S, or U.

Prerequisite: THTR 105 and THTR 110; open only to theatre majors (1) who are juniors or seniors, and (2) who have GPA of 3.00 in the major and minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00. Application must be made one semester prior to the period of internship.

Offered: As needed.

THTR 477 - Touring Theatre Production (3)

The student actor and student technician are trained in the touring process. Focus is on vivid material and concept, movement, and dialogue, rather than on technical production. 15 contact hours.

Prerequisite: For student actors: THTR 105, THTR 110, THTR 120, THTR 121, and consent of department chair. For student technicians: THTR 105, THTR 110, THTR 411, and one course from THTR 412, THTR 414, THTR 415, THTR 417, and consent of department chair.

Offered: Fall.

THTR 478 - Theatre Production IV (1)

Students work on RIC theatre productions under faculty supervision (in performance, technical theatre, costumes/makeup, or stage/theatre management). This course must be taken twice. Grading is S or U.

Prerequisite: THTR 378 or consent of department chair.

Offered: Fall, Spring.