Nebraska Wesleyan University

Theatre

Catalog

2012-2013

About the Program

Theatre majors pursue either a Bachelor of Arts or a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. The Bachelor of Arts with a major in Theatre Arts prepares students for graduate work in theatre or professional study in preparation for law, ministry, or teaching. The Bachelor of Arts with a major in Theatre Arts Education prepares students for teaching Theatre Arts in middle and secondary schools. The Bachelor of Fine Arts is traditionally pursued by those students who are planning a professional career in theatre. Majors include Acting, Theatre Design and Technology, Directing, Musical Theatre, and Theatre Studies.

Majors, Minors & Degrees

Majors

1. Acting (B.F.A.)
2. Directing (B.F.A.)
3. Musical Theatre (B.F.A.)
4. Theatre Arts (B.A.)
5. Theatre Arts Education (B.A.)
6. Theatre Design and Technology (B.F.A.)
7. Theatre Studies (B.F.A.)

Minors

1. Theatre Arts

Courses

THTRE 001 Theatre Appreciation

3 hours

The basic course in theatre. The appreciation of theatre is facilitated by units in the history of theatre, acting, directing, dramatic literature, and technical theatre. Does not count toward Theatre Arts major or minor.

(Normally offered each semester.)

THTRE 002 Script Analysis

3 hours

This is a fundamental course in the systematic analysis of dramatic texts. It is designed to equip theatre arts majors and minors with the textual expertise and vocabulary needed for academic discussion and artistic collaboration. Students will read and research a series of scripts in order to investigate the process in which a play develops from page to performance. Emphasis will also be given to how directors, designers, performers, and spectators individually and collaboratively engage with and utilize a dramatic text during each phase of the pre-rehearsal, rehearsal, and performance process.

(Normally offered each fall semester.)

THTRE 007 Acting I

3 hours

This introductory acting course focuses on building physical, vocal, intellectual, and intuitive foundations for actors. Through discovery exercises, students increase their awareness of the fundamentals of contemporary acting and apply these concepts to monologue and scene work.

(Normally offered each fall semester.)

THTRE 010 Practicum: Stagecraft

1 hours

Students earn credit for learning costume construction and maintenance, and learning theatrical lighting by working on theatre productions under direct faculty supervision.

Prerequisite(s): THTRE 030 Stagecraft and permission of the Director of Technical Theatre. Open to Language Arts Education majors only.

THTRE 011 Practicum: Costumes

0-2 hours

Students earn credit for learning costume construction and maintenance by working on theatre productions under direct faculty supervision.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of the instructor.

THTRE 012 Practicum: Makeup

0-2 hours

Students earn credit for learning the design and application of theatrical makeup by working on theatre productions under direct faculty supervision.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of the instructor.

THTRE 013 Practicum: Scenery

0-2 hours

Students earn credit for learning scenery construction, painting, shifting, and maintenance by working on theatre productions under direct faculty supervision.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of the instructor.

THTRE 014 Practicum: Properties

0-2 hours

Students earn credit for learning the construction, organization, and maintenance of stage properties by working on theatre productions under direct faculty supervision.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of the instructor.

THTRE 015 Practicum: Lighting

0-2 hours

Students earn credit for learning theatrical lighting by working on theatre productions under direct faculty supervision.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of the instructor.

THTRE 016 Practicum: Sound

0-2 hours

Students earn credit for learning the operation of sound equipment and the practical application of sound effects by working on theatre productions under direct faculty supervision.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of the instructor.

THTRE 017 Practicum: Acting

0-2 hours

Students earn credit for learning acting techniques and character portrayal while working on theatre productions under direct faculty supervision. Registration in the course does not guarantee casting.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of the instructor.

THTRE 018 Practicum: Musical Theatre

0-2 hours

Students earn credit for learning musical theatre acting, singing, and dancing techniques and character portrayal while working on theatre productions under direct faculty supervision. Registration does not guarantee casting.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of the instructor.

THTRE 019 Practicum: Production Management

0-2 hours

Students earn credit for learning the fundamentals of production management by working under direct faculty supervision as stage manager, script supervisor, assistant to the director, designer, or choreographer.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of the instructor.

THTRE 020 Practicum: Theatre Promotion

0-2 hours

Students earn credit for learning about theatre promotions strategies and activities while working on theatre productions under direct faculty supervision. Public relations, house management, box office management, community outreach, fundraising, and marketing are some of the possibilities for investigation.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of the instructor.

THTRE 030 Stagecraft

3 hours

A course introducing students to all technical aspects of theatre production including scenery, properties, lighting, sound, makeup, and costuming. Particular emphasis is placed on practical knowledge of scenery, property construction techniques, and the materials used. Students must participate in a laboratory theatre experience.

(Normally offered each spring semester.)

THTRE 031 Costume Construction

3 hours

The introductory course in costuming for the theatre. It presents the uses of fabrics, textures, colors, plastics, and other materials as well as developing the sewing techniques needed for the theatre.

(Normally offered each fall semester.)

THTRE 032 Makeup Design

2 hours

A study of the theory and practice of stage makeup. The final project is the supervised design and execution of makeup for a major production or lab theatre production.

(Normally offered each spring semester.)

THTRE 048 Musical Theatre Appreciation

3 hours

Musical Theatre Appreciation investigates musical theatre as a performing arts genre by incorporating historical explorations with listening, viewing, and performance activities in order to gain a greater appreciation for the art form. A history of musical theatre forms the basis for development of course activities. Critical and creative exploration of scenes, songs, styles, and artistic development of musical theatre comprise the course content. Each student develops and participates in individual and group projects presented for the class. This course is recommended for students who have an interest in musical theatre performance and production, as well as students who plan to be music or theatre educators.

(Normally offered even spring semesters.)

THTRE 070 Film Appreciation

3 hours

This course acquaints students with the history of the motion picture industry and helps them develop a set of criteria for the critical evaluation of films. Students will discuss films shown in class and consider different genres such as short story into film, novel into film, play into film, and documentaries.

(Normally offered each spring semester.)

THTRE 071 U.S. Cinema/U.S. Culture

3 hours

U.S. Cinema/U.S. Culture is a survey course providing a historical perspective on the culture of the U.S. through the study of its cinema from Edison's early experiments in the 1890s to the present.

THTRE 080 Approaching Scenography

3 hours

This is an introductory course in the theory and practice of scenography for the theatre. The primary goal of this class is to provide access to terms, concepts, and design principle applications for theatrical scenery, costume, and lighting design.

(Normally offered each fall semester.)

THTRE 081 Scenographic Techniques

3 hours

An introduction to the basic tools and techniques of creating scenographic design documents and models for the theatre. Technical documents of ground plans, sections, elevations and lighting plots will be explored using CAD. Costume and set rendering will be explored using traditional and computer methods. Model making will be explored using both traditional and computer assisted methods.

THTRE 088 Scenography I

3 hours

An introductory design studio course focusing on scenery, costume, and lighting design for the theatre. Students will design the visual world of a number of dramas, comedies, or musicals creating standard designer communication documents including sketches, renderings, and drafting. The course also emphasizes script analysis and visual research in the design process. Students will assemble a portfolio documenting their designs.

Prerequisite(s): THTRE 002 Script Analysis, THTRE 080 Approaching Scenography, and THTRE 081 Scenographic Techniques or permission of the instructor.

THTRE 100 Play Reading

1 hours

Play reading is a course that focuses on the reading, discussion, and interpretation of dramatic texts. Its aim is to provide a concentrated study of both content and form of selected texts in an effort to broaden knowledge of dramatic techniques genre, and strategies for interpretation. Dramatic texts will vary each semester with the goal that students will gain knowledge of a large quantity of plays during a four-year period. This course may be repeated for credit up to eight times for Theatre Arts majors and up to three times for Theatre Arts minors.

THTRE 101 Masterpieces of Dramatic Literature

3 hours

Masterpieces of Dramatic Literature is an introductory course designed to provide a historical perspective on the literary record of human interactions with nature, the supernatural, and other humans. Utilizing dramatic texts selected from a range of cultures, genres, and time periods (including core readings from Greek or Roman classical literature, the Bible, Shakespeare, non-Western literature, literature by women, and literature by writers of color), students will devise strategies for reading, discussing, and writing about dramatic literature. These strategies will include consideration of biographical materials, cultural contexts and analysis of the functions of drama and theatre, in particular historical and geographical circumstances. Students will also be asked to consider how texts come to be valued as masterpieces, and the politics involved in such valuation.

THTRE 102 Playwriting and Dramatic Theory

3 hours

A course introducing students to principles of dramatic construction and devices of playwrights as they apply to the creation of a short play. Emphasis is given to creative writing exercises and group responses to those exercises.

THTRE 107 Acting II

3 hours

This intermediate acting course reinforces the fundamental skills acquired in Script Analysis and Acting I, and builds upon them in order to emphasize technique and truth in acting. Using elements from contemporary acting theorists (Meisner, LeCoq, Alder, etc.) students investigate contemporary dramatic texts. The process focuses on freeing the performer's instrument while concentrating on the actor's intent.

Prerequisite(s): THTRE 002 Script Analysis and THTRE 007 Acting I.

THTRE 114 Professional Preparation for Theatre

3 hours

A course for students preparing for careers in theatre. Projects will include resume and portfolio preparation, auditioning, and interviewing techniques, introduction to internships, apprenticeships, and graduate study.

THTRE 117 Voice I

3 hours

A course designed to assist the student in improving control and use of the voice for speaking. Students participate in individualized and group exercises. The course also serves as an introduction to the variations in speech sounds, rhythms, and international patterns that characterize selected dialects of spoken English. Students utilize the International Phonetic Alphabet to transcribe cuttings from selected plays into the sounds of appropriate dialects and then reproduce the sounds vocally. Recordings of dialects are utilized for ear training.

THTRE 118 Dialects

3 hours

Dialects is a course that focuses on the mastery of vocal techniques required for utilizing stage dialects in performance. The course will offer a practical approach to learning dialects that will be believable and accurate. We will explore a process for creating a dialect role, from pre-production script analysis and dialect acquisition, through the rehearsal period and run of the texts. Each student will prepare and present a series of oral and written dialect projects culminating in an oral examination.

THTRE 127 Movement for the Actor

3 hours

Movement for the Actor will deal with techniques for freeing the actor's body, external character development, awareness of physical habits, the actor's physical health, and listening to body language. Physical assessment coupled with habit modification and intellectual choice of body movement will place the actor in a more "neutral" zone and allow her/him to play more varied roles on stage and off. Improvisation, exercise, music/movement, and elements of Alexander Technique will be explored. May be repeated for credit up to 6 times for Theatre Arts majors and up to 3 times for Theatre Arts minors.

THTRE 128 Stage Combat

3 hours

This is a general introductory course in Stage Combat. Students will learn the basics in Combat Safety, Unarmed Combat, Quarterstaff, Rapier and Dagger, and Broadsword.

THTRE 129 Dance

0-2 hours

Musical theatre dance techniques and combinations will be explored in this course. Exercises to promote flexibility and stamina will be incorporated into the process. Course progress will be demonstrated in a culminating performance. This class may be repeated for credit.

THTRE 132 Advanced Make-up Design

3 hours

Advanced Make-up Design builds the basic techniques and skill acquired in Make-up Design class regarding use of highlight and shadow as a means to sculpt the face for various characters. Students in the advanced class design and complete a sequence of projects incorporating prosthetics and three-dimensional materials, latex and liquids, facial hair, and wigs.

Prerequisite(s): THTRE 002 Script Analysis and THTRE 032 Makeup Design.

THTRE 148 Musical Theatre: I

3 hours

This course focuses on development of musical theatre performance skills in the areas of singing, dancing, and acting. Topics to be investigated include techniques of musical storytelling, vocal techniques for musical theatre singing, sight-reading, fundamentals of musical theatre dance, acting a song, and truth in musical theatre acting. Each student prepares and presents a series of performance projects including a repertoire of musical theatre songs, group dance numbers, and acting presentations. This course is recommended for the student who has an interest in musical theatre plus the student who plans to be a music or theatre teacher in the secondary schools. This course may be repeated once for credit. It can count only once for the Theatre Arts minor.

(Normally offered on even fall semesters.)

THTRE 149 Musical Theatre II

3 hours

This course focuses on development of musical theatre performance skills in the area of singing and acting. Topics to be investigated include techniques of musical storytelling, vocal techniques for musical theatre, singing, sight-reading, acting a song, and truth in musical theatre acting. Each student prepares and presents a series of performance projects including a repertoire of musical theatre songs.

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of THTRE 148 Musical Theatre: I.

(Normally offered each fall semester.)

THTRE 150 Stage Management

3 hours

Stage Management is an introductory course in production management. Students will be introduced to the basic guidelines and techniques for stage managing theatre productions including: communication skills, collaboration skills, rehearsal management, assembling the stage manager's cue and production book, and tech rehearsal/production run management. Students will also learn about professional stage management and Equity rules, guidelines, and membership. It is anticipated that each class member will serve as a stage manager for a university production and submit a detailed cue and production book.

THTRE 155 Directing I

3 hours

A study of the theories and techniques of directing. Students will direct several short scenes.

Prerequisite(s): THTRE 002 Script Analysis and THTRE 007 Acting I.

THTRE 157 Acting III

3 hours

This is an advanced course in acting that incorporates the technique and truth in acting skills from Acting II and aims to provide an intensive study of character analysis and presentation skills. Performance texts for class activities and exercises will be drawn primarily from turn-of-the-century playwrights such as Ibsen, Shaw, and Chekhov. Attention is also to be given to the process of preparing professional auditions. This course may be repeated once for credit.

Prerequisite(s): THTRE 002 Script Analysis, THTRE 007 Acting I, and THTRE 107 Acting II.

(Normally offered on even fall semesters.)

THTRE 166 Musical Theatre Voice

3 hours

Musical Theatre Voice is an introductory course in the effective use of the voice for singing. Students will learn the basics of vocal health, vocal conditioning, breath support, body alignment, and tone quality. In addition students will acquire basic singing terminology and introductory music reading and piano skills.

THTRE 167 Playing Shakespeare

3 hours

Playing Shakespeare is an intermediate level acting class focusing on the technique necessary to perform classical texts. We will focus on expanding the abilities of the actor's instrument. Truthfulness will be the ultimate goal balanced by the requirements of the text. Students will be introduced to the guidelines and techniques for acting dramatic verse. Students learn period movement and style appropriate for the Elizabethan and Jacobean era. Students also explore the use of voice, speech, tone, rhythm and pitch as part of character revelation. Playing Shakespeare may be repeated once for credit.

THTRE 168 Acting for the Camera

3 hours

In Acting for the Camera, students will learn and explore the necessary adjustments of one's acting styles, terminology, and techniques to be a successful actor on camera. This course will be divided into the various components of camera jobs (feature films, commercials, industrial film, sitcoms, one-hour episodic TV, etc.), and after learning the appropriate techniques for that particular genre, students will spend time in front of the camera working with exercises and actual commercial, film and TV, industrial scenes. Performances will then be analyzed and critiqued so that students will have an opportunity to improve their skills.

Prerequisite(s): THTRE 007 Acting I.

(Normally offered each fall semester.)

THTRE 169 Musical Theatre Workshop

1-3 hours

Musical Theatre Workshop is a class in which students prepare, rehearse, and present a musical theatre production. The culminating project will be a presentation of the musical on stage as part of the NWU Theatre season. This course may be repeated for credit.

THTRE 171 International Cinema

3 hours

This course seeks to enhance students' understanding of cultural differences by focusing on film representations of different national and cultural groups. We will analyze how nationality and ethnicity affect both the production and reception of film. The course will expose students to various national and transnational values and practices through selected films. How have international cinemas coped with the pervasive influence of the "classic" Hollywood film paradigm? How have they resisted or been shaped by U.S. influence? We will read film criticism and theory of various countries focusing on the idea of national

cinemas. Themes to be explored include survival, resistance to oppression, self-representation and visibility (performance of self and culture), intercultural communication, gender and power.

(Normally offered each spring semester.)

THTRE 173 Gender and the Art of Film

3 hours

This course will examine representations of masculinity, femininity, and androgyny in primarily U.S. film. Students will learn to recognize and evaluate elements of film art. Using variety of film theories, we will analyze Hollywood and independent movie images of men and women for the messages conveyed about gender roles and expectations.

(Normally offered each fall semester.)

THTRE 180 Scenography II

3 hours

An intermediate design studio course focusing on scenery, costume and lighting design for the theatre. Students will design the visual world of a number of moderate size dramas, comedies or musicals from contemporary and historical periods, creating standard designer communication documents including sketches, renderings and drafting. The course also emphasizes script analysis and visual research in the design process. Students will assemble a portfolio documenting their designs.

Prerequisite(s): THTRE 088 Scenography I.

THTRE 188 Scenography III

3 hours

An advanced design studio course focusing on scenery, costume and lighting design for the theatre. Students will design the visual world of a number of multi-act dramas, comedies or musicals from contemporary and historical periods, creating standard designer communication documents including sketches, renderings, a scale model and drafting. Additionally, students will work collaboratively with an advanced student director to design one or more elements of a realized production. The course emphasizes script analysis, visual research in the design process and designer/director communication. Students will assemble a portfolio documenting their designs.

Prerequisite(s): THTRE 180 Scenography II.

THTRE 190 Selected Topics

1-5 hours

A topical course designed to investigate any relevant subject matter not included in any of the standard courses. The title, content, and credit will be determined by current mutual interests of students and faculty. Selected topic acting styles courses such as Acting for Musical Theatre, Acting Shakespeare, Acting Chekhov, Acting Coward and Wilde, and Acting Brecht will be offered regularly. Other selected topics courses such as Mask Making, Rendering, Stage Management, Directing for Musical Theatre, Arts Management, and Children's Theatre will be offered based on student interest and demand and faculty expertise.

Prerequisite(s): To be determined by the instructor.

THTRE 197 Internship

1-8 hours

On-the-job training for theatre arts majors and minor wishing to explore career options prior to their senior year or for students not majoring or minoring in theatre arts who desire experience in theater arts-related organizations and positions. Students will arrange for their positions according to department guidelines, and each internship will be designed to the satisfaction of the sponsor, faculty coordinator, and student.

THTRE 200 Shakespeare

3 hours

A systematic study of the outstanding literary artist of the English language: comedies, tragedies, and historical plays.

Prerequisite(s): ENG 001 English Language and Writing and ENG 100 Introduction to Textual Studies and junior standing.

THTRE 207 Acting IV

3 hours

This is an advanced scene study course that builds upon the skills gained in Acting II and III, and trains students to handle specific acting challenges. Special attention is given to listening and connecting, and playing to win using action-based objectives. Scenes are taken from American post-war classics, the 1960s-70s avant-garde, and contemporary dramatic literature. This course may be repeated once for credit.

Prerequisite(s): THTRE 002 Script Analysis, THTRE 007 Acting I, THTRE 107 Acting II, and THTRE 157 Acting III or permission of instructor.

(Normally offered on odd spring semesters.)

THTRE 214 Auditioning

3 hours

This advanced acting course reinforces the fundamental skills acquired in previous Acting class and builds upon them in order to develop techniques for performance auditions. Specifically, the choice and preparation of material will be discovered.

Prerequisite(s): THTRE 007 Acting I, THTRE 107 Acting II, and THTRE 157 Acting III or permission of instructor.

(Normally offered each fall semester.)

THTRE 217 Voice II

3 hours

Advanced Voice is a course that focuses on the mastery and reinforcement of vocal techniques learned in Theatre 117, Voice I. Students will review the International Phonetic Alphabet and utilize principles in the transcription of more advanced texts, including classical texts. In addition students will learn advanced vocal techniques as well as strategies for sustained vocal health. Each student will prepare and present a series of oral and written vocal technique projects culminating in an oral examination.

Prerequisite(s): THTRE 117 Voice I or permission of the instructor.

THTRE 224 Methods for Teaching Communication and Theatre Arts in Middle and Secondary Schools

3 hours

See EDUC 224 Methods for Teaching Communication and Theatre Arts in Middle and Secondary Schools.

THTRE 231 Costume Design

3 hours

A study of both the history of costume and the techniques of designing costumes. It includes supervised work not only on the design but actual construction of costumes for the theatre. This course may be repeated once for credit.

Prerequisite(s): THTRE 002 Script Analysis or permission of the instructor.

(Normally offered on even spring semesters.)

THTRE 233 Scenery and Properties Design

3 hours

This course is a study of the theory and practice of scenery and properties design. The student will do several designs for scenic and property elements. One of these designs will be actualized in the laboratory theatre of a major production. This course may be repeated once for credit.

Prerequisite(s): THTRE 002 Script Analysis and THTRE 030 Stagecraft.

(Normally offered on even fall semesters.)

THTRE 235 Lighting and Sound Design

3 hours

This course is a study of the theory and practice of lighting and sound design. The student will do several projects and designs for lights and sound. One of these designs will be actualized in the laboratory theatre or a major production. This course may be repeated once for credit.

Prerequisite(s): THTRE 002 Script Analysis and THTRE 030 Stagecraft.

(Normally offered on odd fall semesters.)

THTRE 239 Advanced Production Design

1-3 hours

The student completes the design for the scenery, lights, costumes, and/or makeup for a full-length play that is produced by the department. The area or areas of design are selected by the student and instructor. This course may be repeated up to four times for credit.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of the instructor.

THTRE 248 Musical Theatre III

3 hours

This advanced course focuses on development of musical theatre performance skills in the area scene study as it applies to musical theatre. Topics to be investigated include techniques of musical storytelling, vocal techniques for musical theatre, singing, sight-reading, acting a song, and truth in musical theatre acting. Each student prepares and presents a series of performance projects including a repertoire of musical theatre songs. The major thrust of the class will be musical theatre scene work.

Prerequisite(s): THTRE 148 Musical Theatre: I and THTRE 149 Musical Theatre II.

(Normally offered each fall semester.)

THTRE 249 Musical Theatre IV

3 hours

This course focuses on development of musical theatre performance skills. Topics to be investigated include techniques of musical storytelling, vocal techniques for musical theatre, singing, sight-reading, acting a song, and truth in musical theatre acting. Each student prepares and presents a series of performance projects including a repertoire of musical theatre songs. The major thrust of this class will focus on musical theatre literature as it pertains to the performer. Material will be selected from Gilbert and Sullivan Operettas to contemporary literature. May be repeated for credit.

Prerequisite(s): THTRE 148 Musical Theatre: I, THTRE 149 Musical Theatre II, and THTRE 149 Musical Theatre II.

(Normally offered each fall semester.)

THTRE 250 Acting: Director's Perspective

3 hours

This is an advanced acting course that builds upon the skills gained in previous acting and directing classes. It trains students to handle specific acting challenges presented to them from the instructor from a director's perspective. Recommended for students completing the B.F.A. degree in theatre with an emphasis in acting.

Prerequisite(s): THTRE 002 Script Analysis, THTRE 007 Acting I, THTRE 107 Acting II, and THTRE 157 Acting III.

(Normally offered each spring semester.)

THTRE 255 Directing II

3 hours

Students will direct under supervision a one-act play or (with instructor's permission) a full-length play. This course may be repeated.

Prerequisite(s): THTRE 002 Script Analysis, THTRE 007 Acting I, THTRE 030 Stagecraft, THTRE 107 Acting II, and THTRE 155 Directing I.

THTRE 257 Solo Performance

1-2 hours

A performance of dramatic literature offered in a recital setting.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of the department chair.

(Normally offered each semester.)

THTRE 258 Directing III

3 hours

THTRE 258 Directing III is a directing practicum in which students apply theory and techniques to the task of directing a play of a one hour's length or, with instructor's permission, a full-length play. The class also continues to introduce students to more advanced directing theory and technique. All students are expected to actively participate in a series of exercises that emphasize the development of critical thinking, research, communication and organizational skills associated with effective stage direction. This course may be repeated once for credit.

Prerequisite(s): THTRE 155 Directing I and THTRE 255 Directing II and/or permission of the instructor or department chair.

(Normally offered every semester.)

THTRE 259 Directing IV

3 hours

THTRE 259 Directing IV is a directing practicum in which students apply theory and techniques to the task of directing, under supervision, a full length play. The class also continues to introduce students to more advanced directing theories and techniques. All students are expected to actively participate in a series of exercises that emphasize the development of critical thinking, research, communication and organization skills associated with effective stage direction. This course may be repeated for credit.

Prerequisite(s): THTRE 155 Directing I, THTRE 255 Directing II, and THTRE 258 Directing III and/or permission of the instructor or department chair.

(Normally offered every semester.)

THTRE 260 Theatre History I

3 hours

A survey of theatre arts from ancient Greece through the 19th century. It includes sections on classic, medieval, Renaissance, Restoration, 18th century, and 19th century drama and theatre practice.

Prerequisite(s): THTRE 001 Theatre Appreciation or THTRE 002 Script Analysis.

(Normally offered on even fall semesters.)

THTRE 261 Theatre History II

3 hours

A survey of theatre arts from the advent of realism to contemporary theatre. Special emphasis will be given to nonrealistic theatre movements and their influence on playwriting, directing, acting, and design.

Prerequisite(s): THTRE 001 Theatre Appreciation or THTRE 002 Script Analysis.

(Normally offered on odd fall semesters.)

THTRE 262 Contemporary Theatre

3 hours

Contemporary Theatre is a course designed to situate the study and practice of theatre within contemporary cultural contexts. Each course examines a particular cultural issue or condition as it is represented in a number of theories, dramatic works, production methods, theatre enterprises, and broader cultural practices. Current topics offered include: "Multicultural Theatre," "Performance of Gender," "Crosscurrents in World Theatre," and "Theatre and Social Change." This course may be repeated for credit up to 4 times. Individual offerings, however, may not be repeated.

Prerequisite(s): Junior standing or permission of the instructor.

THTRE 263 Musical Theatre History

3 hours

THTRE 263 Musical Theatre History is a survey of musical theatre history and musical theatre music and dramatic literature from its earliest documented beginnings up to the present day. As the course is designed primarily for musical theatre majors, primary emphasis will be given to musical theatre history in the United States. Students will consider examples of classical, medieval and early modern musical entertainment, followed by units covering continental operetta of the 18th C, early 19th C, late 19th C (including Gilbert & Sullivan), each decade in the 20th C, as well as contemporary developments. Students will also critically analyze the specific elements of musical theatre: integration of song and book, character and voice, ensemble, orchestra, narration and technology. Musical Theatre History is designed to familiarize students with the tenets and challenges of historical inquiry as they can be applied to the study of musical theatre. The course also seeks to build appreciation for a broad range of musical theatre styles. THTRE 263 Musical Theatre History is a required course for the BFA in Musical Theatre.

Prerequisite(s): THTRE 260 Theatre History I or permission of instructor.

(Normally offered even spring semesters.)

THTRE 264 U.S. Theatre/U.S. Culture

3 hours

U.S. Theatre/U.S. Culture is a survey course providing a historical perspective on the culture of the U.S. through the study of its theatre from the colonial period to the present. Theatre 264 can be used to satisfy a core requirement for the BFA and BA degrees in Theatre.

Prerequisite(s): THTRE 260 Theatre History I or permission of instructor.

(Normally offered odd spring semesters.)

THTRE 271 Hispanic Film

3 hours

See SPAN 271 Hispanic Film.

THTRE 280 Scenography IV

3 hours

A capstone design studio course focusing on scenery, costume and lighting design for the theatre. Students will design the entire visual world of a multi-act drama, comedy or musical from contemporary or historical periods, approved by the instructor, creating standard designer communication documents including sketches, renderings, a finished model and drafting. Additionally, students will work collaboratively with a faculty director to design one or more elements of realized production. The course emphasizes script analysis, visual research in the design process and designer/director communication. Students will assemble a portfolio documenting their designs.

Prerequisite(s): THTRE 188 Scenography III and instructor permission.

THTRE 286 History of Period Style

3 hours

History of Period Style is a class for theatre performers, directors, designers and generalists, who wish to have a basis of knowledge about the major historical periods in Western Civilization that are the setting for the majority of plays in the western canon. This course will be an overview of the most important innovations in architecture, art, costume, furniture and decorative arts, and music for each period, as they influence theatrical production.

Prerequisite(s): Junior standing or permission of the instructor.

THTRE 287 Period Acting Styles

1-3 hours

Participants in Period Acting Styles will prepare and present a full-length play to be rehearsed during the semester and presented as part of the NWU University Theatre season. Starting with a series of vocal and physical exercises, students will explore the script. Students will conduct research on the time period, cultural context and language. Students will also do an in-depth character analysis and collaborate on all aspects of the production process. Period Acting Styles may be repeated for credit.

Prerequisite(s): Junior standing or permission of the instructor.

THTRE 288 Theatre Management

3 hours

Theatre Management provides an in depth look at all the aspects of starting and running a non-profit theatre from the ground up. The first part provides a survey of the field of arts administration and introduces nonprofit governance including incorporation, mission development, and roles and responsibilities of boards of directors. The second part examines the relationship between the arts and law, including contracts, license fees, copyrights, intellectual property, and royalties. The third part of the course provides the students with audience development techniques and fundraising models. Finally each student will be introduced to practical experience picking a season, timelines, establishing a budget, and getting the word out to the public in today's world.

Prerequisite(s): Junior standing or permission of instructor.

(Normally offered spring semesters.)

THTRE 290 Selected Topics

1-5 hours

An advanced topical course designed to investigate any relevant subject matter not included in any of the standard courses. The title, content and credit will be determined by current mutual interests of students and faculty.

THTRE 295 Independent Study

1-12 hours

A departmental research project. Either a proposition or a conclusion is to be defended orally by the student before persons in the department. Independent Study may not duplicate courses described in the catalog.

Prerequisite(s): Approval of the department chair.

THTRE 297 Internship

1-8 hours

On-the-job training for theatre arts majors and minors in theatre-related organizations. Students will arrange for their positions according to departmental guidelines, and each internship will be designed to the satisfaction of the sponsor, faculty coordinator, and student. Students may repeat the course and earn a maximum of 6 hours credit.

Pass/Fail only.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of the department chair.

THTRE 299 Senior Theatre Project

1-3 hours

The senior theatre project is done under the immediate supervision of a theatre faculty or teaching-staff member in one of these areas: costumes, scenery, lights, properties, makeup, acting, stage management, or directing. The student and the director of the theatre must first determine the feasibility of the proposed project for a full-length play (i.e., at least 90 minutes playing time) and select a theatre faculty/teaching-staff member supervisor. This planning process must be completed no later than May 1 of the junior year. The student will be responsible for doing the research, designing the project and seeing it to completion. The supervisor will serve as a consultant throughout the project, will grade the project, and will arrange for the student to present a description of his or her accomplishment to interested persons. See the director of the theatre for further guidelines and procedures.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of the department chair.