THEATRE, MA

Department of Theatre, College of Performing Arts

Vision Statement
To ignite in the student, teacher and community a capacity for critical thinking, compassionate feeling, collaborative vision, and ability to delight.

"The true purpose of theatre is to create myths, to express life in its immense, universal aspect, and from that, to extract images in which we find pleasure in discovering ourselves." -Antonin Artaud

The overall goal of the program is to help our students develop a deeper understanding of their roles as theatre artists by studying and applying theory and criticism, history, and literature to their work as actors, directors, designers, dramaturgs, or scholars. We emphasize the interaction between scholarship and production. All of our students work in multiple disciplines in preparation for PhD work or careers in professional, academic, or community theatres.

Program Contact Information
Cindy Melby Phaneuf, PhD, Graduate Program Chair
323 Weber Fine Arts Building (WFAB)
402.554.2552
cphaneuf@unomaha.edu

Program Website (http://www.unomaha.edu/unotheatre)

Admissions

Application Deadlines
• Fall: Rolling (if applying for funding all application materials are due February 22)
• Spring: Rolling (if applying for funding all application materials are due October 1)
• Summer: Rolling

Program-Specific Requirements
• Minimum of 15 undergraduate semester hours with a "B" (3.0 on a 4.0 scale) average in appropriate courses or experience equivalent to undergraduate training in theatre.
• Two (2) Letters of Recommendation
  • Letters should address your potential for scholarly and artistic achievement at the graduate level.
• Statement of Purpose
  • Not to exceed three double-spaced typewritten pages explaining why you wish to pursue a Master of Arts in Theatre. The statement of purpose should also address your interest in an area of concentration. These statements are reviewed for quality of writing and the extent to which your goals are compatible with the strengths and interests of the theatre faculty and the stated objectives of the program.
• Writing Sample
  • Sample can be from any academic discipline and should show the candidate’s ability to conceptualize and write at a graduate level
• Resume (theatre resume or work resume) (optional)
• Portfolio (optional)

Degree Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>THEA 8900</td>
<td>THEATRE RESEARCH METHODS</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Final Project: Successful completion of at least 33 semester hours of coursework, including at least 15 hours in 8000-level courses; plus a Final Project (three [3] credit hours) consisting of major responsibility in a production approved by the theatre faculty and the graduate program committee in theatre or an equivalent major effort in, for example, playwriting or a project of sufficient challenge and depth which is approved by the theatre graduate program committee. A final prompt book, journal, portfolio, script or equivalent documentation will be assembled upon completion of the project and presented to the student’s supervisory committee. The student will make an oral defense of the project before the theatre graduate program committee.
## Total Credit Hours
- Thesis Option: 30
- Thesis Equivalent Project Option: 36
- Final Project Option: 36

## Concentrations
Any of the courses below can serve as Electives.

### Acting Concentration

#### Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>THEA 8346</td>
<td>ADVANCED ACTING: AUDITIONING</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 8336</td>
<td>ADVANCED ACTING: ENSEMBLE PLAY PRODUCTION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 8316</td>
<td>ADVANCED ACTING: POST REALISM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 8326</td>
<td>ADVANCED ACTING: GREEKS TO RESTORATION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits: 9

### Directing Concentration

#### Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>THEA 8436</td>
<td>DIRECTING I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 8446</td>
<td>DIRECTING II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 8016</td>
<td>ADVANCED PROJECTS IN THEATRE: INDEPENDENT STUDY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 8026</td>
<td>ADVANCED PROJECTS IN THEATRE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits: 9

### Design and Technology Concentration

#### Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>THEA 8615</td>
<td>COLLABORATIVE DESIGN STUDIES</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 8616</td>
<td>SCENE DESIGN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 8665</td>
<td>STAGE AND TV LIGHTING</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 8506</td>
<td>COSTUME DESIGN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 8516</td>
<td>CHALLENGES IN PRODUCTION DESIGN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 8650</td>
<td>TECHNICAL THEATRE PROBLEMS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 8556</td>
<td>PERIOD STYLES IN DRESS AND DECOR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits: 9

### Theatre History and Dramatic Literature Concentration

#### Requirements

Select nine (9) hours in consultation with your advisor.

Total Credits: 9

### Theatre Management

#### Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PA 8550</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION TO THE NON-PROFIT SECTOR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Other Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PA 8580</td>
<td>NONPROFIT HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA 8520</td>
<td>SEMINAR IN GRANT WRITING</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA/AVN 8480</td>
<td>SEMINAR IN PUBLIC FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA 8710</td>
<td>FUND RAISING IN PUBLIC AND NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA 8596</td>
<td>TECHNIQUES TOPICS IN NONPROFIT MANAGEMENT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

THEA 8000 SPECIAL TOPICS IN THEATRE AND DRAMA (3 credits)
A variable content course dealing with theatre and drama. Each offering will treat a single aspect of theatre or drama in depth - e.g., Shakespeare in performance, the history of acting theory, the history of theatrical design, etc.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Graduate or permission of instructor.

THEA 8016 ADVANCED PROJECTS IN THEATRE: INDEPENDENT STUDY (1-3 credits)
Special projects in theatre supplementing regular courses; individual research projects; combined study and practicum. (Cross-listed with THEA 4010)

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): 9 hours of theatre in the general area to be studied and permission of the instructor.

THEA 8026 ADVANCED PROJECTS IN THEATRE (1-3 credits)
Special projects in theatre supplementing regular courses; individual research projects; combined study and practicum. (Cross-listed with THEA 4020)

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): 9 hours of theatre in the general area to be studied and permission of the instructor.

THEA 8030 INTERNSHIP IN THEATRE (1-6 credits)
Maximum of six hours to be granted upon completion of written report on internship. The internship will be in some area of theatre. Students will receive a letter grade for the course. May be taken for a maximum of six hours of credit.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Permission of the theatre graduate program committee chair.

THEA 8040 INTERNSHIP IN THEATRE (1-6 credits)
Maximum of six hours to be granted upon completion of written report on internship. The internship will be in some area of theatre. Students will receive a letter grade for the course. May be taken for a maximum of six hours of credit.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Permission of the theatre graduate program committee chair.

THEA 8130 GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP IN THE ARTS (3 credits)
This course is about artistic excellence married to ethical practices and responsible world citizenship. Students will analyze and evaluate how to use art to address community issues and discover a road map that allows for authentic, consistent and sustainable commitment to the community and its needs.

THEA 8316 ADVANCED ACTING: POST REALISM (3 credits)
Advanced work in the technical skills of voice, speech, movement and textual analysis needed for post-realist material. (Cross-listed with THEA 4310)

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): graduate with an undergraduate major or minor in theatre or permission of instructor.

THEA 8326 ADVANCED ACTING: GREEKS TO RESTORATION (3 credits)
The fundamental theories and practices of major styles of acting from ancient Greece to the Restoration, including interpretation of outstanding dramatic literature. (Cross-listed with THEA 4320)

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Graduate with an undergraduate major or minor in theatre or permission of instructor.
THEA 8336 ADVANCED ACTING: ENSEMBLE PLAY PRODUCTION (3 credits)
In-depth exploration of a play or playwright’s work to connect acting class with performance. Special emphasis on creating a working process that allows the ensemble to emerge. The class will culminate in public performance. (Cross-listed with THEA 4330)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Graduate with an undergraduate major or minor in theatre or permission of instructor.

THEA 8346 ADVANCED ACTING: AUDITIONING (3 credits)
An acting class designed to develop auditioning skills and material as well as cultivate a working knowledge of the business of acting. (Cross-listed with THEA 4430)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Graduate with an undergraduate major or minor in theatre or permission of the instructor.

THEA 8436 DIRECTING I (3 credits)
Directing I examines the development of the role of director in Western Theatre; provides practice in the directing process including script analysis, dramaturgical research, staging visual composition, collaboration with designers and performers; considers alternative approaches to directing and encourages students to begin to develop a personal directing style. (Cross-listed with THEA 4430)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Graduate standing with an undergraduate major or minor in theatre or permission of the instructor.

THEA 8446 DIRECTING II (3 credits)
A practicum in play selection, analysis, casting, rehearsing and performing. (Cross-listed with THEA 4440)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): THEA 8436.

THEA 8506 COSTUME DESIGN (3 credits)
An introduction to the fundamentals of stage costume design, including line, silhouette, movement, color, texture and theatricality. Emphasis on the visual presentation of designs, including considerable work with life drawing and rendering technique. (Cross-listed with THEA 4500)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Graduate Standing or permission of instructor.

THEA 8516 CHALLENGES IN PRODUCTION DESIGN (3 credits)
Evaluation and exploration of the world of theatrical story telling using line, texture, contrast, theme, metaphor and symbolism. Students will work collaboratively as they foster their individual artistic talents, and recognize the impact of design on society through story telling. (Cross-listed with THEA 4510)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Graduate Standing or by permission of instructor.

THEA 8556 PERIOD STYLES IN DRESS AND DECOR (3 credits)
An historical survey course introducing students to the major periods and iconic styles and trends in western architecture, dress and interior décor of the past 2000 years; and to the social, cultural and technological influences on those trends, particularly as they relate to theatrical and production design. (Cross-listed with THEA 4550)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): By permission of instructor.

THEA 8615 COLLABORATIVE DESIGN STUDIES (3 credits)
Collaborative Design Studies explores the integration and process of theatrical production including scenery, lighting, costume, projection and sound. It chronicles their individual and collective impact on storytelling. While developing the skills of the Scenographer, students will work collaboratively as they foster their individual artistic design talents, and recognize the impact of design on society through storytelling. (Cross-listed with THEA 3610)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Graduate Standing or Permission of Instructor

THEA 8616 SCENE DESIGN (3 credits)
Principles of composition, perspective and color for the stage; the designer’s approach to the play, production of ground plans, elevations, sketches and models. (Cross-listed with THEA 4610)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Graduate with an undergraduate major or minor in theatre or permission of the instructor.

THEA 8650 TECHNICAL THEATRE PROBLEMS (3 credits)
Research and dialogue in the aesthetics and physical results of the relationships between dramatic form, theatre architecture and scenic design and lighting from historical and contemporary points of view. (Cross-listed with THEA 3660)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): THEA 1010 and THEA 4610 and THEA 4710 and THEA 4720 or permission.

THEA 8665 STAGE AND TV LIGHTING (3 credits)
Characteristics and control of light and color and their application to the theatre and television; elementary electricity; lens systems; reflectors; lamps; control systems; automation. (Cross-listed with THEA 3660)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): THEA 1630 or permission of instructor.

THEA 8755 THEATRE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE (3 credits)
This service-learning course will combine both research and practice in theatre that involves social change. Students will study the history of such theatre, with special focus on developments in the 20th century. All research will be accompanied by several community-based projects whereby students will create theatre with specific populations (schools, community centers, health centers, senior homes, etc.). (Cross-listed with THEA 3750)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Graduate in theatre. Graduate outside theatre with sufficient background in theatre and sociology political science requires permission of the instructor.

THEA 8900 THEATRE RESEARCH METHODS (2 credits)
This course is designed to introduce graduate students in theatre to basic techniques of scholarly research: gathering material, defining the problem, and improving basic writing. Special emphasis will be placed on computer searches, resources available at UNOmaha, and community-based research.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Admission to the graduate program in theatre.

THEA 8910 RESEARCH METHODS II (1 credit)
Research Methods II is a follow-up course to Research Methods. In this one-credit course, graduate students will write drafts of their final thesis project proposals with the intention of being able to use them for official submission at the end of the spring semester.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Graduate student in theatre and THEA 8900.

THEA 8920 DRAMATIC THEORY & CRITICISM (3 credits)
An introduction to selected dramatic theories and criticism from antiquity to the nineteenth century. This course is intended for graduate students with a strong background in dramatic literature and interest in theatre production.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Graduate standing, in THEA. Graduate students outside of theatre must have the permission of the instructor.

THEA 8930 THEATRE IN OUR COMMUNITY: THEORY & CRITICISM (3 credits)
Students will apply dramatic theory and criticism to the theatre in our area. Students will visit different area theatres, analyze their work, and have discussions with their artistic directors.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Graduate student.

THEA 8940 MODERN THEATRE AESTHETICS: REALISM & NATURALISM TO 1980 (3 credits)
Research and discussion on the aesthetic theories and movements in the modern theatre (Realism & Naturalism of the 20th Century). Emphasis on primary source material from Meyerhold, Brecht, Artaud, Grotowski, Schechner and others.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Graduate standing.
THEA 8950 CONTEMPORARY THEATRE AESTHETICS: 1980-PRESENT AND BEYOND (3 credits)
This seminar is the chronological capstone for the theatre department graduate seminar series. It focuses on theories and practice in theatre during the last two decades with the aim of acquainting students with the most recent forces shaping current theatre in the U.S. and selected areas of the world.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Graduate standing, in THEA. Graduate students outside of theatre must have permission of the instructor.

THEA 8980 FINAL PROJECT (1-3 credits)
Final project for Option II or III.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Admission to candidacy and approval of the project proposal.

THEA 8990 THESIS (1-3 credits)
Independent research project written under the supervision of an adviser.