THEATRE

Theatre coursework is designed to provide students well-rounded experiences encompassing the varied components that work together to create the theatre experience. These areas include performance (acting/directing), production design (scenic, costume, lighting, sound), box office, publicity, house management, dramaturgy, stage management, and much more. Above all, we’re committed to each student’s individual development toward artistic and cultural maturity and growth that cultivates global diversity and service to our community. Through in-class and production work, students gain valuable life skills including discipline, collaboration, communication, research, planning, achieving deadlines and problem-solving.

The unit’s mission is to ignite in the student, teacher and community: critical thinking, compassionate feeling, collaborative vision and the capacity to delight.

Other Information

The general areas of study in theatre are acting, directing, design, dramatic literature, theatre history and criticism and design/production including stagetage, stage lighting, scene design, costume and makeup. Beyond the general theatre core, students are able to pursue a concentration in a specialized area such as acting, design, production, technology, stage management, or theatre scholarship.

Theatre majors are required to participate actively and consistently in productions sponsored by the department. The department stages a minimum of four major productions per academic year. These productions encompass the breadth and vitality of live theatre, from musicals to classics to new plays. A variety of production opportunities are also offered in the Studio theatre space.

Writing in the Discipline

Students deepen their knowledge and understanding of Theatre, as well as developing their academic writing abilities by completing one of the approved upper division Theatre History courses, that include THEA 3760 or THEA 4780 or THEA 4790.

Contact Information

For more information contact Theatre at 402.554.2406

Website (http://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-communication-fine-arts-and-media/theatre/)

Degrees Offered

• Theatre, Bachelor of Arts (http://catalog.unomaha.edu/undergraduate/college-communication-fine-arts-media/school-of-the-arts/department-theatre/theatre-ba/)

Minors Offered

• Theatre Minor (http://catalog.unomaha.edu/undergraduate/college-communication-fine-arts-media/school-of-the-arts/department-theatre/theatre-minor/)

THEA 1000 THEATRE PRACTICUM (1 credit)

Lecture, discussion, and experience in theatre production concepts and techniques. One hour formal meeting each week and an average of two-four hours per week in an assigned technical production area based on your interests and skills. Required of Theatre majors and may be taken by all other students. May be repeated eight times.

THEA 1010 THEATRE APPRECIATION (3 credits)

A survey course designed to introduce students to all areas of theatre practice and study. Several major periods of theatre art and practice will be explored and, depending on the instructor, emphasis may include acting, playwriting, design and theatre technology, or or theatre literature.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): None. Not recommended for Theatre Majors

Distribution: Humanities and Fine Arts General Education course

THEA 1050 FILM HISTORY AND APPRECIATION (3 credits)

A journey through one of many different possible worlds of film. Students will learn about various dimensions of filmmaking—historical development, cinematography, editing, screenwriting, and so much more. Exposure to critical perspectives on the genre(s) under consideration. Includes regular viewing of excerpts and full-length films. (Cross-listed with JMC 1050).

Distribution: Humanities and Fine Arts General Education course

THEA 1210 VOICE FOR THE ACTOR (3 credits)

This course is a comprehensive exploration of the actor’s voice and speech. The student gains a detailed understanding of breath, tension and relaxation, resonance, articulation, textual interpretation, and learns to combine movement and voice, enhancing creativity in vocal expression. The focus is freeing the unique vocal potential of each student, and on training the voice for performance.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Not open to non-degree graduate students.

Distribution: Humanities and Fine Arts General Education course

THEA 1300 ACTING I (3 credits)

The basic acting class, for majors and non-majors. Emphasis on freeing oneself as a preparation for basic character and scene work using exercises for relaxation, energy generation, concentration and group interaction. Three relationships basic to the actor are explored: to oneself, to another actor, to the ensemble.

Distribution: Humanities and Fine Arts General Education course

THEA 1500 FOUNDATIONS OF PRODUCTION DESIGN (3 credits)

An introductory course introducing students to the omnipresence and role of design in contemporary society; and to fundamental elements and principles of analysis, conceptualization, and visual interpretation, as they apply to the production design process.

THEA 1600 FOUNDATIONS OF SCENIC PRODUCTION (3 credits)

An introduction to scenic production class designed to develop the skills, knowledge, theories and materials of professional designers and craftsmen, as well as developing a working knowledge of the practices in the business of technical theatre.

THEA 1610 SCENIC PRODUCTION LABORATORY (1-3 credits)

Directed, practical experiences in scenic production skills.

THEA 1650 COSTUME AND MAKEUP FOR THEATRE (3 credits)

An introductory course covering foundational vocabulary, skills, materials, tools, and processes used for costume construction and makeup application specifically for the theatre.

THEA 1700 SCRIPT ANALYSIS (3 credits)

This course introduces a variety of approaches for analyzing plays and other dramatic works, especially as they are employed by actors, directors, designers, dramaturgs, and other theatre artists. There will be multiple opportunities to apply these methods of analysis through class discussion and written work. Script analysis will be explored with an eye toward theatrical production, recognizing each play as the blueprint for a potential production. Particular attention will be paid to genre, structure, style, character, theme, language, imagery, and dramatic action. The focus will be on traditional dramatic structure, though some attention/discussion will be given to less traditional/non-linear works.
THEA 2000 THEATRE PRACTICUM II (2 credits)
Lecture, discussion, and experience in theatre production concepts and techniques. One hour formal meeting each week with Instructor, and an average of two-four Lab hours per week (or more) in an assigned technical production area based on your interests and skills. Lab hours will be established with the lab supervisor. Required of Theatre majors and may be taken by all other students. May be repeated for credit.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Four semesters of THEA 1000.

THEA 2030 INTERNSHIP: NEBRASKA SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL (1-6 credits)
This course provides an opportunity for the student to participate in a professional summer theatre company and receive course credit. The course will involve practical application. Areas of study might include artistic direction, direction, dramaturgy, arts management, production management, design and technology, or performance. Assignments are made according to the individual interests and skills of the student as they match available opportunities and needs in the industry.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Permission of instructor. THEA 1000 Theatre Practicum (2 credits)

THEA 2200 MOVEMENT FOR THE ACTOR (3 credits)
Discovery and training of the human body as a technical instrument and as one of the key expressive elements of any performance-oriented medium.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): THEA 1300 Acting I

THEA 2400 STAGE MANAGEMENT (3 credits)
This fundamental course investigates theater-making from the point of view of a stage manager. Through the exploration of a theatre production process, students learn the artistic and organizational techniques needed to professionally stage-manage traditional and non-traditional productions. Integrated management theory allows each student to identify how their practice can be informed by theory and to begin cultivating their individual stage management style.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): THEA 1300 Acting I, THEA 1500 Foundation of Production Design, THEA 1600 Foundation of Scenic Production, THEA 1650 Costume/Makeup, THEA 3600 Stage & TV Lighting or permission of instructor

THEA 2510 COSTUME PATTERNING AND DRAPING (3 credits)
Exploration of the creation of patterns for theatrical costumes. Techniques include flat patterning, draping and development of historical patterns. Specific attention is given to period silhouette and detail and theatrical costume production conventions.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): THEA 1550 or permission of instructor.

THEA 2630 DRAFTING FOR THE THEATRE (3 credits)
Guided, practical experience in the use of common drafting equipment and in drafting mechanical drawings commonly used in the theatre.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): THEA 1630

THEA 3020 SPECIAL TOPICS IN THEATRE (3 credits)
This course utilizes a topical approach that explores various aspects of theatre that are outside the set Theatre curriculum. Topics and disciplines will vary from term to term. Course description will be announced in advance. It is repeatable for credit if content differs.

THEA 3300 ACTING II (3 credits)
Incorporating skills and awareness developed in Acting I, this class moves toward examining various tools for character development by oneself, in large group improvisations and with written scripts. Specific scene work leads to a final scene presented both for the class and for all interested persons.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): THEA 1300 Acting I

THEA 3610 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 8615)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): THEA 1510

THEA 3660 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. (Cross-listed with THEA 8665)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): THEA 1630 or permission of instructor.

THEA 3750 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 8755)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Sophomore, junior, or senior standing regardless of major.

THEA 3760 THEATRE HISTORY AND LITERATURE: MODERN / 1850-2000 (3 credits)
This course is a survey of both western European and world theatre from the emergence of modernism to 1980, about the time of the emergence of post-modernism.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): ENGL 1160 & Junior standing or permission of the instructor

THEA 3770 THEATRE HISTORY AND LITERATURE: CONTEMPORARY (3 credits)
This course offers a brief survey of European and world theatre from the emergence of post-modernism to the present time. It also focuses especially on theatre for social change, community development, and the community-based theatre movement. It will include a service-learning component with one or more regional social-service or similar agencies.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): ENGL 1160 & Sophomore standing or permission of the instructor.

THEA 4000 SUMMER THEATRE WORKSHOP (3 credits)
Intensive supervised workshop experience involving significant overall contribution(s) to the summer theatre program.

THEA 4010 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 8016)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): 9 hours of theatre in the general area to be studied and permission of the instructor.

THEA 4020 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 8026)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): 9 hours of theatre in the general area to be studied and permission of the instructor.

THEA 4030 INTERNSHIP (1-6 credits)
This course provides an opportunity for the student to participate in a professional summer theatre company and receive course credit. The course will involve practical application. Areas of study might include artistic direction, direction, dramaturgy, arts management, production management, design and technology, or performance. Assignments are made according to the individual interests and skills of the student as they match available opportunities and needs in the industry.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Permission of instructor.
THEA 4050  SHAKESPEARE ON FILM: THE ART OF INTERPRETATION (3 credits)
Study how Shakespeare's plays are interpreted for performance. Explore how production shapes our understanding of the text. Understand how the change of medium from page to stage to screen reveals meaning in unique ways. Experience a dynamic way of making the most extraordinary plays your own. Classes will feature readings, lecture, class discussion, and film screenings of different cinematic interpretations of several of Shakespeare's plays. Previous study of Shakespeare is helpful but not required.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Junior standing or permission of instructor.
Distribution: Humanities and Fine Arts General Education course

THEA 4060  CHILDREN'S THEATRE PRODUCTION (3 credits)
Study of the methods of direction, design, acting and production of plays for children. Students plan a complete children's theatre production or become actively involved in an actual production.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): THEA 1010 and THEA 1630 and THEA 2320 and THEA 3660 and THEA 4430 and Junior standing; or permission of instructor.

THEA 4210  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 8316)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): THEA 2310 and THEA 2320 and Junior standing.

THEA 4220  ADVANCED ACTING: GREEKS TO RESTORATION (3 credits)
The fundamental theories and practices of major styles from ancient Greece to Restoration, including performance work from outstanding dramatic literature. (Cross-listed with THEA 8326)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): THEA 2310 and THEA 2320 and Junior standing.

THEA 4330  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 8336).
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): THEA 2310 and THEA 2320 and Junior standing.

THEA 4340  ADVANCED ACTING: AUDITIONING (3 credits)
An acting class designed to develop audition skills and material as well as cultivate a working knowledge of the business of acting. (Cross-listed with THEA 8346)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): THEA 2310 and THEA 2320 and Junior standing.

THEA 4430  DIRECTING I (3 credits)
The emergence of the director as an influential force in Western theatrical production; consideration of alternative approaches to directing; workshop development of a personal style. (Cross-listed with THEA 8436)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): THEA 1510 and THEA 1630 and THEA 2310 and THEA 2320 and THEA 2810 and THEA 2820.

THEA 4440  DIRECTING II (3 credits)
A practicum in play selection, analysis, casting, directing and performing. (Cross-listed with THEA 8446)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): THEA 4430.

THEA 4500  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 8506)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): THEA 1510, THEA 1550; or permission of instructor.

THEA 4510  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 8516)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): THEA 1510 and THEA 3610.

THEA 4550  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 decor 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 8556)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): THEA 3760 or THEA 3770 or THEA 4780 or by permission of instructor.

THEA 4610  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 and sketches. (Cross-listed with THEA 8616)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): THEA 1010 and THEA 1630 and THEA 2630 and Junior standing.

THEA 4780  THEATRE HISTORY AND LITERATURE: CLASSICAL TO 1500 (3 credits)
This course is a survey of both western European and early Asian theatre and the related theatre literature in ancient Greece and Rome, India, and medieval Europe from the fifth century BCE to the beginning of the European renaissance.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): ENGL 1160 and Junior standing.

THEA 4790  THEATRE HISTORY AND LITERATURE: RENAISSANCE TO 1850 (3 credits)
This course is a survey of primarily western European theatre and the related theatre literature from the Renaissance until the emergence of modernism.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): ENGL 1160 and Junior standing or Permission of the Instructor.

THEA 4900  ADVANCED PROJECTS - CAPSTONE (3 credits)
Demonstration of mastery in a specific area of theatre through an advanced project in acting, musical theatre, directing, design/technical theatre, playwriting, or dramaturgy. This will serve as an end of career course designed to evaluate the student's competency and knowledge of theatre practice.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): THEA 1000 Practicum, THEA 2000 Practicum, and permission of the 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 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 4340)
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 decor 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.