DEPARTMENT OF THEATER

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Jerrold Scott, Department Chair
jerrold.scott@case.edu

The Department of Theater at Case Western Reserve University offers education and participation in all aspects of drama, with course offerings in acting, stagecraft, costume design, scene design, directing, dramatic writing, and history, literature, and criticism. Bachelor of Arts students have the opportunity to perform as well as to serve on the design and technical teams in four fully produced mainstage theatrical productions each year. The low student-to-faculty ratio ensures that students are able to work closely with our faculty of highly accomplished artists and scholars. Recognizing that theater is a discipline belonging to the humanities as well as to the performing arts, the department treats all productions as artistic and educational experiences, and welcomes the participation of students regardless of their academic majors and career goals.

At the graduate level, the Master of Arts degree prepares students for work in professional theater or education or for pursuit of further graduate study, while the Master of Fine Arts professional actor training program—a collaboration between the Department of Theater and Cleveland Play House—represents a unique alliance between one of the oldest academic theater programs in the United States and the nation’s first regional theater.

Undergraduate Programs
Theater Major
The Bachelor of Arts program in theater offers concentrations in acting, design/technical theater, dramatic writing, history, and directing. Students intending to major in theater must complete 40 hours of course work. Most students will opt to take many classes beyond the requirements in order to enhance their knowledge and improve their skills. Students interested in declaring a specific concentration of study can satisfy the additional requirements listed below in order to fulfill a Bachelor of Arts with a specific concentration. Students who do not declare a concentration will receive the designation of “General Theater” on their transcript.

The basic course requirements for all theater majors are as follows:

Performance courses: Students must take all four of the following:
- THTR 102 Acting I for Majors
- THTR 103 Acting II
- THTR 110 Introduction to Theater
- THTR 330 Play Directing I

Design courses
- All students must take the following course as a prerequisite, preferably in the spring of their first year:
  - THTR 111 Introduction to Design
  - Students must take one of the following:
    - THTR 223 Scenic Design
    - THTR 224 Lighting Design
    - THTR 225 Costume Design

Theater history courses: Students must take all four of the following:
- THTR 325 Development of Theater: Beginnings to English Renaissance
- THTR 326 Development of Theater: Renaissance to Romanticism
- THTR 327 American Drama
- THTR 329 Modern and Contemporary Drama

Students who study abroad at RADA will receive credit for THTR 301, THTR 302, THTR 303, THTR 304, and THTR 305. Three of these courses can satisfy the requirements for THTR 325, THTR 326, and THTR 329.

Tech credit hours (minimum of 3 hours)
- THTR 185 Theater Practicum (Students are required to enroll in THTR 185, a 1-hour practicum credit, accumulating 7 credits during their 8 semesters at CWRU. Students will enroll in THTR 185 each semester unless instructed to do otherwise by the director of undergraduate theater studies. Any exemptions to this requirement—receiving 2 credit hours in 1 semester or not enrolling in THTR 185 for a semester—must receive approval from the director of undergraduate theater studies.)

Senior capstone: Students must take one of the following:
- THTR 331 Play Directing II
- THTR 390 Advanced Topics in Design/Technology
- THTR 393 Senior Capstone: Dramaturgy

Elective Courses
Students may enroll in additional theater courses beyond the 40 credits required for the major. Some of the courses in the list below can be counted toward the major requirements or taken as electives.
- THTR 100 Introduction to Acting
- THTR 105 Introduction to Stagecraft
- THTR 201 Movement for the Actor
- THTR 223 Scenic Design
- THTR 224 Lighting Design
- THTR 225 Costume Design
- THTR 226 Stage Makeup
- THTR 227 Stage Management
- THTR 231 Acting III: Contemporary Technique
- THTR 232 Acting IV: Classical Technique
- THTR 301 Study Abroad at RADA: Dramatic Literature I
- THTR 302 Study Abroad at RADA: Dramatic Literature II
- THTR 303 Study Abroad at RADA: Acting Styles
- THTR 304 Study Abroad at RADA: Dramatic Literature III
Concentration in Acting

THTR 231 Acting III: Contemporary Technique 3
THTR 232 Acting IV: Classical Technique 3
THTR 375 Voice for the Stage I 3

Students who study abroad at RADA will receive credit for THTR 303 and THTR 305, which can satisfy the concentration requirements for THTR 231 and THTR 375.

Total Units 9

Concentration in Design/Technical Theater

The two remaining design courses (excluding the course taken to fulfill the core requirements) from THTR 223, THTR 224, and THTR 225

Either THTR 226 or THTR 227 3

Total Units 9

Concentration in Directing

THTR 331 Play Directing II 3
THTR 227 Stage Management 3

Either THTR 314 (Advanced Playwriting) or an additional design course (THTR 223, THTR 224, or THTR 225) not taken to fulfill the core requirements of the major.

Total Units 9

Concentration in Dramatic Writing

THTR 312 Playwriting 3
THTR 314 Advanced Playwriting 3
THTR 316 Screenwriting 3

Total Units 9

Departmental Honors in Theater

Majors wishing to take a Bachelor of Arts degree with honors in theater must make written application to the director of undergraduate theater studies no later than May 1 of their junior year. Students must have a minimum 3.25 overall grade point average in theater. Acceptance into the honors program is contingent upon faculty support and recommendation by the director of undergraduate theater studies and the department chair.

Those accepted register for THTR 397 Honors Studies I and THTR 398 Honors Studies II during their senior year; for a total of 6 hours. The honors project is defined as a production project in acting, design, playwriting, directing, or management/outreach. A supporting paper discussing the concept, execution, and performance of the project must be filed with the director of undergraduate theater studies no later than one week following the project presentation. Preparation of the project will be supervised by a department faculty member.

This project may be accepted for honors only if it receives a grade of A from both the project advisor and the director of undergraduate theater studies. The grade of A must be received both semesters. Students who qualify will receive the notation "Departmental Honors in Theater" on their diplomas. Information about the structure and specific requirements of the honors project is available from the director of undergraduate theater studies.

Minor

A minor in theater requires 18 hours. The requirements for each concentration are as follows:

General Theater

Required Courses:

THTR 101 Acting I For Minors 3
THTR 110 Introduction to Theater 3
THTR 111 Introduction to Design 3

One of the following two courses:

THTR 325 Development of Theater: Beginnings to English Renaissance 3
THTR 326 Development of Theater: Renaissance to Romanticism 3

Plus two additional courses above the 200 level

Acting

THTR 101 Acting I For Minors 3
THTR 103 Acting II 3
THTR 201 Movement for the Actor 3
THTR 231 Acting III: Contemporary Technique 3
THTR 375 Voice for the Stage I 3

One of the following two courses:

THTR 325 Development of Theater: Beginnings to English Renaissance 3
THTR 326 Development of Theater: Renaissance to Romanticism 3

Design/Tech

THTR 105 Introduction to Stagecraft 3
THTR 111 Introduction to Design 3

One of the following two courses:

THTR 325 Development of Theater: Beginnings to English Renaissance 3
THTR 326 Development of Theater: Renaissance to Romanticism 3

American Drama 3
Students may then select from specific interest course tracks (6 hours), such as:

- Dramatic Writing (taking THTR 412 Playwriting (3) and THTR 414 Advanced Playwriting (3) or THTR 412 Playwriting (3) and THTR 416 Screenwriting (3))
- Theater Studies (two courses in the Department of Theater or in another department, selected by student with consent of the advisor and the approval of the theater graduate program (6 total))

Finally, students must take 9 hours of THTR 644 M.A. Project. The project or thesis must be agreed upon with the student’s advisor and have the approval of the department.

**Master of Fine Arts in Acting**

In 1996, The Cleveland Play House (CPH) and Case Western Reserve University joined forces to create a new Master of Fine Arts program in acting. Students begin their involvement with the Play House in their first semester, and their level of involvement steadily increases until, in the third year, they become professional interns at CPH.

The MFA in acting is a terminal professional degree. Candidacy for the program requires an undergraduate degree with (ideally) a major in theater, equivalent training and experience, or demonstrable potential for work at the MFA level. In addition, candidates must provide evidence of technical skill and creative ability.

At the end of each semester in residence, the student’s skill and creative ability are evaluated in light of his or her work in the department. Only students who have clearly demonstrated growth and excellence are permitted to remain in the program. The award of the MFA degree is contingent upon the student’s academic progress and upon the assessment on the part of the faculty that the candidate possesses the potential to work in the field of theater on a professional level.

Requirements for the MFA degree include:

1. A minimum of 60 semester hours of graduate work beyond the bachelor’s degree
2. A cumulative GPA of 3.0 for all course work
3. Successful completion of the thesis/project
4. Successful completion of the Third Year Internship at The Cleveland Play House

Course requirements for the MFA in acting are as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<td>Modern and Contemporary Drama</td>
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<td>THTR 223</td>
<td>Scenic Design</td>
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<td>THTR 224</td>
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**Graduate Programs**

**Master of Arts in Theater**

Master of Arts students prepare for careers in the professional theater and education, or for further pursuit of graduate study. The MA degree program offers broad-based advanced study in the literature and critical analysis of theater, with the opportunity to focus in a specialization of the student’s choice. A bachelor’s degree and strong academic record are required for admission; although no specific undergraduate degree requirements exist, a background in drama is obviously helpful.

Requirements for the degree include:

1. A minimum of 30 hours of course work beyond the bachelor’s degree
2. A cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better for all course work
3. Successful completion of the thesis/project

The curriculum consists of 15 hours of course work, 6 hours of specialized focus, and 9 hours of master’s project or thesis writing.

All MA students must take the following courses (15 hours):

- THTR 425 Development of Theater: Beginnings to English Renaissance (3)
- THTR 426 Development of Theater: Renaissance to Romanticism (3)
- THTR 427 American Drama: American Drama (3) or THTR 429 Modern and Contemporary Drama (3)
- THTR 501 Text Analysis for the Actor (3)
- THTR 509 Seminar: Performance Theory (3)

Students may then select from specific interest course tracks (6 hours), such as:

- Directing (taking THTR 430 Play Directing I (3) and THTR 431 Play Directing II (3)

Finally, students must take 6 hours of THTR 644 M.A. Project. The project or thesis must be agreed upon with the student’s advisor and have the approval of the department.

**Master of Fine Arts in Acting**

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At the end of each semester in residence, the student’s skill and creative ability are evaluated in light of his or her work in the department. Only students who have clearly demonstrated growth and excellence are permitted to remain in the program. The award of the MFA degree is contingent upon the student’s academic progress and upon the assessment on the part of the faculty that the candidate possesses the potential to work in the field of theater on a professional level.

Requirements for the MFA degree include:

1. A minimum of 60 semester hours of graduate work beyond the bachelor’s degree
2. A cumulative grade point average of 3.0 for all course work on the graduate level
3. Completion of the course requirements for the MFA Thesis Portfolio
4. Successful completion of the Third Year Internship at The Cleveland Play House

Course requirements for the MFA in acting are as follows:

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- THTR 501 Text Analysis for the Actor (3)
- THTR 509 Seminar: Performance Theory (3)

Students may then select from specific interest course tracks (6 hours), such as:

- Directing (taking THTR 430 Play Directing I (3) and THTR 431 Play Directing II (3)
Department of Theater

THTR 403 Graduate Movement III: Expressive Masks
THTR 404 Graduate Movement IV: Commedia
THTR 473 Graduate Voice Technique I
THTR 474 Graduate Voice Technique II
THTR 475 Graduate Voice Technique III: Classical Texts
THTR 479 Graduate Stage Speech I: Phonetics
THTR 501 Text Analysis for the Actor
THTR 509 Seminar: Performance Theory
THTR 512 Graduate Audition Lab
THTR 530 Ensemble Technique
THTR 531 Graduate Acting I: Performance Process
THTR 532 Graduate Acting II: Ensemble Improvisations
THTR 533 Graduate Acting III: The Modernists
THTR 534 Graduate Acting IV: Shakespeare/Heightened Language
THTR 540 Seminar: Professional Orientation
THTR 579 Graduate Stage Speech II: Articulation
THTR 580 Graduate Stage Speech III: Dialects
THTR 581 Graduate Stage Speech IV: Classical Texts
THTR 601 Special Projects
THTR 610 Professional Internship
THTR 630 Performance Studio
THTR 642 Thesis Portfolio I
THTR 643 Thesis Portfolio II

Total Units 57-60

Department Faculty

Jerrold Scott, MFA
(University of South Carolina)
Katharine Bakeless Nason Professor of Theater and Chair; Artistic Director of Eldred Theater
Directing; acting; speech and dialects

Jill Davis, MFA
(Temple University)
Associate Professor
Scene design; lighting design

Angelina M. Herin, MFA
(University of South Carolina)
Associate Professor
Costume design

Shanna Beth McGee, MFA
(University of Georgia)
Professor
Voice

Jeffrey Ullom, PhD
(University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana)
Associate Professor; Director of Undergraduate Theater Studies
Dramatic literature; theater history

David Vegh, MFA
(California State University-Long Beach)
Assistant Professor
Acting; audition laboratory; film acting

Visiting Faculty

Christopher Bohan, MFA
(Wayne State University)
Visiting Assistant Professor
Acting; movement

Lecturer

Anaya Farrell, BA
(McGill University)
Part-time Lecturer
Acting

Adjunct Faculty

Donald Carrier, BCom
(Webber Douglas Academy of Dramatic Art)
Adjunct Associate Professor; Associate Director, MFA Acting Program
Acting; script analysis

Laura Kepley, MFA
(Brown University/Trinity Repertory Theatre)
Adjunct Associate Professor; Artistic Director, Cleveland Play House

Kevin Moore, MA
(Indiana University)
Adjunct Associate Professor; Managing Director, Cleveland Play House

Courses

THTR 100. Introduction to Acting. 3 Units.
A course designed to provide the non-major or undeclared liberal arts major experience with a basic understanding of acting and performance. Fundamentals in improvisation, vocabulary, and scene study are stressed. This course fulfills THTR 101 or THTR 102 should the undeclared student select theater as his or her major or minor. Students may receive credit for only one of THTR 100, THTR 101, or THTR 102.

THTR 101. Acting I For Minors. 3 Units.
This course is designed to expose the theater minor to the development of the actor’s basic tools. Relaxation, concentration, and improvisation are taught along with basic scene study work. Students may receive credit for only one of THTR 100, THTR 101, or THTR 102.

THTR 102. Acting I for Majors. 3 Units.
This course is designed to expose the theater major to the development of the actor’s basic tools. Relaxation, concentration, and improvisation are taught along with basic scene study work. Students may receive credit for only one of THTR 100, THTR 101, or THTR 102.
THTR 103. Acting II. 3 Units.
This course continues the work begun in THTR 101 or THTR 102 with emphasis on action, emotional life, and text analysis as the essential elements of the actor's work. Prereq: THTR 100, THTR 101, or THTR 102.

THTR 105. Introduction to Stagecraft. 3 Units.
An introduction to theater terminology and technology with an emphasis on scenic construction, lighting, stage rigging, painting, and production. A practicum in wood shop and stage construction.

THTR 106. Mr. Kiss Kiss Bang Bang - James Bond and Popular Culture. 3 Units.
The twenty-one films of James Bond have become part of popular culture, and the figure of the superspy has become mythic in proportion. This series, from its first installment in 1963 to the latest reinvention of James Bond in 2006, not only depicts one dashing man's efforts to save the world from disaster again and again, but also traces the development of our popular culture. Issues of violence, sex, the presentation and treatment of women, racial stereotypes, and spectacle among other topics can be discussed after viewing each film, providing an opportunity to explore the changing expectations of American audiences and the developing form of contemporary cinema. Students who have taken USSO 286D may not receive credit for this class.

THTR 110. Introduction to Theater. 3 Units.
THTR 110 is a fundamental study of theatre from the standpoint of developing the critical acumen of a potential audience. It covers each ingredient of the theatrical experience—audience, playwriting, acting, directing, theatre architecture, design and technology—and attempts to help students define a reasonable set of standards to judge that part of the experience as an audience member and to clearly communicate their feelings and thoughts regarding that experience. The primary textbook is Edward Wilson's The Theatre Experience, former theatre critic for The Wall Street Journal. Readings in this text are augmented by the reading of specific plays that represent different periods, genres, conventions, and dramatic styles. Representative plays (typically six each semester) include Oedipus Rex (Sophocles), Hamlet (Shakespeare), Tartuffe (Moliere), Uncle Vanya (Chekhov), Waiting for Godot (Beckett), and Angels in America (Kushner). Many of these plays are supplemented by short films prepared by Films for the Humanities so that students can see examples of various dramatic and theatrical styles in performance. In addition to class discussions, lectures, and readings, students are also required to attend two live theatre productions offered by Case Western Reserve University's Department of Theater each semester. The students write critical essays about their experience as an audience member in relation to a particular aspect of the performance. Students also have an opportunity to complete in-class projects in which they gain experience functioning as a theatre practitioner. These projects and the accompanying written assignment are designed to increase the student's understanding of the function and interdependence of various theatre artists.

THTR 111. Introduction to Design. 3 Units.
This course offers the opportunity to learn, develop, and practice the art of set, costume, and lighting design by concentrates specifically on the processes, skills, and disciplines of design for performance. Furthermore, students will read several plays and examine ways in which theater design can suggest meaning and interpretation of the script. Students will learn basic design elements and principles of composition through interactive, collaborative projects and exercises in addition to critically analyzing other designers' works from a broad spectrum of design styles. Emphasis will be placed on creativity, discovery, analysis, and collaboration.

THTR 185. Theater Practicum. 1 - 2 Units.
This Practicum is designed to provide students with hands-on experience in a variety of positions, both on stage and behind the scenes. Students will register for one credit-hour per semester unless directed otherwise by the Director of Undergraduate Theater Studies. Each student will meet with the Director of Undergraduate Theater Studies to determine his/her position for the semester. Credit will be awarded on a P/NP basis.

THTR 201. Movement for the Actor. 3 Units.
The course focuses on developing a kinesthetic awareness of the body and its use as a theatrically expressive instrument. Exercises will encompass development of flexibility, strength building, alignment, motor skills, and concentration. Prereq: THTR 101 or THTR 102.

THTR 205. Department Seminar. 3 Units.
This course introduces scenic design techniques, approaches, and tools. Emphasis will be on developing ideas through script analysis, visual research, and analysis of the physical theater space, and finally, the communication of ideas through drafting and model building. Prereq: THTR 111 or requisites not met permission.

THTR 206. Stage Management. 3 Units.
An introductory hands-on course in theatrical makeup techniques and tools. Students will study the history of stage makeup, its application, and the relationship between stage makeup and developing a character. The course will explore a variety of makeup applications from basic corrective makeup to special effects including prosthetics, crepe hair, and blood effects.

THTR 207. Stage Management. 3 Units.
An exploration of techniques to approach classical theatre, with emphasis on the works of Shakespeare. Presents the challenges of working with heightened language in classical texts, and provides skills necessary to transfer modern acting methods to these more poetic plays. Prereq: THTR 102.
THTR 301. Study Abroad at RADA: Dramatic Literature I. 3 Units.
This is a study-abroad course at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts in London. Theater 301 explores the foundations of theater in Western civilization, with a special emphasis on Greek theatre in performance. Acceptance into the RADA Study Abroad Program required. Students cannot receive credit for both THTR 228L and THTR 301.

THTR 302. Study Abroad at RADA: Dramatic Literature II. 3 Units.
This is a study-abroad course at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts in London. THTR 302 explores the many developments in playwriting, design, acting, and theater architecture in the French Neoclassic period. Acceptance into the RADA Study Abroad Program required. Students cannot receive credit for both THTR 229L and THTR 302.

THTR 303. Study Abroad at RADA: Acting Styles. 3 Units.
This is a study-abroad course at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts in London. THTR 303 is an exploration of techniques to approach classical theater, with emphasis on the works on Restoration theatre performance. Acceptance into the RADA Study Abroad Program required. Students cannot receive credit for both THTR 232L and THTR 303.

THTR 304. Study Abroad at RADA: Dramatic Literature III. 3 Units.
Course credit earned while studying abroad at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts in London. THTR 304 explores the work of Bertolt Brecht, with special emphasis on his play in performance. The course emphasizes the relationship between different theatrical representations and their historical and social context. Acceptance into the RADA Study Abroad Program required. Students cannot receive credit for both THTR 329L and THTR 304.

THTR 305. Study Abroad at RADA: Vocal Performance. 3 Units.
This is a study-abroad course at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts in London. THTR 305 focuses upon the training of the voice for heightened language. Acceptance into the RADA Study Abroad Program required. Students cannot receive credit for THTR 305 and either THTR 375L or THTR 376L.

THTR 306. Acting V: Camera Technique. 3 Units.
Acting for the Camera class with emphasis on how it differs from onstage work. Interviews, scenes, and exercises will be used to highlight the differences and similarities. Emphasis on contemporary works. Prereq: THTR 231 or THTR 232.

THTR 311. Audition Laboratory. 1 Unit.
A discussion and practicum exploring the problems faced by an actor in various audition situations. Development of an audition repertory for the actor for stage, video and film. Prereq: Senior Theater major.

THTR 312. Playwriting. 3 Units.
Theory and practice of dramatic writing, in the context of examples, classic and contemporary. Recommended preparation: ENGL 203 or ENGL 213 or ENGL 214 or ENGL 303 or ENGL 304. Offered as ENGL 305, THTR 312 and THTR 412.

THTR 314. Advanced Playwriting. 3 Units.
Theory and practice of dramatic writing with special focus on the craft of writing a full-length play. Offered as ENGL 314, THTR 314 and THTR 414. Prereq: ENGL 305 or THTR 312.

THTR 316. Screenwriting. 3 Units.
A critical exploration of the craft of writing for film, in which reading and practicum assignments will culminate in the student submitting an original full-length screenplay. Offered as ENGL 316, THTR 316 and THTR 416. Prereq: THTR 312 or ENGL 305 or THTR 412.

THTR 323. Topics in Design. 3 Units.
This course will examine various topics relating to theatre design and technology not covered in other design courses. Students will be provided with practical and theoretical knowledge on a specific topic in order to increase their design and/or technical skills. In addition, each course offering will have its own stated objectives. This course may be repeated by students with each new topic. Prereq: THTR 111 or instructor permission.

THTR 325. Development of Theater: Beginnings to English Renaissance. 3 Units.
This course explores the foundations of theater in Western civilization, beginning with Greece and then charting and analyzing the developments in playwriting, design, acting and theater architecture. Students read a wide variety of plays in order to obtain a comprehensive understanding of the history of the art form, but also learn how theater has played an integral societal function as a medium of political, economic, and cultural commentary. Development of Theater I explores developments from Aeschylus to the English Renaissance. Offered for undergraduates as THTR 325 and WLIT 360. Students who have taken THTR 228/LWIT 228 are not allowed to enroll in this course. Offered as THTR 325, WLIT 360, and THTR 425. Prereq: At least Sophomore standing.

THTR 326. Development of Theater: Renaissance to Romanticism. 3 Units.
This course explores the many developments in playwriting, design, acting, and theater architecture across the world. Students read a wide variety of plays in order to obtain a comprehensive understanding of the history of the art form, but also learn how theater has played an integral societal function as a medium of political, economic, and cultural commentary. Development of Theater II not only explores the development of theatrical conventions in Spain, England, Italy, France and other European countries that lead to the creation of modern drama, but the course also offers an in-depth look at the history and conventions of theater in India, Korea, China, and Japan. Offered as THTR 326, WLIT 361, and THTR 426. Counts as SAGES Departmental Seminar. Counts for CAS Global & Cultural Diversity Requirement. Prereq: At least Sophomore standing.

THTR 327. American Drama. 3 Units.
Designed to provide students an overview of the development of theater in the United States and to familiarize them with the work and themes of selected American playwrights. Offered as THTR 327 and THTR 427.

THTR 329. Modern and Contemporary Drama. 3 Units.
This course explores the development of western drama and theatre from 1860 through present-day productions. The course emphasizes the relationship between different theatrical representations and their historical and social context. Shakespeare's well-known dictum that "theatre holds a mirror up to nature" is expanded when one examines who is holding that mirror, and how their actions participate in the constantly shifting construction of culture. Given this premise, the course investigates the development of specific European cultures (England, France, Germany, and Italy) as well as other regions (the United States, South America, and Russia) through the - live and literary - representations they make of themselves. Offered as THTR 329, WLIT 329 and THTR 429. Prereq: At least Sophomore standing.

THTR 330. Play Directing I. 3 Units.
This course will begin a two-semester study of the art and craft of stage direction of plays. Topics covered will include history of the profession, directorial theory and practice, development of skills such as text analysis, design and concept, and general problem solving. Offered as THTR 330 and THTR 430. Prereq: THTR 101 or THTR 102, and at least Junior standing.
THTR 331. Play Directing II. 3 Units.
This course will continue with the basic concepts learned in THTR 330 and will expand them in regard to actual production. Topics will include directing mechanics, ground planning, blocking, and visualization, staging and working with actors. The course will culminate in a faculty supervised directing project for public performance. There are three evening labs for this course. Offered as THTR 331 and THTR 431. Counts as SAGES Senior Capstone. Prereq: THTR 330, and at least Junior standing.

THTR 334. Shakespeare: Histories and Tragedies. 3 Units.
Close reading of a selection of Shakespeare’s tragedies and history plays (e.g., “Richard the Third,” “Julius Caesar,” “Hamlet,” “King Lear”). Topics of discussion may include Renaissance drama as a social institution, the nature of tragedy, national history, gender roles, sexual politics, the state and its opponents, theatrical conventions. Assessment may include opportunities for performance. A student may not receive credit for both ENGL 324 and ENGL 324C. Offered as ENGL 324, ENGL 424, and THTR 334. Prereq: ENGL 150 or passing letter grade in a 100 level first year seminar in FSAC, FSNA, FSSO, FSSY, FSTS, or FSCS.

THTR 335. Shakespeare: Comedies and Romances. 3 Units.
Close reading of selected plays of Shakespeare in the genres of comedy and romance (e.g., “The Merchant of Venice,” “Twelfth Night,” “Measure for Measure,” “The Tempest”). Topics of discussion may include issues of sexual desire, gender roles, marriage, the family, genre conventions. Assessment may include opportunities for performance. A student may not receive credit for both ENGL 325 and ENGL 325C. Offered as ENGL 325, ENGL 425, and THTR 335. Prereq: ENGL 150 or passing letter grade in a 100 level first year seminar in FSAC, FSNA, FSSO, FSSY, FSTS, or FSCS.

THTR 375. Voice for the Stage I. 3 Units.
Development of the actor's vocal instrument. Work in articulation, range, and flexibility. Prereq: Theater major or consent of department.

THTR 376. Voice for the Stage II. 3 Units.
Continuation of THTR 375. Prereq: THTR 375.

THTR 382. Crossing Bridges: The Public Role of Artist in Understanding Disease. 3 Units.
An in-depth look at the role of the artist in public life and in creating theatrical performance from life experience. The students interact with patients in medical treatment for catastrophic illness and as they understand the experience of disease, they help transform that experience into a performance that gives a voice to the unvoiced in our society. The approved service learning course is offered only as a Senior Capstone and is a demanding challenge for the serious student of theater. Prereq: Acting concentration or consent of department. Counts as SAGES Senior Capstone.

THTR 385. Rehearsal and Production. 1 - 3 Units.
Practicum for students participating in production work in the Department of Theater and Dance. Supervised laboratory experience in technical theater, construction techniques, scenery, costumes, lighting, and props; production; ticket office operations, promotion, publicity and public relations; house management; wardrobe responsibilities; stage management; assistant directing; and other production positions related to the mainstage performances in Eldred Theater. Students are recommended to take one credit hour per production, with a maximum of 8 credit hours allowed during their undergraduate career.

THTR 386. Rehearsal and Performance. 1 Unit.
Practicum for students participating in performance in the Department of Theater and Dance, relating to the mainstage productions at Eldred Theater. This course may be repeated, for a maximum total of 2 credits.

THTR 390. Advanced Topics in Design/Technology. 3 Units.
This is an advanced-level course designed to provide an opportunity for Design/Technical Theater Undergraduates to do an advanced project in scenic, costume, or lighting design, or in a technical area such as stage management or technical direction, as would be expected in the professional theater. This project may be a realized departmental production or an unrealized project. Working on a departmental production requires attendance at production meetings, technical rehearsals and other scheduled meetings. Counts as SAGES Senior Capstone. Prereq: THTR 111 and (THTR 223, THTR 224, THTR 225, or THTR 227) or requisites not met permission.

THTR 393. Senior Capstone: Dramaturgy. 3 Units.
This course introduces students to theories of textual analysis and contextual research within the framework of theatrical performance. Students will investigate the history and methodologies of dramaturgy, and then apply the best practices of the profession to the study and production of contemporary plays. Because dramaturgy is a collaborative endeavor, students will participate with others in the production of a theoretical adaptation from a non-dramatic source, as well as the creation of an interdisciplinary theatre event and a multi-media performance project. By course end, students will be able to support their theatrical interests with dramaturgical insights and to work collaboratively to create productions that reflect the cultural and aesthetic diversity of the 21st century. Counts as SAGES Senior Capstone. Prereq: Senior standing.

THTR 397. Honors Studies I. 3 Units.
Individual projects in acting, dance, and directing.

THTR 398. Honors Studies II. 3 Units.
Individual projects in acting, design, playwriting, and directing.

THTR 399. Independent Study in Theater Arts. 1 - 3 Units.
Independent research and project work in areas of acting, design, voice, theater history, playwriting, directing, or theater management.

THTR 401. Graduate Movement I: Corporeal Mime. 3 Units.
This beginning class focuses on developing flexibility, alignment, strength, concentration and basic motor skills, greater physical spatial awareness, and serves as a base for the remaining three semesters. Yoga and Tai Chi exercises are used to develop physical flexibility and the connection to breath. Elements of Decroux-based Corporeal Mime technique strengthen the student’s physical instrument as well as alignment and energy. Hand-to-hand combat begins. Prereq: Must be a student in M.F.A. Acting program.

THTR 402. Graduate Movement II: Neutral Mask. 3 Units.
The course focuses on simplifying and empowering the physical actor by continuing to connect breath to action, to discover relaxation within the given task, and beginning work in characterization. Strength, flow, energy, imagery, and the shedding of intrusive mannerisms will be gained from a study of LeCoq based Neutral Mask exercises. Following the Neutral Mask work, students will progress to character work through the use of Physical Acting techniques. Stage combat work continues. Prereq: THTR 401.

THTR 403. Graduate Movement III: Expressive Masks. 3 Units.
The class focuses on the continuation of expanding the actor’s physical and imaginative range that will enable she/he to support larger and bolder physical choices in characterization. Building upon the Neutral Mask work from the previous semester, the student will experience, through LeCoq based techniques, Basel and Expressive Masks and improvisation. Stage combat work continues. Prereq: THTR 402.
THTR 404. Graduate Movement IV: Commedia. 3 Units.
The class continues to expand the actor’s physical and imaginative range with the challenges of the Commedia dell’Arte. Students will explore the primary masks of the Commedia and ultimately be assigned a particular mask. The Commedia work will culminate in the masked performance of a Commedia Scenario. Following the scenario presentation, the students will finish the movement training by developing their personal clown. Prereq: THTR 403.

THTR 412. Playwriting. 3 Units.
Theory and practice of dramatic writing, in the context of examples, classic and contemporary. Recommended preparation: ENGL 203 or ENGL 213 or ENGL 214 or ENGL 303 or ENGL 304. Offered as ENGL 305, THTR 312 and THTR 412. Prereq: Must be a student in M.A. Theater program.

THTR 414. Advanced Playwriting. 3 Units.
Theory and practice of dramatic writing with special focus on the craft of writing a full-length play. Offered as ENGL 314, THTR 314 and THTR 414. Prereq: Must be a student in M.A. Theater program.

THTR 416. Screenwriting. 3 Units.
A critical exploration of the craft of writing for film, in which reading and practicum assignments will culminate in the student submitting an original full-length screenplay. Offered as ENGL 316, THTR 316 and THTR 416. Prereq: Must be a student in M.A. Theater program.

THTR 425. Development of Theater: Beginnings to English Renaissance. 3 Units.
This course explores the foundations of theater in Western civilization, beginning with Greece and then charting and analyzing the developments in playwriting, design, acting and theater architecture. Students read a wide variety of plays in order to obtain a comprehensive understanding of the history of the art form, but also learn how theater has played an integral societal function as a medium of political, economic, and cultural commentary. Development of Theater I explores developments from Aeschylus to the English Renaissance. Offered for undergraduates as THTR 325 and WLIT 360. Students who have taken THTR 228/WLIT 228 are not allowed to enroll in this course. Offered as THTR 325, WLIT 360, and THTR 425. Prereq: Must be a student in M.A. Theater program.

THTR 426. Development of Theater: Renaissance to Romanticism. 3 Units.
This course explores the many developments in playwriting, design, acting, and theater architecture across the world. Students read a wide variety of plays in order to obtain a comprehensive understanding of the history of the art form, but also learn how theater has played an integral societal function as a medium of political, economic, and cultural commentary. Development of Theater II not only explores the development of theatrical conventions in Spain, England, Italy, France and other European countries that lead to the creation of modern drama, but the course also offers an in-depth look at the history and conventions of theater in India, Korea, China, and Japan. Offered as THTR 326, WLIT 361, and THTR 426. Counts as SAGES Departmental Seminar. Counts for CAS Global & Cultural Diversity Requirement. Prereq: Must be a student in M.A. Theater program.

THTR 427. American Drama. 3 Units.
Designed to provide students an overview of the development of theater in the United States and to familiarize them with the work and themes of selected American playwrights. Offered as THTR 327 and THTR 427. Prereq: Must be a student in M.A. Theater program.

THTR 429. Modern and Contemporary Drama. 3 Units.
This course explores the development of western drama and theatre from 1860 through present-day productions. The course emphasizes the relationship between different theatrical representations and their historical and social context. Shakespeare’s well-known dictum that “theatre holds a mirror up to nature” is expanded when one examines who is holding that mirror, and how their actions participate in the constantly shifting construction of culture. Given this premise, the course investigates the development of specific European cultures (England, France, Germany, and Italy) as well as other regions (the United States, South America, and Russia) through the - live and literary - representations they make of themselves. Offered as THTR 329, WLIT 329 and THTR 429. Prereq: Must be a student in M.A. Theater program.

THTR 430. Play Directing I. 3 Units.
This course will begin a two-semester study of the art and craft of stage direction of plays. Topics covered will include history of the profession, directorial theory and practice, development of skills such as text analysis, design and concept, and general problem solving. Offered as THTR 330 and THTR 430. Prereq: Must be a student in M.A. Theater program.

THTR 431. Play Directing II. 3 Units.
This course will continue with the basic concepts learned in THTR 330 and will expand them in regard to actual production. Topics will include directing mechanics, ground planning, blocking, and visualization, staging and working with actors. The course will culminate in a faculty supervised directing project for public performance. There are three evening labs for this course. Offered as THTR 331 and THTR 431. Counts as SAGES Senior Capstone. Prereq: Must be a student in M.A. Theater program.

THTR 473. Graduate Voice Technique I. 3 Units.
Assessment of students’ current vocal and alignment skills. Laboratory for exploring new vocal and alignment habits supportive of healthy vocal functioning. Exploration of the body and voice as it relates to breath, resonance, and the healthy exhalation of sound. Prereq: Must be candidate in M.F.A. Acting program.

THTR 474. Graduate Voice Technique II. 3 Units.
Continued laboratory for the exploration of alignment and vocal skills supportive of healthy vocal functioning. Continued exploration of the body and voice as it relates to breath, articulation, resonance, and the healthy exhalation of sound. Emphasis on the physical and energetic skills needed to produce full-bodied, healthy sound capable of being heard and understood while acting in theatrical productions. Required of M.F.A. candidates in the Acting program. Prereq: THTR 473.

THTR 475. Graduate Voice Technique III: Classical Texts. 3 Units.
Development of skills needed to address the specific needs of Shakespeare and Classical texts in performance, including vocal skills, the use of breath, imagery, and textual studies. Prereq: THTR 474.

THTR 479. Graduate Stage Speech I: Phonetics. 2 Units.
Designed to evaluate the graduate student actors’ current speech skills, to teach them a stage appropriate dialect using the Skinner narrow IPA set, and to achieve a level of mastery over articulation and diction. Prereq: Must be a student in M.F.A. Acting program.

THTR 501. Text Analysis for the Actor. 2 Units.
An introduction to the craft of reading a theatrical text from an actor’s point of view. Methods for analyzing the action and dialogue of a play will be applied to dramatic text so that the actor can learn to transform a one-dimensional text into a three-dimensional performance. Prereq: Must be a student in M.F.A. Acting program.
THTR 509. Seminar: Performance Theory. 2 Units.
Research seminar designed to acquaint the student with selected major Western theoretical writings of performance theory and the art of the actor. Readings also include material on the creative acting process and the impact of societal and cultural influences on performance and the theatrical impulse. Prereq: Must be a student in M.F.A. Acting program.

THTR 512. Graduate Audition Lab. 1 - 2 Units.
This class focuses on choosing and developing classical and contemporary monologues for audition purposes. Other elements of the audition process are explored including the preparation of sides for a specific role as well as casting simulations with guest directors and instructors. Prereq: Must be a student in M.F.A. Acting program.

THTR 530. Ensemble Technique. 1 - 2 Units.
A practicum course structured to explore the use of ensemble dynamic techniques in a rehearsal/performance environment, as well as to develop a set of exercises which encourage and sustain the actor's channels of interpersonal communication during a range of rehearsal and performance situations. Prereq: Must be a student in M.F.A. Acting program.

THTR 531. Graduate Acting I: Performance Process. 3 Units.
This course is aimed toward developing a practical and cohesive acting approach. Through improvisations and structured exercises, the actor learns to employ the basic concepts of the Stanislavski System of intention, action and given circumstances in order to make acting decisions that are viable, playable, original, truthful and specific. Ensemble building and scene work also play heavily in this foundation course. Prereq: Must be a student in M.F.A. Acting program.

THTR 532. Graduate Acting II: Ensemble Improvisations. 3 Units.
Scene work will constitute the core of Acting II. Group improvisations and collective creations will be interspersed throughout the term. Fully embracing the idea of ensemble, this class will focus on exploration, where process and discovery are the primary objectives. Prereq: THTR 531.

THTR 533. Graduate Acting III: The Modernists. 3 Units.
The class focuses on the Modernists: Chekhov, Ibsen. The student will apply the Stanislavski System of character work and the specific tools of “Physical Acting” techniques to these playwrights through intensive scene work. The focus is also on imagery in language and clarity of subtext and imagery as it relates to the dramatic text and character intention. Prereq: THTR 532.

THTR 534. Graduate Acting IV: Shakespeare/Heightened Language. 3 Units.
This course explores the genre of theater loosely called "Heightened Language" and the challenges it presents for the actor. Students will complete intensive scene work on texts ranging from the Greeks, to Shakespeare, to the 19th Century Victorians, and discover the interconnectedness of the styles, and the demands they place on the actor's craft. Prereq: THTR 533.

THTR 540. Seminar: Professional Orientation. 2 Units.
This class is structured to help the third year MFA actor prepare for his/her entrance and transition to the professional arena. Students will be introduced to the world of contracts, taxes, agents and unions, and understand how to survive and thrive while pursuing a professional acting career. Guest speakers and facilitators will present material to familiarize students with the realities of a life in the arts. Prereq: Must be a student in M.F.A. Acting program.

THTR 579. Graduate Stage Speech II: Articulation. 3 Units.
This course will continue the work begun in THTR 479, exploring more of the International Phonetic Alphabet and developing applicable skills in articulatory sophistication. Prereq: THTR 479.

THTR 580. Graduate Stage Speech III: Dialects. 2 Units.
This survey course will examine the use and application of major stage dialects in the American theatre using a phonetic tool set as a basis for understanding sound substitutions. The student will also study the ways in which rhythmic changes and resonance and tension shifts affect the dialects. Prereq: THTR 579.

THTR 581. Graduate Stage Speech IV: Classical Texts. 2 Units.
The objective of this course is to increase and enhance the students' ability to handle the heightened language and technical demands of classical texts. The class will use poetry, first person narratives from classic novels and verse drama to accomplish this task. The class will contain a strong "verbal gym" component meant to strengthen and refine diction and standard American speech. Drills, tongue twisters, reading aloud will be part of every class. Prereq: THTR 580.

THTR 601. Special Projects. 1 - 3 Units.
(Credit as arranged.)

THTR 610. Professional Internship. 1 - 4 Units.
In the third year, the student will begin their Professional Internship with Cleveland Play House. Involvement will include: understudy assignments and an AEA contracted role in a production(s) as assigned by Cleveland Play House. Prereq: THTR 534.

THTR 630. Performance Studio. 3 Units.
A performance laboratory, ensemble-based practicum in which the student works to integrate effectively a wide range of performance skills culminating in a studio production. May be taken two times in the last two semesters of graduate study. Prereq: THTR 534.

THTR 642. Thesis Portfolio I. 1 Unit.
Course designed specifically for candidates in the Master of Fine Arts program in Acting. Graduate students enroll for the course during the fall semester of their third year of study. Work on the thesis spans three years of study based on roles the MFA actor has created. A rough draft of the thesis portfolio will be completed, according to requirements set forth in the department’s MFA Handbook, and presented at the end of the fall semester of the third year to the faculty. Satisfactory completion of the portfolio is part of the requirements for awarding the Master of Fine Arts degree. Prereq: Must be a student in M.F.A. Acting program.

THTR 643. Thesis Portfolio II. 1 Unit.
Course designed specifically for candidates in the Master of Fine Arts program in Acting. Graduate students enroll for the course during the spring semester of their third-year of study. A final thesis portfolio containing an in-depth exploration of at least three roles is completed, according to requirements set forth in the department’s MFA Handbook. This completed document is presented at the end of the spring semester of the third year. Satisfactory completion of the portfolio is part of the requirements for awarding the Master of Fine Arts degree. Prereq: THTR 642 and must be a student in MFA Acting program.

THTR 644. M.A. Project. 1 - 12 Units.
Research and development of a Master of Arts project in Theater.