

## DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE

JOHN M. BALD, *chair*, STEVEN R. HUNT, MARY NICHOLSON, JENNIFER SCANLON

The Department of Theatre provides opportunities which enable students to develop their skills and talents in theatre arts and to foster a better understanding of the contribution that live theatre makes to the process of educating the whole person in a liberal arts environment. Through the availability of experiences in a number of areas, students will find a wide variety of challenges and means of expression. The program of study places emphasis on the aesthetic and practical decisions inherent to these areas, thereby strengthening the student's general intellectual capabilities and growth as an artist.

By the time of graduation, theatre majors should demonstrate basic competencies in each area of theatre and should be able to compete successfully for positions in graduate school and in the professional job market.

A major in the Department of Theatre consists of 42 hours of course work. The requirements are as follows:

THR 102: Seminar in Play Analysis .....	3 hours
THR 110: Voice and Diction .....	3 hours
THR 115: Beginning Acting .....	3 hours
THR 201: Technical Production .....	3 hours
THR 203 and 204: History of the Theatre and Drama I and II .....	6 hours
THR 207: Costume Design .....	3 hours
THR 230: Basic Stage and Lighting Design .....	3 hours
THR 350: Directing .....	3 hours
THR 421.13: Theatre Practicum Senior Project	
Additional Theatre Practicums .....	5 hours
Additional Theatre Electives .....	9 hours
TOTAL HOURS .....	42 hours

Each student may choose to take additional courses in the department that will lead to a concentration in one of the following areas: Acting, Directing, Dramaturgy, Technical Production, Production Design, Arts Management, or Theatre Education. The prospective secondary teachers of theatre must be certain that her program includes THR 260 and 340,

and that one of her practicums is in promotion and publicity. THR 421.13, "Theatre Practicum: Senior Project," is required of all senior theatre majors. A student who wishes to major in Theatre should consult with the chair of the department early in her college career.

A student may elect to take a minor in Theatre, which consists of a minimum of 24 hours of course work. All minors are required to take THR 102 and three hours of Theatre Practicum. The remainder of the hours may be selected from other Theatre department offerings or, with the approval of the chair of the department, related course offerings in other disciplines.

### THEATRE

#### \*100. INTRODUCTION TO THEATRE/ THREE CREDITS

This course is designed for anyone interested in theatrical production. Theatre history and theory are covered with an emphasis on the production process. The mounting of one or more plays for Theatre/Converse is an intrinsic part of the course and allows the student to experience first-hand concepts and processes dealt with in lectures and assigned readings. *No previous theatre experience is necessary.*

#### 102. SEMINAR IN PLAY ANALYSIS/ THREE CREDITS

*Required of majors and minors.* Readings and discussions focus on the basic forms and styles of dramatic literature. Emphasis is placed on learning how to analyze a play script as the foundation out of which stem all the choices used by the director, designers, and actors in the creation of a performance. *Offered in alternate years.*

#### \*105. THE LIVING THEATRE/SIX CREDITS

Major or elective credit. This course is designed to provide an intensive look at theatre arts by combining readings and classroom discussions with extended visits to the theatres in Washington, D.C., New York City, regional professional theatres, or Region IV Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival. *Offered during alternate winter terms.*

#### 110. VOICE AND DICTION/THREE CREDITS

*Required of majors.* This course is a study of voice production with major emphasis placed on laboratory work designed to help the student develop greater clarity, flexibility, and expressiveness in the speaking voice. *Offered in alternate years.*

## Department of Theatre and Dance

### 115. BEGINNING ACTING/THREE CREDITS

*Required of all majors.* A beginning laboratory course in acting. Consists of basic exercises in sensory awareness, imagination, body memory, physicalization, and improvisation. *Offered during fall term.*

### 120. PUBLIC SPEAKING AND DISCUSSION/THREE CREDITS

An exploration of the processes and techniques of oral communication, applied to both group discussion and public speaking. Emphasis placed on gathering and organization of material, critical thinking and analysis, effective listening, and physical attributes of delivery. *Offered during spring and winter terms.*

### 121. THEATRE PRACTICUM I/ONE CREDIT

*Required of all majors and minors.* A laboratory course wherein credit is given for the successful completion of assigned responsibilities in the process of preparing a specific production for public performance by Theatre/Converse. Emphasis is placed on the decision making process used throughout the various phases of production from script analysis through to the final performance. Students will serve as crew heads, and should register in specific areas of responsibility by course sections as follows: Section 1=Scenery; Section 2=Costumes/wardrobe; Section 3=Lighting; Section 4=Props; Section 5=Publicity; Section 6=House and ticket management; Section 7=Sound; Section 8=Makeup; Section 9=Performance; Section 10=Production assistant; Section 11=Stage managing, 12=Directing, 13=Senior project, 14=Playwriting. Please consult a member of the theatre faculty at registration time if you have any questions. *Offered every semester.*

### 201. TECHNICAL PRODUCTION/THREE CREDITS

*Required of majors.* This course familiarizes the student with the fundamentals of the physical production process. Among the areas covered are materials, tools, and safety, construction methods, electricity, and plan reading. Students in the course participate in the construction of a play (or plays) for actual performance and thereby have ample opportunities to apply knowledge gained in the course. *Offered in alternate years.*

### 202. DRAFTING/ENGINEERING FOR THE STAGE/THREE CREDITS

*Prerequisite: THR 201 or permission of instructor.* The course will focus on drafting techniques and problem solving as it applies to the engineering of the building of the scenic elements for a play. The student will get hands-on experience by assisting the Technical Director for the semester's current production. *Offered in alternate years.*

### \*203. HISTORY OF THE THEATRE AND DRAMA I/THREE CREDITS

*Required of majors.* A survey of the development of the theatre and its literature from its beginnings through French Classicism. *Offered in alternate years.*

### \*204. HISTORY OF THE THEATRE AND DRAMA II/THREE CREDITS

*Required of majors.* A survey of the development of the theatre and its literature from the Restoration to the present day. *Offered in alternate years.*

### 205. STAGE MAKE-UP/THREE CREDITS

This course covers make-up materials, make-up design, corrective make-up, character make-up, prosthesis, chiaroscuro, physiognomy, and stylization. *Lab fee: \$30. Offered during winter term in alternate years.*

### 207. COSTUME DESIGN/THREE CREDITS

*Required of all majors.* A study of the history of costuming and the fundamentals of design. Emphasis will be placed on adapting existing garments, as well as designing and creating basic garments for use in fully mounted productions and/or acting and directing projects. *Offered in alternate years.*

### 215. ADVANCED ACTING/THREE CREDITS

*Prerequisite: Beginning Acting 115 or permission of instructor.* An extension of 115 with emphasis on characterization. Consists of advanced script work and advanced improvisational exercises designed to help the student approach the physicalization of character through sensory awareness, kinesthetics, and poised relaxation. *Offered in alternate years.*

### 216. MOVEMENT FOR THE ACTOR/THREE CREDITS

*Prerequisite: THR 115 or permission of the instructor.* *Elective credit.* Movement for the Actor will concentrate on the acting process through focusing on the student actor's body as a medium of expression. Emphasis will be placed on certain movement techniques such as self-analysis, physical awareness, and freeing, centering, and focusing the body and psyche. *Offered during winter term.*

### 221. THEATRE PRACTICUM II/ONE CREDIT

*Required of all majors and minors.* This is the second level of Practicum, consisting of assigned technical and/or performance responsibilities. Students should register by the appropriate Section designation as outlined under THR 121.

### 230. BASIC STAGE AND LIGHTING DESIGN/THREE CREDITS

*Prerequisites: None. Required of all majors.* Through lectures, demonstrations, and class projects, students learn the fundamental aesthetics and conventions of scenery and lighting design. Emphasis will be placed on the development of design ideas resulting from studying scripts, research techniques, drawings and models, and light plots. The unique interrelationship between the design disciplines will also be stressed. *Offered in alternate years.*

### 260. INTRODUCTION TO ARTS MANAGEMENT/THREE CREDITS

*Prerequisites: None. Elective credit.* This course is designed for students interested in a career in arts management. Its purpose is to survey the nature of how the arts function as one of the central forces in society and the relationship that exists between the arts and economics. *Offered in alternate years.*

### 299H. INTERDISCIPLINARY HONORS COURSE

This course is team taught by members in two departments and is open to Nisbet Honors Program members and to others who meet Honors Program guidelines. All students registering for these courses must register not only through the Honors Program but also with their adviser and the Registrar's Office.

## Department of Theatre and Dance

### 303. SPECIAL TOPICS IN PERFORMANCE/ THREE CREDITS

*Prerequisite: Permission of instructor.* An in-depth study of one specific area of theatrical performance. *Offering based on available staff/student interest. Because course content will vary, it may be taken more than once for credit.*

### 304. SPECIAL TOPICS IN PRODUCTION/ THREE CREDITS

*Prerequisite: Permission of instructor.* A study/workshop course that is focused on one specific problem or aspect of technical theatre production. *Offering based on available staff/student interest. Because course content will vary, it may be taken more than once for credit.*

### 305. SPECIAL TOPICS IN DRAMATIC LITERATURE/THREE CREDITS

*Prerequisite: Permission of instructor.* This course is focused on one specific aspect of dramatic literature, such as a playwright or an historical period. *Offering based on available staff/student interest. Because course content will vary, it may be taken more than once for credit.*

### 315. SCENE STUDY/THREE CREDITS

*Prerequisite: 115 and 215 or permission of instructor.* An advanced laboratory course that will allow the student/actor to study advanced acting techniques through the detailed study of specific scenes from the repertory of world drama. *Offered in alternate years.*

### 321. THEATRE PRACTICUM III/ONE CREDIT

*Required of all majors and minors.* This is the third level of Practicum, consisting of assigned technical and/or performance responsibilities. Students should register by the appropriate Section designations as outlined under THR 121.

### 330. ADVANCED STAGE AND LIGHTING DESIGN/THREE CREDITS

*Prerequisite: THR 230 or permission of instructor.* This course affords a closer examination of the design process through the study of a wider range of stylistic approaches. The course will culminate with the student serving either as designer or assistant designer on a production for public presentation as part of the Theatre/Converse season. *Offered in alternate years.*

### 340. THE THEATRE IN SCHOOL AND SOCIETY/ THREE CREDITS

*Required of prospective teachers of theatre.* This course explores the function of theatre as an integral part of a school's curriculum. It focuses on the issues related to the place of theatre in society, education of the whole person, methods of teaching theatre art, the structuring of a theatre program within a school curriculum, and the legal and ethical issues of producing theatre within a school. *Offered in alternate years.*

### 350. DIRECTING/THREE CREDITS

*Prerequisite: THR 102, 201, and 215 or permission of instructor. Required of all majors.* A lecture/laboratory course covering the fundamentals of play direction. Student laboratory work will consist of solving directorial problems in the actual direction of scenes.

### EDU. 368/568. CREATIVE DRAMATICS FOR THE CLASSROOM TEACHER/THREE CREDITS

This course explores the concepts of creativity and the approaches that can be used by the classroom teacher in involving young people in the creative process through the utilization of the theatre game structure.

### THR 391. PLAYWRITING/THREE CREDITS

*Elective credit.* A course designed to give the student the basic understanding and practical experience in the craft of playwrighting. The course will culminate in the development of an original one act script. *Offered in alternating years.*

### 411. PROFESSIONAL INTERNSHIP/SIX CREDITS

*Majors only. Prerequisites: THR 101, 102, 202.* This program is designed for students who plan a career in theatre. It offers the major an opportunity to observe and participate in the activities of a regional professional theatre. Students accepted for this program must receive a written recommendation from the chair of the theatre department.

### 412. PROFESSIONAL INTERNSHIP IN ARTS MANAGEMENT/SIX CREDITS

*Prerequisite: Must have the approval of the chair of the theatre department.* This program is designed for students who plan a career in arts management. Students accepted for the program will observe and participate in the activities of an arts council or similar organization whose function is the management of an arts activity.

### 415. AUDITION TECHNIQUES AND PREPARATION/THREE CREDITS

*Prerequisite: 115 or permission of the instructor. Courses 215 and 315 are highly recommended before enrollment.* An advanced acting course that will focus primarily on the process of preparing for getting a role through the auditioning procedure. Techniques such as cold readings, prepared monologues, call back preparation, and resume writing will be explored. Laboratory fee required. *Offered in alternate years.*

### 421. THEATRE PRACTICUM IV/ONE CREDIT

*Required of all majors and minors.* This is the fourth level of Practicum, consisting of assigned technical and/or performance responsibilities. Students should register by the appropriate Section designation as outlined under THR 121.

### 450. ADVANCED DIRECTING/THREE CREDIT

*Elective credit. Prerequisite: THR 350.* Advanced work in the directorial process will be covered. Topics of study include the directing of experimental works, musicals, non-realistic drama, and period work. The student's work will culminate in the performance of selected scenes from different genres.

### 490. DIRECTED INDEPENDENT STUDY IN SPECIAL TOPICS/ONE TO THREE CREDITS

*Prerequisites: Consent of the chair of the theatre department.* This course is designed to allow the student to engage in independent research of personal interest. *May be repeated for credit.*

**Department of Theatre and Dance**

**DANCE**

Dance courses may be taken as electives by anyone interested in dance, or students may choose to minor in dance. Introductory technique courses provide the opportunity for students to improve their technique in specific genres, enhance their visual skills, spatial awareness, rhythm, and creativity. In intermediate courses, students continue to build on these skills, and begin to focus in on techniques necessary for the particular genre being studied. In advanced level courses, students gain an extension of an understanding and exploration of a genre. Student will gain experience through improvisation, compositional studies and different styles within the genre. History of Dance is available to students as an option in the fine arts requirement in the General Education Program. Technique courses may be taken as partial fulfillment of the physical education requirement of the General Education Program.

Acceptance into the dance minor is by audition, held twice during each academic year. Minimum requirements of the minor program are:

DAN 106: Composition I .....	3 hrs
DAN 190: History of Dance .....	3 hrs
DAN 110: Beginning Modern Dance .....	2 hrs
DAN 111: Beginning Ballet .....	2 hrs
DAN 113: Beginning Tap .....	2 hrs
DAN 114: Beginning Jazz .....	2 hrs
DAN 210: Intermediate Modern Dance or DAN 211: Intermediate Ballet or DAN 213: Intermediate Tap or DAN214: Intermediate Jazz (any two) .....	4 hrs
DAN 310: Advanced Modern Dance or DAN 311: Advanced Ballet or DAN 313: Advanced Tap or DAN 314: Advanced Jazz (any one) .....	2 hrs
DAN 330/430: Junior/Senior Project (any one) .....	1 hr
BIO 305: Human and Comparative Anatomy .....	5 hrs
<b>TOTAL HOURS FOR THE DANCE MINOR .....</b>	<b>26 hours</b>

Students in the minor are also required to attend two art exhibits, two theatre and two music performances annually. Students minoring in dance are strongly encouraged to enroll in introductory level courses in art, theatre, or music. Minors are also expected to audition for the Converse Dance Ensemble.

Performance opportunities are provided through the Converse Dance Ensemble, which performs two concerts each year: a Fall Concert in the Hazel B. Abbott Theatre; and a Spring Concert in Twichell Auditorium. Both concerts showcase student’s skill and creativity in a wide range of dance genres. Visiting artists are frequently brought in to choreograph pieces for the Spring Concert. Participation in the Ensemble is by audition, held twice yearly.

**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

**DAN 106 – COMPOSITION I/THREE CREDITS**  
Elective, minor credit. The student will learn to develop movement with reference to the components involved in function, expression, and communication through movement.

**\*DAN 190 – HISTORY OF DANCE/  
THREE CREDITS**  
GEP, elective, minor. A study of the significant developments of dance, giving consideration to the functions of dance as art, ritual, social activity, spectacle, and entertainment; and to the relationship of dance to other art forms.

**\*DAN 110 – BEGINNING MODERN DANCE/  
TWO CREDITS**  
GEP, elective, minor credit. This course will introduce the beginner to the fundamentals of modern dance technique through locomotor and axial work in the center and on the floor

**\*DAN 111 – BEGINNING BALLET/TWO CREDITS**  
GEP, elective, minor credit. This course will introduce the beginner to the fundamentals of ballet technique through barre exercises and center work.

**\*DAN 113 – BEGINNING TAP/TWO CREDITS**  
GEP, elective, minor credit.  
This course will introduce the beginner to the fundamentals of tap technique through various exercises and center work.

**\*DAN 114. BEGINNING JAZZ/TWO CREDITS**  
GEP, elective, minor credit. This course will introduce the beginner to the fundamentals of jazz technique through various exercises and center work

DAN 121. DANCE ENSEMBLE/ONE CREDIT  
elective. Participation in Converse Dance Ensemble.  
Freshman level.

DAN 206. COMPOSITION II/THREE CREDITS  
elective credit. *Prerequisite: DAN 106 or permission of instructor.* A continuation of DAN 106. The student will achieve through movement investigation, experimentation, observation, and analysis the materials of dance composition as they pertain to structural format.

\*DAN 210. INTERMEDIATE MODERN DANCE/  
TWO CREDITS  
GEP, elective, minor credit. *Prerequisite: DAN 110 or permission of instructor.* A continuation of DAN 110, studying more complex movement combinations and patterns.

\*DAN 211. INTERMEDIATE BALLET/  
TWO CREDITS  
GEP, elective, minor credit. *Prerequisite: DAN 111 or permission of instructor.* A continuation of DAN 111 giving more complex movement combinations and patterns.

\*DAN 213. INTERMEDIATE TAP/TWO CREDITS  
GEP, elective, minor credit. *Prerequisite: DAN 113 or permission of instructor.* A continuation of DAN 113. Students will gain an extension of tap technique through barre exercises and center work; as well as working to improve their skill level and to increase endurance and stamina.

\*DAN 214 – INTERMEDIATE JAZZ/  
TWO CREDITS  
GEP, elective, minor credit. *Prerequisite: DAN 114 or permission of instructor.* A continuation of DAN 114 with more complex movements and patterns.

DAN 221. DANCE ENSEMBLE/ONE CREDIT  
elective. Participation in Converse Dance Ensemble.  
Sophomore level

DAN 306. COMPOSITION III/THREE CREDITS  
elective credit. *Prerequisite: DAN 106, 206 or permission of instructor.* A continuation of DAN 206. The purpose of this course is to explore in depth and develop the intuitive artistry of the individual student, and develop a wider movement vocabulary

\*DAN 310. ADVANCED MODERN DANCE/  
TWO CREDITS  
GEP, elective, minor credit. *Prerequisite: DAN 110, 210, or permission of instructor.* A continuation of DAN 210, with more complex movements, combinations, patterns, and phrases.

\*DAN 311. ADVANCED BALLET/TWO CREDITS  
GEP, elective, minor credit. *Prerequisite: DAN 111, 211, or permission of instructor.* A continuation of DAN 211 with long and more complex movement patterns, combinations and phrases

\*DAN 313. ADVANCED TAP/TWO CREDITS  
GEP, elective, minor credit. *Prerequisite: DAN 113, 213, or permission of instructor.* A continuation of DAN 213 with long and more complex movement patterns, combinations, phrases and steps.

\*DAN 314. ADVANCED JAZZ/TWO CREDITS  
GEP, elective, minor credit. *Prerequisite: DAN 114, 214 or permission of instructor.* A continuation of DAN 214. The student will gain an extension of understanding and exploration of jazz dance. Students will experience improvisations, compositional studies, and different style of jazz dance.

DAN 321. DANCE ENSEMBLE/ONE CREDIT  
elective. Participation in Converse Dance Ensemble.  
Junior level.

DAN 330 . JUNIOR PROJECT/ONE CREDIT  
minor credit. *Prerequisite: DAN 106.* An individual work developed under faculty supervision, with evaluation based on appropriate evidence of achievement. The work should involve one fully developed choreographic idea requiring 5-10 minutes in length. The student must perform in at least on half of the piece, which will be performed in a formal setting. Students will be required to keep a journal of their choreography process and set up regular meetings with minor advisor.

DAN 421. DANCE ENSEMBLE/ONE CREDIT  
elective. Participation in Converse Dance Ensemble.  
Senior level.

DAN 430. SENIOR PROJECT/ONE CREDIT  
minor credit. *Prerequisite: DAN 106.* A creative group project requiring the student to choreograph and present a significant dance work. The work should involve one fully developed choreographic idea requiring 5-10 minutes in length. The student must perform in at least on half of the piece, which will be performed in a formal setting. Students will be required to keep a journal of their choreography process and set up regular meetings with minor advisor.

299H. INTERDISCIPLINARY HONORS COURSE  
This course is team taught by two faculty members in two departments and is open to Nisbet Honors Program members and to other who meet Honors Program guidelines. All students registering for these courses must register not only through the Honors Program, but also with their adviser and the Registrar's Office.