

## THEATRE (THR)

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The curriculum and activities of the Theatre Department are designed to explore, investigate and develop the creative process and cultural significance of story-telling in performance. We foster an integrated liberal arts approach distinguished by breadth in theatre study and a focus on analytical, critical, and creative thinking—especially with regard to the role of theatre in community and the application of theatre-related skills, knowledge and attitudes to many areas of life. The Major and Minor programs in theatre prepare students through a foundational understanding of the Lutheran doctrine of vocation that all labors are to be in service to one's neighbor. To that end, the theatre program endeavors to prepare Christ-centered professional artists, practitioners, managers and educators whose leadership and impact, we pray, will be significant today and tomorrow. The productions of the department offer numerous co- and extra-curricular opportunities for all students in the college.

### Course of Study

- A. A Theatre Major consists of at least 39 credits in theatre including:
1. Core courses: THR 104, 195, 201, 204, 210, 220, 231, 232, 233, 234, 295, 301, 302, 304, 315, 395, 404.
  2. At least 10 credits from remaining THR courses of which 3 credits can be from ENG 293, 321, or 322.
- B. A Theatre Education Major consists of at least 39 credits including:
1. THR 101, 104, 195, 201, 204, 210, 220, 231, 232, 233, 234, 260, 301, 304, 315, 320, 430\*, EDU 393\*.
  2. At least 9 credits from remaining THR courses of which 3 credits can be from ENG 293, 321, or 322.
- \* required but do not count toward major credit total.
- C. A theatre Minor consists of at least 24 credits.
1. Core Courses: THR 104, 195, 201, 204, 210, 220, 301, 304, 315
  2. At least 2 courses from the following: THR 231, 232, 233, 234.
  3. At least 5 credits from remaining THR courses.

### Course Descriptions

#### THR 101 Introduction to Theatre. 3 cr.

This course develops an appreciation for theatre through introduction to the various components and expressions of story in performance and an examination of topics including genre, style, structure, purpose and cultural context, as well as the roles of the collaborative artists responsible for a theatre production. Attendance of on- and off-campus performances may be required. Practical application of theatre activity may also be required. Meets General Education Fine Arts Requirement.

#### THR 104 Vocation in Theatre 1. 1 cr.

An introduction to the ways and means a Christian uses his/her intellect, abilities, and artistry in the fulfillment of vocation through theatre activity. Topics will include, but not be limited to theatre as an academic endeavor, and theatre in community and culture. Intended for theatre majors and minors.

#### THR 195 Theatre Practicum 1. 1 cr.

Credit is earned through significant involvement in an acting role or staff position for a WLC Theatre Department production and documentation of a professional process. Roles/positions are designated by faculty as approved practicum opportunities for a given production. Prerequisites: THR 210 for acting role, THR 220 for technical position, THR 315 for design position - may be concurrent; Students must have participated in at least one WLC theatre production prior to enrolling.

#### THR 201 Script Analysis. 3 cr.

A foundational course on the core processes involved in turning a drama (written script) into a performance. A variety of scripts will be examined utilizing critical, analytical, and creative methods for the purpose of developing a coherent, structured approach for work of artistic merit. Meets General Education Fine Arts Requirement.

#### THR 204 Vocation in Theatre 2. 1 cr.

A continuation of THR 104, exploring and examining the ways and means a Christian uses his/her intellect, abilities, and artistry in the fulfillment of vocation through theatre activity—specifically focusing on the relationship between theatre and Christian living, theology, and post-modern culture. Prerequisite: THR 104.

#### THR 210 Principles of Acting. 3 cr.

This introductory course will sharpen basic skills necessary for all actors (concentration, imagination, observation, physical and vocal awareness, memorization, and risk) and will introduce Constantin Stanislavski's approach to character analysis and portrayal. Coursework will culminate in a public performance. Journal writing and outside reading will be required. Meets General Education Fine Arts Requirement.

#### THR 214 The Physical Voice. 3 cr.

This course develops fuller voices grounded in the idea that vocal production for the actor is a physical manifestation and the result of what the body is experiencing—bringing more depth to the actor's experience and performance. Prerequisite: THR 210

#### THR 220 Stage Production and Operation. 1 cr.

A fundamental introduction to and survey of the procedural and technical operations of stage production. Topics include production organization and management, theatre architecture, stage equipment and technology, company structures and stage management. Studio format: 2 hours in class per week. Practical out-of-class crew work on current productions may be required.

#### THR 231 Scenery and Props Studio. 1 cr.

A fundamental and functional introduction to the tools, materials, and applicable skills used in scenery and props construction. Studio format: 2 hours in class per week. Practical out-of-class crew work on current productions may be required.

**THR 232 Lighting and Sound Studio. 1 cr.**

A fundamental and functional introduction to the equipment, operation, and applicable skills used in stage lighting and sound. Studio format: 2 hours in class per week. Practical out-of-class crew work on current productions may be required.

**THR 233 Costume Studio. 1 cr.**

A fundamental and functional introduction to the equipment, operation, and applicable skills used in crafting costumes. Studio format: 2 hours in class per week. Practical out-of-class crew work on current productions may be required.

**THR 234 Stage Makeup Studio. 1 cr.**

A fundamental and functional introduction to the materials and applicable skills used in stage makeup. Studio format: 2 hours in class per week. A makeup kit is required for this course. Practical out-of-class crew work on current productions may be required.

**THR 260 Theatre Arts Management. 3 cr.**

An introduction and overview of all aspects of management regarding theatre arts production with specific focus on management structures and organizational models, box office and front-of-house operations, budget management and cost control. Marketing, advertising, promotions and public relations as they are unique to theatre arts presentation will be addressed. Does Not Meet General Education Fine Arts Requirement.

**THR 295 Theatre Practicum 2. 1 cr.**

Credit is earned through significant involvement in an acting role or staff position for a WLC Theatre Department production and documentation of a professional process. Roles/positions are designated by faculty as approved practicum opportunities for a given production. It is recommended that this practicum be in a different production position than THR 195. Prerequisite: THR 195.

**THR 301 Theatre History. 3 cr.**

A survey of theatre history from its origins through the 19th Century, as well as an introduction to production dramaturgy. Meets General Education Fine Arts Requirement.

**THR 302 Topics in Theatre History/Literature. 3 cr.**

An in-depth study of theatre in a specific historical time period, dramatic genre or sub-genre, or production aspect that may directly correspond to a WLC Theatre Department production. Prerequisites determined by topic, THR 201 and/or THR 301.

**THR 304 Vocation in Theatre 3. 1 cr.**

A culmination of THR 104 and 204, exploring and examining the ways and means a Christian uses his/her intellect, abilities, and artistry in the fulfillment of vocation through theatre activity—specifically broadening the conceptual viewpoint and developing a personal creed and manifesto. Prerequisites: THR 104 and THR 204.

**THR 305 Playwriting. 3 cr.**

An exploration of the techniques and processes of developing an original script for performance. Topics will include the study of existing scripts as well as the development of skills used in creating dramatic characters, writing effective dialogue and developing engaging plots. The course will culminate in the creation and possible presentation of a ten-minute play. Prerequisite: THR 201.

**THR 310 Acting in Realism. 3 cr.**

A continued study of realistic acting, using Stanislavski's approach as a basis, but also exploring aspects of other acting methodologies. Focus will be on application of these various methods to specific scene-work from the Modern/Contemporary eras. Prerequisites: THR 201 and THR 210.

**THR 315 Concept and Collaboration. 3 cr.**

Instruction and examination of the tools, processes and expressions that synthesizes all of the analytical work on a script into a concise, overarching structure to stimulate the imagination of collaborating production artists and audience members. Multiple projects and presentations focus on interpretation, creative process and visual presentation. Contemporary issues and trends in production design are explored. Prerequisite: THR 201.

**THR 320 Directing. 3 cr.**

An introduction to the basic principles, skills and methods of directing for the stage. Topics will include play selection, effective story-telling, collaboration, director-actor communication, blocking, stage composition/picturization, rehearsal and project management. May culminate in a public final production/project showcase. Prerequisites: THR 201, THR 210, THR 220, and THR 315.

**THR 340 Ensemble and Devising. 3 cr.**

An exploration and examination of story development through the process of ensemble-devised original work. The study of representative companies will provide methodological approaches for student exercises and projects likely culminating in a public performance of a devised production. Prerequisites: THR 210 and THR 315.

**THR 350 Dramaturgy. 3 cr.**

A study of the dramaturgical skills and processes of making connections between a given play and a larger social and cultural context toward the purpose of understanding and creating a unified artistic experience. Topics include dramaturgical research, pre-production work, rehearsal applications, production dramaturgy, audience engagement, and literary management. Prerequisite: THR 201 and THR 301.

**THR 395 Theatre Practicum 3. 1 cr.**

Credit is earned through significant involvement in an acting role or staff position for a WLC Theatre Department production and documentation of a professional process. Roles/positions are designated by faculty as approved practicum opportunities for a given production. If THR 195 and THR 295 were in the same position (i.e. acting) this practicum must be in a different production position. Prerequisite: THR 295

**THR 404 Senior Capstone in Theatre. 3 cr.**

Students demonstrate their competence in three culminating components: (1.) students undertake and present a major project (approved by the faculty) which exhibits an appropriate synthesis of their course and production experiences as well as their vocational expectations; (2.) students offer a professional presentation of their preparedness to enter a vocation in theatre (or related field) as a Christian leader; and (3.) students complete a comprehensive oral exam based on the theatre core curriculum and supplemental reading list. Faculty and guest respondents may be utilized. Prerequisite: Theatre major or minor with senior status.

**THR 410 Acting in Classical Theatre. 3 cr.**

A study of advanced script/text analysis and the physical and vocal requirements necessary for using verse and acting in classical works including, but not limited to Greek/Roman, Shakespeare, and Neo-Classical. Prerequisites: THR 201 and THR 210.

**THR 412 Acting on Camera. 3 cr.**

Students will learn the business and techniques for acting in film, television, commercials, industrial videos, and voice-over work. Procedures and techniques in preparing an on-camera resume, securing and working with agents and casting directors, and other aspects particular to the business of nontheatre acting will be included. Prerequisite: THR 210.

**THR 430 Methods of Teaching Theatre. 2 cr.**

A study of the special problems that face the teacher of theatre. Includes special attention to the development and criticism of theatre class assignments, the operation and organization of a school theatre program, and the selection and production of dramatic activities at the elementary and/or secondary levels in public/parochial, and/or curricular/extra-curricular settings. Prerequisite for Education Majors: Admission to Teacher Education and Senior Status or permission of Director of Teacher Education. Prerequisite for Non-Education Majors: EDU 221 and at least Junior Status.

**THR 431 Scene Design. 3 cr.**

Advanced study will focus on theatrical stage design and techniques including advanced script analysis, sketching, rendering, drafting and model-making. Opportunities for realized designs will be attempted with an emphasis on communication issues, visual presentation and portfolio development. Prerequisites: THR 220, THR 231 and THR 315.

**THR 432 Lighting Design. 3 cr.**

Advanced study will focus on stage lighting design and techniques including advanced script analysis, fixture plotting and paperwork, use of color and rendering. Opportunities for realized designs will be attempted with an emphasis on communication issues, visual presentation and portfolio development. Prerequisites: THR 220, THR 232 and THR 315.

**THR 433 Costume Design 3 cr.**

Advanced study will focus on costume design and techniques including advanced script analysis, draping and color. Opportunities for realized designs will be attempted with an emphasis on communication issues, visual presentation and portfolio development. Prerequisites: THR 220, THR 233 and THR 315.

**THR 490 Internship. 1-3 cr.**

By arrangement with department.

**THR x91 Topics in Theatre. 1-3 cr.**

Selected topics in theatre arts. Content varies and course may be repeated for different topics. Prerequisites determined by topic.

**THR 199-499 Independent Study. 1-3 cr.**