

Theater (THEA)

Courses

THEA 120 Introduction to Theater (3 Hours) ▶

Students will be introduced to a variety of theatrical experiences, which includes reading plays and analyzing live theatre performances. This course also offers opportunities to experience theatre through set construction, design, stage and costume crew, or acting if the student desires.

THEA 121 Fundamentals of Acting (3 Hours)

This course is designed to teach the fundamentals of acting for those students who have little or no experience in the theatre. We will overview all the tools used by actors, including improvisation, vocal, physical and psychological warm-ups, building trust, relaxation and discipline techniques. Students will complete a minimum of three in-class performances.

THEA 123 Improvisation for the Theater* (2 Hours)

Prerequisites : THEA 121 with a grade of "C" or higher.

The student will be introduced to theater improvisation, which will emphasize creative stage activities not requiring a written script. Participation in activities of this course will release and enhance the work of serious acting students and show the students how to approach characterization viscerally rather than intellectually, spontaneously rather than intentionally.

THEA 130 Acting I* (3 Hours) ▶

Prerequisites : THEA 121 with a grade of "C" or higher or department approval.

Acting I will expand on the skills learned in Fundamentals of Acting and will concentrate on developing scene work. Emphasis will be on expanding creative potential through exercises in self-awareness, posture, movement, voice and personality projection. Students will complete a minimum of four in-class performances.

THEA 131 Voice and Speech (3 Hours) ▶

The student will develop techniques to expand breath support, vocal range and dynamics; learn precise articulation; and strengthen the connection between thought and sound. Through the use of exercises to free, develop and strengthen the voice, the student will be better able to communicate the full range of human emotion and all the nuances of thought. Skills acquired in this course are essential for actors, broadcast journalists, educators and other public speakers.

THEA 133 Technical Practicum I (1 Hour) ▶

Students gain practical experience in technical theater in this course. The student completes the course objectives by working in the theatre department's productions and/or working in the scene/costume shop during the semester.

THEA 134 Performance Practicum I (1 Hour)

This course will enable students to gain practical experience in performance-related aspects of college theater productions. Admission may be granted upon being cast in a JCCC production.

THEA 135 Stage Makeup (2 Hours)

This course is an introductory course which provides an understanding of, and practical skills in, the design and application of makeup for theatrical performance.

THEA 136 Costume Construction (3 Hours)

This is a survey of the theory, techniques and skills used in costume creation for the theater and film. Areas of study and practice include basic construction, patterning and cutting; fabrics, design and realization; millinery; craftwork; and organization.

THEA 137 Movement for the Stage (3 Hours)

The student will develop techniques to expand kinesthetic awareness, flexibility, physical freedom and the language of movement. Through the use of exercises to free, develop and strengthen physical vocabulary, the student will be better able to communicate the physical life of a character. Skills acquired in this course will include mime, stage combat, commedia, improvisation and circus techniques.

THEA 140 Basic Stagecraft (3 Hours) ▶

This course introduces the general student and theater major to basic stagecraft. Through lectures, in-class demonstrations and hands-on experiences, the student will gain a working and appreciative knowledge of technical theater. The course includes 15 lab hours and attendance at two live theatrical productions.

THEA 145 Introduction to Theater Design (3 Hours)

This lecture and studio class introduces the theory and practice of theater design and the graphics and standards of entertainment technology. This course focuses on understanding foundational elements of theatrical design and developing the skills to translate text into visual content. It involves script analysis, research, creative exploration, and visual communication. Emphasis will be on the processes and practices used in designing for the performing arts.

THEA 209 Script Analysis (3 Hours)

Script Analysis introduces students to those methods used in the theater for the study and/or analysis of plays. Directors, actors and designers use script analysis during their preparatory work and then continue to use it through the rehearsal process until, and sometimes even after, the production has finished. This course is of value to the student because it focuses on the crucial elements of a play encountered during the production process including dramatic structure, content and meaning.

THEA 225 Reader's Theater (3 Hours)

Students will combine acting, interpretation and rhetoric as they analyze and perform poetry, prose and dramatic literature and present public performances. Through the process of reading, studying, investing, rehearsing and performing literary and nonliterary works, the student will learn to pay particular attention to the voice embodied in a given text and the cultural and social context within which that voice speaks.

THEA 230 Acting II* (3 Hours) †

Prerequisites : THEA 130 with a grade of "C" or higher.

This continuation of Acting I will focus on more in-depth character analysis and development, emphasizing the actor's responsibility in creating the character. Students will complete a minimum of five in-class performances. 3 hrs./wk. plus rehearsals and performances.

THEA 231 Speech for the Actor* (3 Hours)

Prerequisites : THEA 131.

This class will deepen the voice work from THEA 131: Voice and Speech. Work in the classroom will further solidify expansion rather than compression, open channel for sound, vocal resonance, and forward placement. Further exploration of rhetoric and language will be utilized. Vocal range and capacity will be explored. Intensive training will continue in the process of learning a dialect, written dialect transcription, and application of spoken dialect to a text.

THEA 232 Introduction to Stage Directing and Management* (3 Hours)

Prerequisites : THEA 120.

This course is an introductory survey in the process of reading and producing plays. The focus of the course will be on reading a play and understanding the steps necessary to create a production of that play. Some of the topics explored will include play selection, script analysis, the audition process, the rehearsal process, stage management, directing, and the actor-audience-director relationship.

THEA 233 Technical Practicum II* (1 Hour) †

Prerequisites : THEA 133.

Students gain practical experience in technical theater in this course. The student completes the course objectives by working on the theatre department's productions and/or working in the scene/costume shop during the semester.

THEA 245 Introduction to Scene Design* (3 Hours)

Prerequisites : THEA 145.

Students will further develop the technical and design techniques of Scenic Design. This includes learning the responsibilities of a Scenic Designer and practicing the process of Scenic Design for theatre from script analysis to executing final design models and drafting.

THEA 250 Introduction to Costume Design (3 Hours)

This course is designed to instruct students on the concepts and realities of costume design. The course will provide hands-on design exercises that will include researching historical time periods, script reading and production analysis, costume rendering techniques, and presenting designs in a production meeting. This course is typically taught in the spring semester. 2 hrs. lecture and 2 hrs. lab/wk.

THEA 260 Introduction to Light, Sound and Projections (3 Hours)

Students will develop technical principles and applications of lighting, sound and projections for the stage. The class will utilize basic light, sound and projection equipment to create visual and audio landscapes. This will include creating light plots, mixing sounds, and mapping projections.

THEA 291 Independent Study* (1-7 Hour)

Prerequisites : 2.0 GPA minimum and department approval.

Independent study is a directed, structured learning experience offered as an extension of the regular curriculum. It is intended to allow individual students to broaden their comprehension of the principles of and competencies associated with the discipline or program. Its purpose is to supplement existing courses with individualized, in-depth learning experiences. Such learning experiences may be undertaken independent of the traditional classroom setting, but will be appropriately directed and supervised by regular instructional staff. Total contact hours vary based on the learning experience.

THEA 292 Special Topics:* (3 Hours)

Prerequisites : Department approval.

This course periodically offers specialized or advanced discipline-specific content related to performance, technical theatre, and design not normally taught in the curriculum, to interested and qualified students within the program. This is a repeatable course and may be taken more than once for credit.