

## Table of Contents

Theater..... 1

### Theater

The School of Theater and Dance is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Theatre, 11250 Roger Bacon Drive, Suite 21, Reston, Virginia 20190.

The School of Theater and Dance blends scholarship and practice in an academically based theater experience that provides students with broad based exposure to human experience and a sound foundation in the skills of theater craft. Class work in all areas of theater is complemented by a production program that reinforces both scholarship and practice, creating work that is as imaginative and highly polished as possible. Graduates will be able to apply their knowledge of performance, production, theater history, contemporary practice, literature and theory in a wide variety of theater venues. Graduates will also be able to demonstrate intrapersonal and interpersonal skills in the form of leadership qualities, self-discipline, creative expression, critical thinking, and the ability to work effectively as a part of a collaborative team. The development and guidance of talent and discipline, both characteristic of the artist/scholar, are the goals of the School of Theater and Dance.

The School of Theater and Dance maintains two theaters for public productions: the McLeod Theater, a proscenium stage seating approximately 500, and the Christian H. Moe Laboratory Theater, a flexible stage seating up to 110. The playbill typically encompasses a balance of contemporary, classic, and original works, and offers seven productions including a musical during the academic year. The summer season, McLeod Summer Playhouse, consists of several productions operating as a professional summer stock company, offering stipends and/or graduate credit.

The School of Theater and Dance offers a graduate program of study leading to a Master of Fine Arts degree in Theater. An interdisciplinary doctoral study in Theater is sponsored by the School of Communication Studies.

### Admissions

To apply, students must fill out the online application for Admission to Graduate Study in Theater. Applicants for graduate studies in theater must satisfy the minimum requirements of the Graduate School before being admitted to the school. The application includes a statement of purpose, transcripts from all undergraduate and graduate coursework together with three (3) letters of recommendation from former teachers or supervisors. There is a \$65 nonrefundable application fee payable online.

There are additional requirements established by each of the areas of study in the M.F.A. in Theater Program. Applicants in the directing area are required to submit materials that are representative of their previous theater work and/or indicate an aptitude for stage direction (including promptbooks, programs, reviews, photos, video tapes or casebooks from previous directing efforts). At this time, each applicant will work with actors on a directing scene to demonstrate their ability to analyze the scene and work with actors. Applicants in the costume, lighting, scene design and technical direction areas are required to submit portfolio samples of their work. Applicants in the playwriting area must submit approximately two to two-and-a-half hours of written material consisting of one full-length play and/or several significant short pieces. These materials should be sent directly to the Director of Graduate Studies at the address below.

Although an undergraduate major in theater is not essential for admission to a graduate degree program in theater, the Director of Graduate Studies may require that certain course deficiencies in undergraduate subject areas be remedied. These requirements are stated in writing on the admissions approval form.

More detailed information about these requirements is obtainable from: Director of Graduate Studies, School of Theater and Dance, Mail Code 6608, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Carbondale, IL 62901, 618-453-5741.

## Financial Assistance

There are several kinds of financial assistance available to graduate students in the School of Theater and Dance. First, there are graduate fellowships awarded on the basis of superior scholarship. Second, special fellowships are offered annually to students who show promise of success in graduate studies although their academic records have been only average due to economic disadvantages. The fellowships have no service requirements. Third, graduate assistantships with competitive stipends are available to students who are employed in various academic support positions, such as teaching, research, and production. All fellowships and assistantships include a waiver of tuition (both in-state and out-of-state). Applications for financial assistance may be obtained by contacting the Director of Graduate Studies.

## Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) in Theater

The Master of Fine Arts degree program in Theater emphasizes practical expertise in one of the following areas: directing, playwriting, costume design, lighting design, scene design and technical direction. The school encourages interdisciplinary study in related fields including performance studies, dramatic literature, dramaturgy, musical theater and opera. In most instances, a three-year residency is required of all M.F.A. in Theater students.

By March of their first year of study, each student will undergo a review of their progress in the program. The criteria by which each area will make its evaluations are to be found described in detail in the M.F.A. in Theater handbook, in the appropriate section dealing with the area's specific requirements. The faculty can elect from the following actions: 1. Suggest areas the student needs to work on before he/she is allowed to proceed to the Qualifier/Thesis project. 2. Move the student along to the Qualifier/Thesis project. 3. Require the student to attend a 2nd Year Review. 4. Dismiss the student from the M.F.A. in Theater program.

*All M.F.A. in Theater students must complete a minimum of 60 credit hours of course work, including the M.F.A. in Theater degree core requirements, and with a minimum of 30 credit hours at the 500 level:*

- THEA 500: Theater Research Methods (3 CH)
- THEA 501: The Historical Avant Garde & Performance (3 CH)
- THEA 599: Thesis (6 CH)

### **Total M.F.A. in Theater Core: 12 hours**

In addition, each area of study has specific area and elective requirements, which are as follows:

### **Directing**

- M.F.A. core (12 CH)
- THEA 401A: Stage Management (2 CH)
- THEA 401B: Stage Management Lab (1 CH)
- THEA 402: Directing Studio (3 CH)
- THEA 417: Advanced Acting (3 CH)
- THEA 502: Advanced Directing Studio (9 CH)
- THEA 504A: Performing Justice/Theory (3 CH)
- THEA 504B: Performing and Producing Resistance (3 CH)
- THEA 511A: Playwriting I (3 CH)
- THEA 520A: Period Style for Theater I (3 CH)
- THEA 520B: Period Style for Theater II (3 CH)
- Design Classes (select 2 of 3) (6 CH)
  - THEA 407: Scene Design
  - THEA 414: Costume Design
  - THEA 418: Lighting Design
- Electives (by advisement) (9 CH)

### **Total: 60 credit hours**

## **Costume Design**

- M.F.A. core (12 CH)
- THEA 414: Costume Design (3 CH)
- Design & Production Classes (select 2 of 3) (6 CH)
  - THEA 407: Scene Design
  - THEA 418: Lighting Design
  - THEA 419: Technical Direction
- THEA 510: Production Design Seminar (6 CH)\*
- THEA 516: Advanced Theater Design & Production (2-8 CH)
- THEA 412: Patterning & Draping for the Theater (2 CH)
- THEA 413: Drafting for the Theater (3 CH)
- THEA 415A, THEA 415B, THEA 415C, THEA 415D Costume Crafts I, II, III, IV (8 CH)
- THEA 512: Advanced Costume Construction (2 CH) (may be taken 4 times)
- THEA 520A: Period Style for Theater I (3 CH)
- THEA 520B: Period Style for Theater II (3 CH)
- Electives (by advisement) (8 CH)
- \*THEA 510 is to be taken every semester in residence. Students who complete the program in fewer semesters must make sure degree courses total 60 credit hours.

**Total: 60 credit hours**

## **Lighting Design**

- M.F.A. core (12 CH)
- THEA 418: Lighting Design (3 CH)
- Design & Production Classes (select 2 of 3) (6 CH)
  - THEA 407: Scene Design
  - THEA 414: Costume Design
  - THEA 419: Technical Direction
- THEA 510: Production Design Seminar (6 CH)\*
- THEA 516: Advanced Theater Design & Production (2 CH) (may be taken 6 times)
- THEA 520A: Period Style for Theater I (3 CH)
- THEA 520B: Period Style for Theater II (3 CH)
- Electives (by advisement) (19 CH)
- \*THEA 510 is to be taken every semester in residence. Students who complete the program in fewer semesters must make sure degree courses total 60 credit hours.

**Total: 60 credit hours**

## **Scene Design**

- M.F.A. core (12 CH)
- THEA 407: Scene Design (3 CH)
- Design & Production Classes (select 2 of 3) (6 CH)
  - THEA 414: Costume Design
  - THEA 418: Lighting Design
  - THEA 419: Technical Direction
- THEA 510: Production Design Seminar (6 CH)\*
- THEA 516: Advanced Theater Design & Production (2 CH) (may be taken 6 times)
- THEA 520A: Period Style for Theater I (3 CH)
- THEA 520B: Period Style for Theater II (3 CH)
- Electives (by advisement) (19 CH)
- \*THEA 510 is to be taken every semester in residence. Student who complete the program in fewer semesters must make sure degree courses total 60 credit hours.

**Total: 60 credit hours**

## Technical Direction

- M.F.A. core (12 CH)
- THEA 419: Technical Direction (3 CH)
- Design & Production Classes (select 2 of 3) (6 CH)
  - THEA 407: Scene Design
  - THEA 414: Costume Design
  - THEA 418: Lighting Design
- THEA 510: Production Design Seminar (6 CH)\*
- THEA 516: Advanced Theater Design & Production (2 CH) (may be taken 6 times)
- THEA 520A: Period Style for Theater I (3 CH)
- THEA 520B: Period Style for Theater II (3 CH)
- Electives (by advisement) (19 CH)
- \*THEA 510 is to be taken every semester in residence. Students who complete the program in fewer semesters must make sure degree courses total 60 credit hours.

**Total: 60 credit hours**

## Playwriting

- M.F.A. core (12 CH)
- 500-level Theater History courses by advisement (6 CH)\*
- THEA 503: New Play Development (18 CH)
- THEA 504A: Performing Justice/Theory (3 CH)
- THEA 504B: Performing and Producing Resistance (3 CH)
- THEA 511A: Playwriting I (3 CH)
- THEA 511B: Playwriting II (3 CH)
- Electives (by advisements) (12 CH)\*\*

**Total: 60 credit hours**

\*Any two of these Theater History courses must be taken in year 1 or 2 by advisement:

- THEA 450: Topical Seminar
- THEA 454: American Theater
- THEA 460: Black Theater
- THEA 525: Contemporary Experiments in Drama
- THEA 550: Topical Seminar may apply depending on the topic (may be repeated)

Certain other Theater, English or Communication Studies courses may apply with permission.

\*\*THEA 402 (Directing Studio) must be taken in the first two years unless playwrights already have directing experience.

Besides the core requirements, the students will propose and successfully complete a project to qualify for further study in their chosen area. This project will include a research component in conjunction with a realized practical project.

Thesis requirements vary for each area of study; however, they include a research component as well as a description and evaluation of the student's creative project.

The School of Theater and Dance requires an oral examination, conducted by the student's thesis committee, for each M.F.A. in Theater candidate. The examination covers the thesis or dissertation, and may include questions designed to ascertain the student's general competence in theater.

## Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Communication Studies

The School of Theater and Dance offers a program of study in Theater History and Playwriting under the administration of the School of Communication Studies leading to a Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Communication Studies.

## Admission

To apply a student must fill out the online application for Admission to Graduate Study in Communication Studies. Applicants for graduate studies in theater must satisfy the minimum requirements of the Graduate School before being admitted to the program. The application includes a statement of purpose, transcripts from all undergraduate and graduate coursework together with three (3) letters of recommendation from former teachers or supervisors.

There is a \$65 nonrefundable application fee payable on-line or by check made out to SIUC.

Additionally, prospective students must submit materials that are representative of their previous theater work and/or indicate an aptitude for work in their chosen field of study. Applicants to Theater History must include several critical research essays. Applicants to the playwriting area must submit approximately two- to two-and-a-half hours of written material consisting of one full-length play and/or several significant short pieces. All prospective students should include a sample of their research writing. Video tapes/ DVDs or websites are acceptable digital materials.

More information for prospective and current students is available at the School of Theater and Dance website and the School of Communication Studies.

A student must take 51 credit hours of course work beyond the Master's degree, 24 credit hours of which must be in Theater, 18 credit hours in Communication Studies, and nine credit hours in methodology (tool) courses. In addition 24 credit hours of dissertation work are required for the Ph.D. degree. Course work outside the program must be germane to one of the program curriculum areas for the purposes of examination and dissertation research. Throughout the program of study, the student must maintain a 3.00 grade point average in all work taken. If the grade point average drops below the minimum, the student is placed on academic warning for the following two semesters. During the last half of the second semester of course work, the student's progress shall be reviewed by the advisory committee to determine continuation, change, or termination of the program. The advisory committee for each student shall be responsible for assembling the necessary information (grades, recommendations, progress in curriculum areas, etc.) for consideration in reaching the above decision.

## Advisory Committee

A three (3) person advisory committee shall be established no later than the beginning of the second semester of graduate study to plan the program of study with each student. The chair of the committee shall act as the primary adviser and sign the graduate course request form. This advisory committee is responsible for certifying to the graduate director that the student has met all program requirements for admission to candidacy and has passed the Ph.D. preliminary examination.

Students selecting Theater as a curriculum concentration must take the following:

- Communication Studies Theater Concentration, 18 credit hours (must include):
  - CMST 501: Introduction to Communication Research (3 CH)
  - CMST 510: Seminar: Rhetoric Theory and Society (3 CH)
- Theater 24 credit hours (must include):
  - THEA 501: The Historical Avant Garde & Performance (3 CH)
  - THEA 504A: Performing Justice/Theory (3 CH)
  - THEA 504B: Performing and Producing Resistance (3 CH)
- Dissertation, 24 credit hours
- Methodology (tool), 9 credit hours

Total 75 credit hours

## Preliminary Examination

The student must pass a preliminary examination on their program of study. The preparation and administration of the examination are determined by the advisory committee in consultation with the student. The examination is taken at the end of the course work.

## Dissertation

Each student must register for at least 24 credit hours of dissertation credit in THEA 600. The dissertation director shall, upon consultation with the student, be responsible for setting up a dissertation committee, supervising the dissertation, and administering the final oral examination. The dissertation committee shall approve the dissertation prospectus and pass upon the completed dissertation and oral examination.

The Graduate School requires students who have not completed their dissertation to enroll in THEA 601 Continuing Enrollment until they complete the dissertation or withdraw from the program. Students who do not register for this class will be charged for all semesters before they may graduate.

Students are required to submit an electronic copy of the dissertation to the Graduate School and one bound copy to the School of Theater and Dance.

## Theater Courses

**THEA400 - Production** Practicum for support of major department productions in all areas. Roles in department productions may fulfill requirement. Credit Hours: 1-2

**THEA401A - Stage Management** Study of the theories and skills required to successfully stage manage a theater production. Prerequisite: THEA 217 and THEA 218A or graduate standing, concurrent enrollment in THEA 401B required. Credit Hours: 2

**THEA401B - Stage Management Lab** Practical application of the theories and skills learned in the 401A course and applied on a department of theater production. Prerequisite: THEA 217 and THEA 218A or graduate standing, concurrent enrollment in THEA 401A required. Credit Hours: 1

**THEA402 - Directing Studio** Introduction to the art of directing through examination of various genres. An exploration of the fundamentals of directing culminating in scene work and studio presentation. Advanced students will approach the directing process from play selection through dramaturgy to production and through the context of contemporary directing styles. Prerequisites: THEA 217 and THEA 311A with grades of C or better. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA403A - Advanced Movement for the Actor** Advanced studies in stage movement with special attention to period styles. Prerequisite: THEA 303A, THEA 317A, THEA 317B. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA403B - Advanced Voice for the Actor** Advanced studies in voice with special attention to stage dialects and advanced vocal techniques. Prerequisite: THEA 303B, THEA 317A. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA404 - Theater Management** Discussion of legal and financial aspects concerning the professional and community theaters of the United States. Consideration of and practice in managerial activities of an educational theater including administration, purchasing, and accounting practices, direct sales, publicity, promotion and public relations. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA406 - Properties Studio** Beginning and advanced studio work in traditional and non-traditional crafts for theatrical events, including mask work, puppetry, stage furniture construction, upholstery, weaponry, armor, and special effects. Repeatable. Prerequisite: THEA 218A with a grade of C or better or graduate standing. Studio Fee: \$60. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA407 - Scene Design** Technical and artistic aspects of scene design. Theory and practice. Prerequisite: THEA 218A, THEA 413 with a grade of C or better. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA409 - Scene Painting Studio** Studio work in basic and advanced scene painting techniques and materials. Projects include wood, drapery, foliage, marble, transparencies, scrim painting, dye painting, faux finishes, metal reflections, and murals. Repeatable. Prerequisite: THEA 218A or graduate standing. Studio fee: \$65. Credit Hours: 2

**THEA410 - Children's Theater** Theory and practice in performing theater for children. Class activities include lectures on various aspects of production as well as producing a touring children's play for local area schools. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 9

**THEA412 - Patterning and Draping for the Theater** This course introduces the theatrical costume design and technical student to the basics of pattern development and construction techniques used to develop a 3-dimensional theatrical costume, with focus on giving the student a working knowledge of costume production, flat patterning, and draping techniques. Prerequisite: THEA 218C with a minimum grade of C or graduate standing. Studio fee: \$25. Credit Hours: 2

**THEA413 - Drafting for Theater** Development of the student's skill in scenographic techniques including ground plans, sections, elevations, and detail construction drawings. Prerequisite: THEA 218A with a minimum grade of C or graduate standing. Up to 9 credits toward graduation. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA414 - Costume Design** Technical and artistic aspects of costume design. Development of the design process, understanding and use of color theory and fabric, and practice of costume drawing techniques. Prerequisite: THEA 218C with a minimum grade of C or graduate standing. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA415A - Costume Crafts I** This course focuses on advanced skills in costume technology and crafts. In this semester, a variety of fabric dyeing and fabric modification techniques are taught and practiced, culminating in a final project that incorporates several techniques in one. Prerequisite: THEA 218C with a grade of B or better or graduate standing. Craft fee: \$50. Credit Hours: 2

**THEA415B - Costume Crafts II** This course focuses on advanced skills in costume technology and crafts. In this semester, techniques for setting and styling wigs, and techniques for millinery (making hats) are taught and practiced, culminating in a final project that combines both wig styling and millinery. Prerequisite: THEA 218C with a grade of B or better or graduate standing. Craft fee: \$50. Credit Hours: 2

**THEA415C - Costume Crafts III** This course focuses on advanced skills in costume technology and crafts. In this semester, the theme of armor is explored as a variety of techniques for working with thermoplastics, foam and chainmail are taught and practiced, as well as a brief unit in jewelry making. The course culminates in a final project that incorporates several techniques in one. Prerequisite: THEA 218C with a grade of B or better or graduate standing. Craft fee: \$50. Credit Hours: 2

**THEA415D - Costume Crafts IV** This course focuses on advanced skills in costume technology and crafts. In this semester, students will make a corset, and other period accessories. The course culminates in a final project that incorporates several techniques in one. Prerequisite: THEA 218C with a grade of B or better or graduate standing. Craft fee: \$50. Credit Hours: 2

**THEA416A - Structural Design for the Stage Part I** An in-depth study of the art and practice of structural design for the stage including forces, stresses, strains, load analysis, geometric properties of materials and simple beam design. Prerequisite: THEA 218A with a minimum grade of C or graduate standing. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA416B - Structural Design for the Stage Part II** Continued study of the art and practice of structural design for the stage including beam design, column and tension member design and combined loading design for sawn lumber and steel materials. Prerequisite: THEA 218A (or graduate standing) and 416A with minimum grades of C or special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA417 - Advanced Acting** Utilization of the actor's process in the performance of various theories and styles of acting. May be repeated once for credit. Prerequisite: THEA 317B or graduate standing. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA418 - Lighting Design** Investigation of stage lighting design, theory and professional practice. Special attention to color theory and its application to stage lighting. Lecture/Laboratory. Prerequisite: THEA 218B (or graduate standing) and THEA 413 with grades of C or better. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA419 - Technical Direction** Advanced study of principles and procedures of scenic construction and stage rigging. Includes scene shop organization, materials, and specialized stage equipment; preparation for professional technical direction. Lecture and laboratory to be arranged. Prerequisite: THEA 218A (or graduate standing) and THEA 413 with grades of C or better. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA423 - Musical Theater Dance II** Developing and performing musical theater choreography using advanced jazz, tap, ballet, social and modern dance skills. Prerequisite: THEA 323 with a C or better or graduate standing. Credit Hours: 1

**THEA424 - Audition Techniques** Methods of auditioning for theater and musical theater. The course covers audition techniques for open calls, cold reading/singing, improvisation, interviews, as well as the development of an audition portfolio and the preparation of head shots and resumes. Prerequisite: THEA 217 with a grade of C or graduate standing. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA425 - Metal Fabrication for Theater** A study of the knowledge and practice of various welding processes and fabrication techniques for the stage as well as an understanding of the theater practitioner's responsibility to the quality and safety of their products. Prerequisite: THEA 218A with a grade of C or better or graduate standing. Studio fee: \$40. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA450 - Topical Seminar** An intensive examination and application of selected areas of interest. Topics will vary and may include such areas as stage management, audition and interview, current political theater. Credit Hours: 1-9

**THEA454 - American Theater** The development of American theater from colonial times to the present. Includes a study of the American musical theater from preminstrels through contemporary music-drama. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA455 - Dramaturgy** An introduction to the theory and practice of dramaturgy, including a survey of contemporary critical theories as they apply to the pre-production work of the dramaturg. The student will apply methodologies studies to plays from the classical repertory and to the works of new playwrights. Prerequisite: THEA 311A with a minimum grade of C or graduate standing. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA460 - Black Theater: Intersections of Culture and Performance** (Same as AFR 420) This course will freely examine the intersections between African and African American Theater. It will study the origins, form and agenda of Black Theater by tracing the commonalities of culture and Performance between African and African American Theaters. Students will be exposed to seminal essays, topical plays and performances while they hone their own critical and creative skills. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA500 - Theater Research Methods** An introduction to the principles and methods of research and writing in theater with a focus on selected areas of specialization within the various degree programs. Required of all Masters Theater students. Restricted to Theater Majors. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA501 - The Historical Avant Garde & Performance** A survey of the historical avant garde throughout the 19th and 20th centuries through the study of documentary material, critical works, and plays. Individual reports, in class exercises, performance opportunities, and lectures provide focus on selected areas. Required reading encompasses a broad spectrum of subjects in order to demonstrate the political and aesthetic importance of a variety of the theatrical avant garde. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA502 - Advanced Directing Studio** Emphasis on practical directing problems and concerns of individual students through research, rehearsal and performance. Includes survey of directing theories and practices with laboratory application of directing techniques. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA503 - New Play Development** This is an interdisciplinary course meant for designers, directors, dramaturgs, and playwrights that prepares students for a prominent feature of the U.S. theatre landscape: the new play workshop. This ensconced entity, somewhere between a production and a casual reading, is an economic and artistic powerhouse, not just for playwrights, but for all theatre artists. This class imitates the methods and environments of the most prominent new play workshops in order to demystify a process that can be both artistically satisfying and lucrative for all theatre artists. Prerequisite: THEA 511A with a grade of C or better or concurrent enrollment allowed. Credit Hours: 1-3

**THEA504A - Performing Justice/Theory** (Same as WGSS 504A) Performance is more prevalent in society than ever before. Performance, in this class means: theatre, mass media, social media, entertainment, digital humanities, and everyday life. This course considers questions such as: How can performance help gender equality? How does literary, media, and performance theory relate to



struggles for social justice? What does it mean to live in a "dramatized society"? Students will gain an understanding of the economic, psychological, and political strategies behind performance and theory that seeks to intervene in unjust social structures. Restricted to graduate standing or special approval from the instructor. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA504B - Performing and Producing Resistance** Beginning with Aristotle and the earliest foundations of Western performance, this course considers questions such as: How have artists resisted earlier performance theory? How have artists redefined performance in order to promote social justice? How have artists moved beyond performance onstage with actors in order to empower spectators? Students will gain an understanding of classical performance theory and subsequent resistant performance theories. Restricted to graduate standing or special approval from the instructor. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA506 - The Collaborative Process** The theory and practice of the collaborative processes involved in play production; how designers, technicians, directors and playwrights interact with and communicate to each other to work as a creative team. Activities involve both hypothetical and fully realized productions when appropriate. May be taken for up to 4 hours. Credit Hours: 2-4

**THEA510 - Production Design Seminar** Exploratory workshop experience in rendering techniques, creative problem solving, design aesthetics, and production philosophies. To be taken by graduate production design students in residence, each semester, with exceptions by consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 1

**THEA511A - Playwriting I** This course assumes basic writing knowledge. It advances techniques of structure and dialogue in playwriting. Written exercises are submitted and discussed to identify dramatic events. Students will self-produce several short plays in collaborative performances. Students will initiate development of a full-length play. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA511B - Playwriting II** This course continues to develop advanced techniques of structure and dialogue in playwriting. Students will examine canonical plays to understand the tools used by the playwrights. Students will write short plays and self-produce several short plays in collaborative performances. Students will write a full-length play. Prerequisite: THEA 511A. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA512 - Advanced Costume Construction** This course focuses on advanced skills in the areas of cutting and draping for the theater. A variety of techniques will be taught, including but not limited to, flat patterning, bias draping, tailoring, and historical construction techniques. Prerequisite: THEA 218C, THEA 412 or special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 2

**THEA516 - Advanced Theater Design and Production** An advanced studio-based study of the theories and practices of modern production and design with particular emphasis on the interaction of the sub-disciplines of scenic, costume, light, sound design, and technical production as well as the collaborative nature of theatrical production. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 2

**THEA520A - Period Style for Theater I** A survey of the costumes, architecture, furniture, decorative styles and motifs of major periods and countries relating to western culture and theater. Egyptian to the Renaissance. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA520B - Period Style for Theater II** A survey of the costumes, architecture, furniture, decorative styles and motifs of major periods and countries relating to western culture and theater. Late Renaissance to 20th Century. Prerequisite: THEA 520A or special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA522 - SIU Summer Theater** Practical experience in summer stock play production. Performance or technical work in SIU Summer Theater only. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 1-6

**THEA525 - Contemporary Experiments in Drama** By studying contemporary literary theory and applying these critical tenets to new American plays, students develop tools to use in reading, understanding and writing plays in unconventional, non-traditional styles. Course work includes extensive reading of both essays and plays, discussing these matters, preparing reports and writing a play. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 3

**THEA530 - Independent Study** Independent research on selected problems. A maximum of three credit hours may be taken for a single project. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 1-3

**THEA550 - Topical Seminar** In-depth studies of topics of special interest to advanced students concerning individual or groups of playwrights, directors, designers, and their techniques and theories. Topic is determined in advance. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 2

**THEA560 - Professional Work Experience** Credit may be granted for professional work experience prior to acceptance into the program. Special approval needed from the instructor. Graded S/U only. Credit Hours: 1-21

**THEA561 - Theater Internship** Credit may be granted for internship at professional theaters, training programs, or studios. Special approval needed from the instructor. Graded S/U only. Credit Hours: 1-12

**THEA599 - Thesis** Capstone course for Master's degree. Credit Hours: 1-6

**THEA600 - Dissertation** Minimum of 24 hours to be earned for the Doctor of Philosophy degree. Credit Hours: 1-16

**THEA601 - Continuing Enrollment** For those graduate students who have not finished their degree programs and who are in the process of working on their dissertation, thesis, or research paper. The student must have completed a minimum of 24 hours of dissertation research, or the minimum thesis, or research hours before being eligible to register for this course. Concurrent enrollment in any other course is not permitted. Graded S/U or DEF only. Credit Hours: 1

## Theater Faculty

**Bogumil, Mary L.**, Associate Professor, Ph.D., University of South Florida, 1988.

**Clark, Darryl**, Assistant Professor, M.F.A. in Dance, State University of New York College at Brockport, 2005; 2016. Musical theater dance.

**Fagerholm, Thomas**, Associate Professor, M.F.A., Minnesota State University, Mankato, 2012; 2014. Technical direction and production.

**Fletcher, Anne**, Professor, Distinguished Scholar, Ph.D., Tufts University, 1992; 2001. Theater history, dramaturgy, Eugene O'Neil.

**Juntunen, Jacob**, Associate Professor, Ph.D., Northwestern University, 2007; 2012. Playwriting/dramatic literature and criticism.

**Neuman-Lambert, Gennie**, Assistant Professor, M.F.A., Rutgers University, 2018; 2020. Scenic design.

**Ojewuyi, Olusegun**, Professor and Interim Chair, M. A., University of Ibadan, 1987, Nigeria. M.F.A., Yale University, 1998. Directing, acting, African, and African American theater.

**Patrick Benson, Susan**, Associate Professor, M.F.A., Rutgers University, 1995; 2006. Voice and speech.

**Pivovarnik, Jane, S.**, Assistant Professor of Practice, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, 2012; 2020.

**Varns, Mark**, Professor, M.F.A., University of Missouri-Kansas City, 1990; 1996. Lighting design.

**Zea, Wendi**, Associate Professor, M.F.A., Kent State University, 2006; 2009. Costume design.

## Emeriti Faculty

**Moe, Christian H.**, Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., Cornell University, 1958.

**Naversen, Ronald**, Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., Southern Illinois University, 1990.

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Last updated: 06/23/2025