DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE ARTS

Theatre is a liberal art as well as a fine art. The programs offered by the Department of Theatre Arts are designed to encourage the development of the whole person, which is a hallmark of a liberal arts education.

We offer a supportive environment where individuals may achieve their full potential as independent creative artists and compassionate people. Our programs promote knowledge, critical thinking and creative problem solving. As students explore diverse theatre traditions, they gain a deeper understanding of themselves and their role in society. As they participate in the creative process of theatre production, they develop the teamwork and communication skills they will need as effective and successful members of society.

Career prospects for theatre students are vast and varied. Theatre Arts degree graduates find employment in professional theatre, film, television, virtual technology, education, arts management, art therapy, marketing and other fields. The department’s program of study also offers a solid foundation for competitive placement in distinguished graduate programs.

The B.A. and B.S. degrees are available for students interested in the study of theatre within a liberal arts background, or as part of a teacher education program. The B.F.A. is a rigorous, competitive program of study for students interested in pursuing careers in professional theatre. An audition or portfolio review and faculty approval are required for acceptance into the B.F.A. program. The progress of B.F.A. candidates is monitored closely each semester, utilizing performance juries and portfolio reviews. A core of theatre work is required of all theatre majors. Specialization is available in performance or design at the undergraduate level, and students enjoy flexibility in shaping their studies according to particular goals or interests. Minors are available in theatre for those students wishing to expand the focus of their degree program.

All Theatre Arts students are expected to maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above to participate in productions as an actor, stage manager, designer or assistant.

Students must also earn a C or above in all theatre classes to participate in productions the following semester.

Productions help students foster a close working relationship with faculty and enable the kind of growth that comes through working with professional artists. Class projects and studio work are fully integrated with the department’s season to create a balance between theory and skill development.

M.F.A. in Theatre

The department also offers Idaho’s only Master of Fine Arts degree in theatre. The program is a rigorous 60-72 credit hour degree designed for students wishing to prepare for a career in the professional theatre. The M.F.A. is also the terminal degree expected for individuals teaching at the university or college level. Graduate students may select an area of emphasis in acting, directing, design and/or technology, dramatic writing or theatre pedagogy. Numerous opportunities exist to design, perform and direct productions, which are considered an integral part of graduate training. Student progress is monitored by portfolio review or performance jury each semester. Exit procedures for the program include a creative project and comprehensive exam.

Admission requires a minimum of 3.0 GPA, a statement of goals or intent, three letters of recommendation, and a portfolio of design work or a 4-6 minute audition tape. A limited number of graduate assistantships are available for qualified candidates.

M.F.A. in Theatre: Distance-Delivery Format

The department also offers the curriculum for our M.F.A. program via our unique distance-delivered format. This format is designed for place-bound graduate students who are working professionals and unable to relocate to continue their graduate study toward their terminal degree. We offer the distance-ed option in the following areas of emphasis: design, technology and management (DTM), directing, dramatic writing and theatre pedagogy.

Theatre Facilities

The department has two theatre venues as well as a performance studio that is used for productions, rehearsals and classroom. The elegant 417-seat Hartung Theatre features a semi-thrust proscenium stage, new digital lighting and fully-equipped shops for scenery and costume construction. The Forge Theatre is an intimate 100-seat performance studio, equipped for flexible staging, including theatre-in-the-round. The 50-seat Arena, which is used for both productions and as a class laboratory.

For more information on the department, its programs of study and theatre productions, visit our web site at www.uitheatre.com (http://www.uitheatre.com), or call 208-885-6465.

Ann Hoste, Department Chair. Corner of 6th and Rayburn Shoup Hall - 2nd Floor. 208-885-6465. theatre@uidaho.edu.

*CAISLEY, Robert C; 2001; Professor of Theatre Arts and Film; M.F.A.; 1993; Illinois State University.

*DREIKOSEN, Jesse E.; Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts; M.F.A.; 2005; Purdue University.

*HOSTE, Ann; 2010; Professor of Theatre; Chair, Theatre Arts; M.F.A.; 1984; University of Texas.

*LEE-PAINTER, J. David; 1995; Professor of Theatre Arts; M.F.A.; 1991; Illinois State University.

*NOFSINGER, David A; 2012; Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts; M.F.A.; 2000; University of Arizona.

*PANTTAJA, Dean F; 1986; Professor of Theatre Arts; Department Chair, Department of Theatre Arts; Ph.D.; 1995; University of Idaho.

*QUINNETT, Kelly M; 1998; Professor of Theatre Arts; M.F.A.; 1997; University of Idaho.

*SORENSEN, Ginger K; 2014; Clinical Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts; M.F.A.; 2002; North Carolina School of Arts.

*VALLIERE, Robert P; 2012; Clinical Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts; M.F.A.; 2010; University of Idaho.

Majors

- Theatre Arts (B.A. or B.S.) (https://catalog.uidaho.edu/colleges-related-units/letters-arts-social-sciences/theatre-arts/theatre-arts-ba-bs)

Minors

- Theatre Design and Technology Minor (https://catalog.uidaho.edu/colleges-related-units/letters-arts-social-sciences/theatre-arts/theatre-design-technology-minor)

Theatre Arts Graduate Program


Theatre Arts

THE 101 Introduction to the Theatre
3 credits
Gen Ed: Humanities
For non-majors. Building an appreciation for theatre as an art form through understanding the creative process of the playwright, the director, the designer, and the actor. Attendance at theatre productions required.

THE 102 Introduction to Design
3 credits
An introduction to the concept of basic design elements and development of visual vocabulary for theatrical design. This course explores the creative collaborative process of theatrical design through a variety of hands-on projects in scenery, costumes, lighting and sound. This course is a prerequisite for THE 201, THE 202, THE 205.

THE 103 Theatre Technology I
3 credits
Intro to theatre production spaces, shop tools, construction materials, and stage equipment; theories and methods used in lighting and in the construction of scenery. Course includes a lab component.

THE 104 Theatre Technology II
3 credits
Methods of costume construction techniques; intro to sewing, crafting and costuming skills. Course includes a lab component.

THE 105 Basics of Performance I
3 credits
Intro to performance; techniques of relaxation, observation, and justification; work in improvisation, sensory exploration, image-making, and beginning textual analysis; initial monologue and scene performance. One lec and 2 hrs of lab a wk.

THE 106 Basics of Performance II
3 credits
A continuation in the training of performance to deepen the experiential understanding and techniques of relaxation, observation, and justification; work in improvisation, sensory exploration, image-making, and beginning textual analysis, including initial monologue and scene performance. One lec and 2 hrs of lab a wk.
Prereq: THE 105 or Permission. A minimum grade of 'C' is required for all co/prerequisites.

THE 110 Convocation
1 credit, max arranged
One 1-hr weekly seminar discussing performance and production techniques, process and activities.

THE 200 (s) Seminar
Credit arranged.

THE 201 Scene Design I
3 credits
Development of basic skills in visualization, period research, graphic techniques and script interpretation in scenery.
Prereq: THE 102.

THE 202 Costume Design I
3 credits
Costume design skills including script/character analysis, fabric choices, design process, period research, and drawing/painting skills.
Prereq: THE 102.

THE 203 (s) Workshop
Credit arranged.

THE 204 (s) Special Topics
Credit arranged.

THE 205 Lighting Design I
3 credits
Basic and foundational stage lighting equipment, lighting methods, and theory for theatrical production; basic electrical maintenance, hang, focus, and programming of realized productions.
Prereq: THE 102.

THE 206 Theatrical Make-up
1 credit
Practical application techniques for basic contour and old age makeup for the theatre. Limited to 20 students. 2 hrs of lab a wk.
Prereq: Theatre Major or Minor.

THE 298 (s) Internship
Credit arranged.

THE 299 (s) Directed Study
Credit arranged.

THE 305 Intermediate Acting I
3 credits
Exploration of Stanislavsky System “An Actor Prepares”, using contemporary text with emphasis on connection and pursuing action and imagery work. One lecture and 3 hours of lab a week.
Prereq: THE 105 and THE 106. A minimum grade of 'C' is required for all co/prerequisites. Permission also required.
THE 306 Intermediate Acting II
3 credits
Continued exploration of Stanislavsky System “Building a Character”, using modern classic texts such as Anton Chekhov with emphasis on emotional and physical rigor and discipline. One lecture and 3 hours of lab a week.

Prereq: THE 105 and THE 106. A minimum grade of 'C' is required for all co-prerequisites. Permission also required.

THE 311 Pattern Development Studio
3 credits, max arranged
Patterning and draping techniques for stage costume and apparel construction. May be repeated for course credit. (Fall. Alt/yr/s)

Prereq: THE 104. A minimum grade of 'C' is required for all co/prerequisites.

THE 320 Theatre Management
3 credits
Basic and foundational stage management and standard management practices relating to theatre production and business, funding, and public relations.

THE 361 Technical Direction
3 credits
Technical direction and planning for single and multiple set theatre productions; includes shop and personnel management techniques, drafting, budgets, scheduling, and organization.

THE 371 Play Analysis
3 credits
Critical intro to plays as drama and theatre; an approach to tragic and comic genres; major dramatists of the 20th century culminating in an analysis of contemporary theatre styles.

THE 389 (s) Performance Area Participation
1 credit, 8 max
Open to majors and nonmajors by permission. Practical experience in acting, directing, playwriting, dramaturgy, other performance areas - rehearsal through performance.

Prereq: Permission.

THE 390 (s) Theatre Practice II
1 credit, max 8
Open to nonmajors. Advanced practical experience in all aspects of theatre production.

THE 395 Summer Theatre II
2-8 credits, max 8
Prereq: Permission of department.

THE 400 (s) Seminar
Credit arranged.

THE 403 (s) Workshop
Credit arranged.

THE 404 (s) Special Topics
Credit arranged.

THE 405 Individual Instruction in Performance
Credit arranged
Individualized coaching in performance. One hr of lab a wk per cr.

Prereq: Permission of department.

THE 406 Design Studio
credit arranged
Individual training in an area of theatre design; includes an advanced design assignment and the public presentation of a play.

Prereq: THE 201, THE 202, or THE 205; or Permission. A minimum grade of 'C' is required for all co/prerequisites.

THE 410 Costume Design II
3 credits, max 12
Joint-listed with THE 510
Emphasis on developing characterization, stylization, and fabric choice; explore advanced rendering techniques; continuation of portfolio development. Additional projects/assignments required for graduate credit. Three lec and 1 hr of lab a wk.

Prereq: THE 202 or Permission. A minimum grade of 'C' is required for all co/prerequisites.

THE 417 Movement Studio
3 credits, max 18
Joint-listed with THE 517
Emphasizes body awareness utilizing yoga and related techniques to increase strength and flexibility, heighten sensory awareness, generate dynamic energy, and mind/body connections. Students are encouraged to explore the creative boundaries of their body and discover the body’s effectiveness as a primary expressive tool in performance. Students earning graduate credit will be held to a higher standard.

Prereq: Acceptance into B.F.A./M.F.A. program or Permission.

THE 418 Voice Studio
3 credits, max 18
Joint-listed with THE 518
Focuses on techniques of vocal production designed to open, free and energize the voice/body and to promote full and supported breathing. Emphasis on breath control, meditation and visualization techniques, vocal warm-ups, and their application to performance. Students earning graduate credit will be held to a higher standard.

Prereq: Acceptance into B.F.A./M.F.A. program or Permission.

THE 421 Advanced Theatre Management
3 credits
Joint-listed with THE 521
Exploration of advanced theatre management and business management practices relating to theatre production, operations, development, funding, public relations and marketing. Additional projects will be required for graduate credit. Additional projects/assignments required for graduate credit.

Prereq: THE 320 or instructor permission.

THE 425 BFA Acting Studio
3 credits, max arranged
Joint-listed with THE 525
Rigorous study and practice in performance. Areas of specialization may include: Shakespeare, Devising, Commedia del'arte, Period Styles, Asian Theatre, Animals, Realism, Comedy. The course will be repeated each semester by BFA candidates.

Prereq: Acceptance into B.F.A. program.

Prereq: Acceptance into M.F.A. program.

THE 440 Playwriting
3 credits
Joint-listed with THE 540
Introduce the student to the fundamental elements of playwriting, including dramatic structure and action, developing theme and characterization, understanding stagecraft and writing dialogue.
THE 447 Screenwriting
3 credits
Joint-listed with THE 547, Cross-listed with ENGL 447 and JAMM 447
Introduction to Study of the fundamental elements of feature film
screenwriting; techniques of developing story lines and advancing
a narrative in a visual way using the industry standard of a tightly
structured long-form feature film. Additional projects/assignments
required for graduate credit.
Prereq: ENGL 231 or JAMM 231; Permission.

THE 460 Professional Theatre Conference Participation
1 credit, max 12
Joint-listed with THE 560
Professional Theatre Conference Participation. Additional work required
for graduate credit.

THE 463 Advanced Costume Technology Studio
3 credits, max arranged
Advanced theatrical costume construction techniques and strategies,
including: tailoring, costume crafts and period undergarment
construction. Materials selection and handling. May be repeated for
course credit. Recommended Preparation: The 311. (Fall, Alt/yr.)
Prereq: THE 104 or Permission. A minimum grade of 'C' is required for all
co/prerequisites.

THE 464 Scenographic Techniques
3 credits
Joint-listed with THE 564
Practical survey of graphics used in design and execution of scenery
for the stage, including drafting, perspective, front and rear elevations,
painters elevations, and properties design and drafting.
Prereq: THE 201 or Permission. A minimum grade of 'C' is required for all
co/prerequisites.

THE 465 Advanced Scene Design
3 credits
Joint-listed with THE 565
Development of a conceptual approach to design through assorted
design projects.
Prereq: THE 201 or Permission. A minimum grade of 'C' is required for all
co/prerequisites.

THE 466 Scene Painting
3 credits
Joint-listed with THE 566
Introduction to the art, practice and technique of large-scale decorative
painting for the stage. Development of brush and application techniques,
color mixing, and layout skills. Provides instruction in the imitation of
wood, marble, brick and stone, as well as sections on stenciling, faux
finishing and trompe l'oeil. (Fall only)
Prereq: THE 201 or Permission. A minimum grade of 'C' is required for all
co/prerequisites.

THE 468 Theatre History
3 credits
Gen Ed: Humanities, International
A comprehensive survey of the major theatrical trends, theorists, and
practitioners from the Golden Age of Greece to 1914.

THE 471 Directing
3 credits
Joint-listed with THE 571
Preparation of a play from casting to performance. Additional projects/assignments required for graduate credit. Three lec and one hr of lab a wk. Recommended Preparation: THE 305.

THE 472 Directing II
3 credits
Joint-listed with THE 572
Staging and interpretation of a play; developing a production concept;
coaching actors. Additional projects/assignments required for graduate
credit. Three lec and one hr of lab a wk. Recommended Preparation:
Upper-division acting course at 300/400 level.
Prereq: Permission.

THE 483 Senior Capstone Project
1 credit
Gen Ed: Senior Experience
A capstone class for graduating theatre majors that requires students
to synthesize their experiences in dramatic theory, literature, theatre
performance, and production. Seminar students prepare a service
learning project and a personal philosophy statement that summarizes
their experience and their current vision of the theatre. The class
also includes a component in resume preparation and professional
presentation.

THE 484 Advanced Lighting Design
3 cr, max 12
Joint-listed with THE 584
Advanced lighting design theories and practice through design of
assorted productions in realistic drama, dance, arena, thrust, and
mystical theatre. Heavy emphasis on design communication and
computer drafting. Additional projects/assignments required for graduate
credit.
Prereq: THE 205 or Permission. A minimum grade of 'C' is required for all
co/prerequisites.

THE 498 (s) Internship
Credit arranged.

THE 499 (s) Directed Study
Credit arranged.

THE 501 (s) Seminar
Credit arranged.

THE 502 (s) Directed Study
Credit arranged.

THE 503 (s) Workshop
Credit arranged.

THE 504 (s) Special Topics
Credit arranged.

THE 510 Costume Design II
3 credits, max 12
Joint-listed with THE 410
Emphasis on developing characterization, stylization, and fabric choice;
explore advanced rendering techniques; continuation of portfolio
development. Additional projects/assignments required for graduate
credit. Three lec and 1 hr of lab a wk.
Prereq: THE 202 or Permission. A minimum grade of 'C' is required for all
co/prerequisites.

THE 512 (s) MFA Directing Studio
3 cr, max 18
Advanced individual study in directing, including work in staging, styles,
and interpretation.

THE 513 (s) MFA Design Studio
2 credits, max 18
Advanced individual study in all areas of theatrical design with emphasis
on portfolio development. One lec and 2 hrs of lab a wk.
THE 514 (s) MFA Production Studio
2 credits, max 18
Advanced individual study in all areas of technical theatre production and management with emphasis on portfolio development. One lec and 2 hrs of lab a wk.

THE 515 MFA Jury/Portfolio Review
1 credit, max arranged
Preparation and evaluation of performance monologues and design portfolios.
Coreq: MFA studio courses.

THE 516 MFA Graduate Seminar
3 cr, max arranged
An in-depth, rigorous, exploration of theatrical research and collaboration pedagogy and methodologies within the larger context of the artistic, creative process. Course may be repeated.
Prereq: Acceptance into MFA program.

THE 517 Movement Studio
3 credits, max 18
Joint-listed with THE 417
Emphasizes body awareness utilizing yoga and related techniques to increase strength and flexibility, heighten sensory awareness, generate dynamic energy, and mind/body connections. Students are encouraged to explore the creative boundaries of their body and discover the body's effectiveness as a primary expressive tool in performance. Students earning graduate credit will be held to a higher standard.
Prereq: Acceptance into B.F.A./M.F.A. program or Permission.

THE 518 Voice Studio
3 credits, max 18
Joint-listed with THE 418
Focuses on techniques of vocal production designed to open, free and energize the voice/body and to promote full and supported breathing. Emphasis on breath control, meditation and visualization techniques, vocal warm-ups, and their application to performance. Students earning graduate credit will be held to a higher standard.
Prereq: Acceptance into B.F.A./M.F.A. program or Permission.

THE 521 Advanced Theatre Management
3 credits
Joint-listed with THE 421
Exploration of advanced theatre management and business management practices relating to theatre production, operations, development, funding, public relations and marketing. Additional projects will be required for graduate credit. Additional projects/assignments required for graduate credit.
Prereq: THE 320 or instructor permission.

THE 522 (s) Advanced Studies in Theatre
3 credits, max 18
This course is for advanced studies in theatre history, analysis, and criticism for creative writing, performance, directing, design, and technology graduate candidates. Topics are coordinated and rotated departmentally and are beyond the departmental history and play analysis core.

THE 525 MFA Acting Studio
3 credits, max arranged
Joint-listed with THE 425
Rigorous study and practice in performance. Areas of specialization may include: Shakespeare, Devising, Commedia dell'arte, Period Styles, Asian Theatre, Animals, Realism, Comedy. The course will be repeated each semester by BFA candidates.
Prereq for 425: Acceptance into BFA program.
Prereq for 525: Acceptance into MFA program.

THE 526 MFA Playwriting Workshop
3 credits, max 18
The primary goal of the MFA Playwriting Workshop is to help the writers develop their unique voice and vision; understand the role of the writer within a historical, cultural and political context; and expose them to a variety of styles and approaches to creating new work for both stage and screen. Toward that end, the Playwriting Workshop fosters a safe but challenging creative environment, in which writers are presented with assignments designed to help them identify that set of aesthetic concerns which will form the foundation of their Voice and Style as a writer. MFA candidates in Dramatic Writing enroll in this course each semester they are in the program.

THE 535 Production Design
3 credits, max 12
Design responsibility for a mainstage production.
Prereq: Permission of department.

THE 540 Playwriting
3 credits
Joint-listed with THE 440
Introduce the student to the fundamental elements of playwriting, including dramatic structure and action, developing theme and characterization, understanding stagecraft and writing dialogue.

THE 547 Screenwriting
3 credits
Joint-listed with THE 447
Introduction to Study of the fundamental elements of feature film screenwriting; techniques of developing story lines and advancing a narrative in a visual way using the industry standard of a tightly structured long-form feature film. Additional projects/assignments required for graduate credit.
Prereq: ENGL 231 or JAMM 231; Permission.

THE 560 Professional Theatre Conference Participation
1 credit, max 12
Joint-listed with THE 460
Professional Theatre Conference Participation. Additional work required for graduate credit.

THE 564 Scenographic Techniques
3 credits
Joint-listed with THE 464
Practical survey of graphics used in design and execution of scenery for the stage, including drafting, perspective, front and rear elevations, painters elevations, and properties design and drafting.
Prereq: THE 201 or Permission. A minimum grade of ‘C’ is required for all co/prerequisites.
THE 565 Advanced Scene Design
3 credits
Joint-listed with THE 465
Development of a conceptual approach to design through assorted design projects.
Prereq: THE 201 or Permission. A minimum grade of 'C' is required for all co/prerequisites.

THE 566 Scene Painting
3 credits
Joint-listed with THE 466
Introduction to the art, practice and technique of large-scale decorative painting for the stage. Development of brush and application techniques, color mixing, and layout skills. Provides instruction in the imitation of wood, marble, brick and stone, as well as sections on stenciling, faux finishing and trompe foiel. (Fall only)
Prereq: THE 201 or Permission. A minimum grade of 'C' is required for all co/prerequisites.

THE 571 Directing
3 credits
Joint-listed with THE 471
Preparation of a play from casting to performance. Additional projects/assignments required for graduate credit. Three lec and one hr of lab a wk. Recommended Preparation: THE 305.

THE 572 Directing II
3 credits
Joint-listed with THE 472
Staging and interpretation of a play; developing a production concept; coaching actors. Additional projects/assignments required for graduate credit. Three lec and one hr of lab a wk. Recommended Preparation: Upper-division acting course at 300/400 level.
Prereq: Permission.

THE 584 Advanced Lighting Design
3 cr, max 12
Joint-listed with THE 584
Advanced lighting design theories and practice through design of assorted productions in realistic drama, dance, arena, thrust, and mystical theatre. Heavy emphasis on design communication and computer drafting. Additional projects/assignments required for graduate credit.
Prereq: THE 205 or Permission. A minimum grade of 'C' is required for all co/prerequisites.

THE 595 Professional Off-Campus Studio
3 credits, max 18
This is a studio course designed for professional off-campus graduate students only. The course is composed of one on one mentoring for off-campus projects.
Prereq: Permission.

THE 596 MFA Exit Project
3 credits
Culminating creative project for MFA candidates.
Prereq: Permission of department.

THE 597 (s) Practicum
Credit arranged
This course is an experiential learning course supervised by theatre faculty to provide the student with a practical application of theatrical theory.

THE 598 (s) Internship
Credit arranged.

THE 599 (s) Non-thesis Master's Research
Credit arranged
Research not directly related to a thesis or dissertation.
Prereq: Permission.