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LSC Action-Date:

UWUCC Use Only Proposal No: 119a
UWUCC Action-Date: AP 4-10-12

Senate Action Date: App - 5/01/12

Curriculum Proposal Cover Sheet - University-Wide Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

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Proposing Department/Unit Theater and Dance	Phone 724-357-4026

Check all appropriate lines and complete all information. Use a separate cover sheet for each course proposal and/or program proposal.

1. Course Proposals (check all that apply)

New Course

Course Prefix Change

Course Deletion

☒ Course Revision

Course Number and/or Title Change

☒ Catalog Description Change

Current course prefix, number and full title: THTR 101 Introduction to Theater

Proposed course prefix, number and full title, if changing: N/A

2. Liberal Studies Course Designations, as appropriate

This course is also proposed as a Liberal Studies Course (please mark the appropriate categories below)

☐ Learning Skills ☒ Knowledge Area ☐ Global and Multicultural Awareness ☐ Writing Across the Curriculum (W Course)

☐ Liberal Studies Elective (please mark the designation(s) that applies – must meet at least one)

☐ Global Citizenship

☐ Information Literacy

☐ Oral Communication

☐ Quantitative Reasoning

☐ Scientific Literacy

☐ Technological Literacy

3. Other Designations, as appropriate

☐ Honors College Course

☐ Other: (e.g. Women's Studies, Pan African)

4. Program Proposals

☐ Catalog Description Change

☐ Program Revision

☐ Program Title Change

☐ New Track

☐ New Degree Program

☐ New Minor Program

☐ Liberal Studies Requirement Changes

☐ Other

Current program name: _____

Proposed program name, if changing: _____

5. Approvals

	Signature	Date
Department Curriculum Committee Chair(s)	<i>Rick Venz</i>	Nov. 1, 2011
Department Chairperson(s)	<i>Dr. [Signature]</i>	Nov. 1, 2011
College Curriculum Committee Chair	<i>Jack [Signature]</i>	2/1/12
College Dean	<i>[Signature]</i>	2/22/12
Director of Liberal Studies (as needed)	<i>[Signature]</i>	4/10/12
Director of Honors College (as needed)		
Provost (as needed)		
Additional signature (with title) as appropriate		
UWUCC Co-Chairs	<i>Gail [Signature]</i>	4/11/12

Received

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APR 11 2012

APR 10 2012

MAR 6 2012

Liberal Studies

Liberal Studies

Liberal Studies

THTR 101 Introduction to Theater

3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, 3 credits (3c-0l-3cr)

Prerequisites: None

An exploration of the Theater arts, examining its major conceptual and aesthetic underpinnings, major periods of Theater history, selected works of dramatic literature, and the primary theater arts of acting, directing, design, and technical theater. Class experience includes the analysis of at least two major works of drama, attending two live productions, and viewing of selected televised plays and musicals.

Ila. Course Outcomes and Assessment (Expected Undergraduate Student Learning Outcomes – EUSLO)

Objective 1: Describe key elements of the art of theater.

Expected Student Learning Outcomes 1 & 2: Informed and Empowered Learners.

Rationale: Assignments will require students to have a level of working knowledge of theatrical elements (i.e. acting, scenic design, directing, playwriting) that will enable them to understand and identify how theatrical conventions function, interdependently and cohesively in live theatrical performance.

Objective 2: Understand theater as a lens through which to view and participate in life.

Expected Student Learning Outcome 2: Empowered Learners.

Rationale: Assignments will require students to critically analyze and identify theatrical modalities and to use this analysis to explain how the theatrical event is created and experienced (temporally and collaboratively) between audience and performer. Once this relationship is understood, the theatrical form will then be related to a student's life experience as well as other cultural domains (i.e. sports, games, politics). At this point, theater, conceptually, becomes a helpful metaphorical lens by which a student can more fully explore, define and evaluate the world around them.

Objective 3: Understand the interrelationships between and across cultures expressed by the migration of theatrical activity.

Expected Student Learning Outcome 3: Responsible Learners

Rationale: By bringing students into contact with the theater of other cultures, assignments will require students to assess their own theatrical preferences / cultural conditioning and how it relates to cultural and ritual evolution, identity construction and social responsibilities as reflected in the theatrical conventions of various societies

around the world. The exercise of exploring theater comparatively compels greater sympathetic connections with other peoples, as well as provides essential cultural and ethical self-reflection.

Objective 4: Examine the historical and philosophical foundations that influenced Theater as an art form.

Expected Student Learning Outcome 1 and 2: Informed and Empowered Learners

Rationale: Assignments will require students to gain an understanding of how we have arrived at our current theories and genres of theater by analyzing the contributions of important individuals and influential theatrical periods throughout history.

III. Course Outline: This is a representative progression of major topics in the period. The specific examples used in each section may vary according to individual instructor.

Definitions and purposes of Theater (3 hours)

Why people attend the Theater; Theater as performance and as art; similarities and differences between Theater and other performances; Theater's relationship with other arts

Theater and the Audience (3 hours)

Social aspect of audiences; interactive audiences; audience approval and disapproval; audience and culture, and audiences of different cultures; audiences in relation to the business of Theater; changing patterns in business, Theater, and audiences

Reading Plays (3 hours)

Aristotle's parts of a play; relationship(s) between the parts; different kinds of plot and plot structures; genres and generic criticism

Seeing Plays (3 hours)

Comparing and contrasting reading and seeing a play; participatory and observational roles of the audience; differences between plot and story; dramatic and theatrical styles; theatrical conventions

Reading Specific Scripts (6 hours—not necessarily consecutive)

Reading two modern play scripts; viewing movie or taped performance of the plays; examining the evolution from page to stage; identifying how to read dialogue and stage directions; applying the dialogue and stage directions to a critical analysis of the performance

Theory and Criticism (3 hours)

Explanation of Theater theory and theories; criticism and reviews; the role of dramaturgs; analyzing and criticizing a performance; a critic's audience

Business of Show (3 hours)

Business of marketing, advertising, and public relations; attracting and building an audience; the roles of agents and casting directors; the professional play reader

Empty and Other Theatrical Spaces (3 hours)

Kinds of stages and spaces and their development throughout history; physical relationship between the audience and the actors in each kind of space; advantages and disadvantages of each kind of stage; Theater design and architecture throughout history and culture

Professional and Amateur Theater(s) (3 hours)

History of professional Theater and the history of the various kinds of professional Theater; Broadway; off-Broadway; "the road"; regional Theater; dinner Theater; Theater in education; community Theater; children's Theater

The Theater Artists and Theater-Makers (12 hours)

Playwrights (3 hours): "playwright" v. "playwriting"; drama and literature; playwriting careers; playwright training and development; how plays get written

Actors (3 hours): the nature of acting; actors and characters; internal and external elements of acting; acting training, development, and exercise; acting styles and systems across cultures; the professional actor (auditions, rehearsals, etc.)

Directors (3 hours): directors and their work with actors, playwrights, designers; creative and managerial tasks; play interpretation and the vision of a production; director training and development

Designers and Technicians (3 hours): creating the world of the play through sights, sounds, and images; costuming the actor and the character; the world of the technical director; integration of design and technical elements into the production; designer training and development

Preparation and Presentation of Final Project (2 hours)

IV. Evaluation Methods: This is a representative sampling of major assignments for the course. The specific assignments given may vary according to individual instructor

Quizzes on the assigned material throughout the semester (30%)

Reviews of two (2) Theater-By-The-Grove Productions (20%)

Writing through on-line discussion, blogging, and/or short papers in response to the themes discussed throughout the semester (15%)

Participation and class attendance (5%)

Final Project: Performing a scene, writing additional reviews, preparing a set or costume design, or other project to be determined by the instructor (30%)

V. Grading Scale

A 100-90; B 89-80; C 79-70; D 69-60; F 59-0

VI. Attendance Policy

Will follow IUP's attendance policy as outlined in the undergraduate catalog.

VII. Required textbooks, supplemental books and readings

Required: two (2) play scripts, preferably from the late 20th century to current one.

Supplemental books and readings to be assigned at the discretion of the instructor may include:

Arnold, Stephanie. 2003. *The Creative Spirit: An Introduction to Theater*
Brockett, Oscar G., and Robert J. Ball. 2009. *The Essential Theater*
Brown, John Russell. 1997. *What Is Theater? An Introduction and Exploration*
Cohen, Robert. 2007. *Theater: Brief Version*
Felner and Orenstein. 2005. *The World of Theater: Tradition and Innovation*
Hischak, Thomas. 2005. *Theater as Human Action: An Introduction to Theater Arts*
Markus, Tom, and Linda Sarver. 2004. *Another Opening, Another Show: A Lively Introduction to the Theater*
Patterson, Jim, et al. 2010. *The Enjoyment of Theater*
Wainscott, Ronald, and Kathy Fletcher. 2009. *Theater: Collaborative Acts*
Wilson, Edwin, and Alvin Goldfarb. 2009. *Theater: The Lively Art*

VIII. Bibliography

Arnold, Stephanie. 2010. *The Creative Spirit: An Introduction to Theater*, 5th ed. New York: McGraw-Hill.

Balme, Christopher. 2008. *The Cambridge Introduction to Theater Studies*. Cambridge: University Press.

Cohen, Robert. 2010. *Theater*, 9th ed. New York: McGraw-Hill.

Downs, William Missouri, Lou Anne Wright, and Erik Ramsey. 2013. *The Art of Theater: A Concise Introduction*, 3rd ed. Boston: Wadsworth Publishing.

Felner, Mira and Claudia Orenstein. 2006. *The World of Theater: Tradition and Innovation*. Boston: Pearson.

Hischak, Thomas S. 2005. *Theater as Human Action: An Introduction to Theater Arts*. Blue Ridge Summit, PA: Scarecrow Press.

Lee, Robert L. 1996. *Everything About Theater! The Guidebook of Theater Fundamentals*. Colorado Springs, CO: Meriwether Publishing.

Markus, Tom, and Linda Sarver. 2004. *Another Opening, Another Show: A Lively Introduction to the Theater*, 2nd ed. New York, McGraw-Hill.

Wilson, Edwin, and Alvin Goldfarb. 2012. *Theater: The Lively Art*, 8th ed. New York: McGraw-Hill.

Zimmerman, Suzi. 2003. *Introduction to Theater Arts: A 36-Week Action Handbook*. Colorado Springs, CO: Meriwether Publishing.

American Classic Plays could include:

Hansberry, Lorraine. *A Raisin in the Sun*

Miller, Arthur. *Death of a Salesman*

Simon, Neil. *The Odd Couple*

Williams, Tennessee. *The Glass Menagerie*

Course Analysis Questionnaire

A. Details of the Course

A1. This course is offered for non-majors as an option to fulfill their Year One Liberal Studies requirement in Fine Arts.

A2. This course has not been offered on a trial basis, but represents a re-organization of material currently taught in THTR 101.

A3. This course is not intended to be dual level.

A4. This course is not to be taken for variable credit.

A5. Similar courses are offered at the following institutions, among others:

Louisiana State University: Introduction to Theater

East Tennessee State University: Introduction to Theater

Drury University: Introduction to Theater

A6. No professional society, accrediting authority, law or other external agency recommends or requires the content or skills of this proposed course.

B. Interdisciplinary Implications

B1. This course will be taught by one instructor.

B2. The content of this course does not overlap with any other at the University.

B3. This course is not cross-listed.

C. Implementation

C1. No new faculty member is required to teach this course. The course offering is being created as part of a strategic review of the Department's Curriculum. This review has taken account of current Department complement and been structured accordingly. This course will be counted as one preparation and three hours of equated workload.

C2. Other resources:

a. Current space allocations are adequate to offer this course.

b. No special equipment is needed for this course.

- c. No laboratory supplies are necessary for this course.
- d. Library holdings are adequate.
- e. No travel is anticipated.

C3. No grant funds were necessary to provide the resources for this course.

C4. This course will be offered every semester.

C5. Four sections will be offered at a time.

C6. Up to 125 students can be accommodated in this class in which students do a considerable amount of writing.

C7. No professional society recommends enrollment limits or parameters for this course.

C8. This course does not involve the use of distance education.

D. Miscellaneous

No additional information is necessary.