

Theatre

**Bachelor of Arts
Undergraduate Minor**

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Departmental Goals and Objectives

The mission of the UIS Theatre program is to offer UIS students the opportunity to further develop their talents as theatre artists, by working with great dramatic literature in the classroom and on the stage. The program fosters the idea that theatre is a vital artistic event, which brings people together to respond to one another's experiences/stories and to the world in which we live. The program exposes students to the work of the world's great theatre artists. As students develop an effective and reliable process of working in the theatre, they gain an appreciation of how theatre works and how its history is made. In addition, students participating in theatre also develop a strong sense of teamwork, as the process of creating theatre is largely collaborative. The program provides the aspiring theatre student with a professional setting in which to work as an actor, a director, a playwright, a stage manager, a dramaturg, a designer, a make-up artist, or as a lighting, sound, or props technician. In addition, the program believes that the study of theatre becomes more enjoyable when students apply in the lab (the theatre) what they learn in the classroom. Students who graduate from UIS with work accomplished in our theatre program not only become more sophisticated theatre patrons, but for some, may also begin a career in the theatre.

The Bachelor's Degree

Required Courses

| | | |
|---------|---|-----|
| THE 108 | Principles of Stagecraft ¹ | 4 |
| THE 109 | Production Support I ² | 0 |
| THE 201 | Script Analysis | 3 |
| THE 208 | Principles of Costume Construction and Stage Makeup | 3 |
| THE 209 | Production Support II ² | 0 |
| THE 273 | Principles of Acting ¹ | 4 |
| THE 308 | Principles of Theatre Design | 3 |
| THE 381 | Theatre History I | 3 |
| THE 475 | Theatre Practicum | 1,2 |
| THE 489 | Senior Capstone | 2 |

Electives 12

Up to four additional THE 475 hours may be counted towards Theatre Major electives for an overall total possible 6 hours.

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| THE 274 | Introduction to Theatre ¹ |
| THE 310 | Topics in Theatre Production |
| THE 320 | Topics in Dramatic Literature |
| THE/COM 323 | Voice and Movement |
| THE 325/ ENG 332/ WGS 332 | Women Playwrights |

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| THE 327 | Playwriting |
| THE/COM 373 | Intermediate Acting |
| THE/COM 476 | Directing for the Theatre |
| THE 477/ ENG 342 | Playing Shakespeare |
| THE 370 | Topics in Performance |
| THE 375 | Stage Combat |
| Total Hours | 35-36 |

- ¹ These courses fulfill Visual, Creative, and Performing Arts or Humanities requirements in the UIS General Education Curriculum.
- ² All majors must complete THE 109/THE 209 in or after the semester in which they are enrolled in THE 108/THE 208, respectively.

Transfer Courses for the B.A. in Theatre

Students may submit a Student Petition form to have theatre courses that were completed at a comparable institution count towards the B.A. in Theatre at UIS. UIS Theatre will make the determination if the courses are equivalent to UIS course work. Please contact a theatre faculty member for details.

Theatre practicum credits from other institutions will not transfer to the major.

Grading Policy for the B.A. in Theatre

Students must earn a grade of C or better in all THE courses that apply towards the B.A. degree in Theatre (grades of C- or lower will not be accepted). Courses taken on a CR/NC basis will not count toward the degree. The course grading policy is determined by each instructor as appropriate to the individual course and is announced at the beginning of the term. THE courses may be repeated for grade improvement only once.

Course Repetition for the B.A. in Theatre

Each Topics course (310, 320, etc...) may be taken for credit for the major no more than four times, provided the topic is different each time. THE 499 (Tutorial/Independent Study) may be taken for up to six hours. THE 475 (Production Practicum) may be repeated for up to a total of six hours.

Theatre Minor

Advising

Upon declaring a minor in Theatre, the student will be assigned a Theatre faculty advisor. Theatre minors are encouraged to consult with their advisor as they plan their course of study.

Transfer Courses

Students may petition to have theatre courses that were completed at a comparable institution count towards a UIS minor in Theatre. No more than two courses may transfer towards the UIS minor in Theatre. UIS Theatre will make the determination if the courses are equivalent to UIS course work. Please contact a Theatre faculty member for

details. Theatre/Production practicum credits from other institutions will not transfer to the minor.

Grading Policy

Students must earn a grade of C or better in all THE courses that apply toward the minor in Theatre (grades of C- or lower will not be accepted). Courses taken on a CR/NC basis will not count toward the minor in Theatre. The course grading policy is determined by each instructor as appropriate to the individual course and is announced at the beginning of the term. THE courses may be repeated for grade improvement only once.

Minor Requirements

The Theatre minor is available to all UIS majors. Required course work includes an introductory course, a performance course, a technical theatre course, and a theatre practicum course. Elective courses include a continuation of the acting course, a design course, and various other survey and studio courses for a total of 18-19 credit hours.

Required Courses

| | | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|-----|
| THE 108 | Principles of Stagecraft ¹ | 4 |
| THE 273 | Principles of Acting ¹ | 4 |
| THE 274 | Introduction to Theatre ¹ | 3 |
| THE 475 | Theatre Practicum | 1-2 |

Total 12-13

Elective Courses

Select from the following courses. Please note, additional eligible courses may be added.

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| THE 308 | Principles of Theatre Design (3 hours) | |
| THE 310 | Topics in Theatre Production (3-4 hours) | |
| THE 320 | Topics in Dramatic Literature (3 hours) | |
| THE/COM 323 | Voice and Movement (4 hours) | |
| THE 325/ ENG 332/ WGS 332 | Women Playwrights (3 hours) | |
| THE 327 | Playwriting | |
| THE/COM 373 | Intermediate Acting (4 hours) | |
| THE 381 | Theatre History I (3 hours) ¹ | |
| THE 475 | Theatre Practicum (2-3 hours) ² | |
| THE 476 | Directing for the Theatre (4 hours) | |
| THE 477/ ENG 342 | Playing Shakespeare (4 hours) | |

Total Hours 30-32

¹ These courses fulfill either Visual, Creative, and Performing Arts or Humanities requirements in the UIS General Education Curriculum.

² No more than four credit hours of THE 475 Theatre Practicum may be counted towards the minor.

Courses

THE 108. Principles of Stagecraft. 4 Hours.

This fundamental course in theatre comprises theoretical and practical approaches to the various areas of theatre production. The course introduces students to a variety of tools and methods and challenges them to solve various problems through creative and collaborative means while experiencing the real-time production of a UIS Theatre production. Course Information: This course fulfills a general education requirement at UIS in the area of Visual, Creative, and Performing Arts.

THE 109. Production Support I. 0 Hours.

Students will serve in an assigned crew, publicity, or administrative position for mainstage production of UIS Theatre. This course should be taken concurrently with, or within two semesters of completing, THE 108. All students are eligible to enroll in this course. Course information: This course is a graduation requirement of all Theatre majors.

THE 201. Script Analysis. 3 Hours.

Through the study of various plays and genres, students will learn to analyze plays focusing on concepts and terminology associated with dramatic literature. Scripts will be examined via class discussions and written assignments, and students will analyze plays in a manner that is vital for all performing artists, directors, designers and dramaturges.

THE 208. Principles of Costume Construction and Stage Makeup. 3 Hours.

Students will explore technical methods of cutting, draping, and assembling costumes and other accessories of the stage, as well as creating and implementing makeup designs appropriate to various genres of theatre. Course information: This course is required of all Theatre majors, but is not limited to Theatre students.

THE 209. Production Support II. 0 Hours.

Students will serve in an assigned crew, publicity, or administrative position for mainstage production of UIS Theatre. This course should be taken concurrently with, or within two semesters of completing, THE 208. All students are eligible to enroll in this course. Course information: This course is a graduation requirement of all Theatre majors.

THE 273. Principles of Acting. 4 Hours.

Principles of acting is an exploratory and performance-oriented class where students learn the fundamentals of acting, how to create exciting characters, and how to prepare for stage-performance. Various physical and vocal exercises in relaxation, concentration, and creativity as well as work in scenes, monologues, and the process of acting are covered. Course Information: This course fulfills a general education requirement at UIS in the area of Visual, Creative, and Performing Arts.

THE 274. Introduction to Theatre. 3 Hours.

This introduction to theatre course is a survey and analysis of dramatic forms, significant genres, historical periods, plays, playwrights, and other artists of the theatre. Students read plays, attend productions of plays, discuss the work of many major theatre artists as well as support their own views of what they have read and seen. Course Information: This course fulfills a general education requirement at UIS in the areas of Humanities and Visual, Creative, and Performing Arts (IAI Code: F1 907).

THE 308. Principles of Theatre Design. 3 Hours.

An introduction to the various design elements and processes involved in scenic, lighting and costume design for the stage. Course work will include, but is not limited to, class lecture/discussion, as well as creative design projects.

THE 310. Topics in Theatre Production. 3,4 Hours.

Project-based classroom, studio, or travel courses exploring the techniques and practices used in the production of professional theatre, film, and other live performance events. Topic is selected by the instructor and varies in each semester offered. May be repeated for credit, with different topics, up to 4 times.

THE 320. Topics in Dramatic Literature. 3 Hours.

A survey and investigation of the dramatic texts of a particular playwright, period, genre, social grouping, or ethnic tradition. Topic is selected by the instructor and varies from semester to semester. May be repeated for credit with different topics, up to 6 times.

THE 323. Voice and Movement. 4 Hours.

Explores the voice and body as instruments of expression in performance and daily communication. The course will focus on vocal and physical exercises for a more accessible performing instrument. Course activities will include various physical and vocal explorations, exercises, improvisations, and non-verbal performance projects. Course Information: Same as COM 323.

THE 325. Women Playwrights. 3 Hours.

Examination / analysis of plays by and about women, focusing primarily on US women playwrights. The course covers the intellectual, emotional, cultural, social, and political qualities of these plays and how they shed light on social issues involving women in the US - such as race, gender, sexual orientation, and social inequalities. Course Information: Same as ENG 332 and WGS 332.

THE 327. Playwriting. 3 Hours.

This course focuses on the study and practice of writing plays, exploring dramatic construction, character dialogue, and plot. Course work includes various creative playwriting exercises, as well as reading articles and plays, along with discussions and analyses of writing assignments, culminating in a final playwriting project.

THE 370. Topics in Performance. 3,4 Hours.

A survey and investigation of a particular specialization area of performance not readily available in existing course offerings. Topics may include: auditioning, dialects, acting for the camera, and other unique performances areas. Topic is selected by the instructor and varies in each semester offered. Course information: May be repeated for credit, with different topics, up to 4 times.

THE 373. Intermediate Acting. 4 Hours.

A more in-depth continuation of the concepts studied in "Principles of Acting," focusing on an approach to acting that is universally applicable to various genres and styles. Contemporary material, as well as other periods and styles, will be explored. Course Information: Same as COM 373. Prerequisite: THE 273 or equivalent.

THE 375. Stage Combat. 4 Hours.

Introduces students to the principles of stage combat, with safety being the priority and convincing conflicts being the goal. Students begin the semester studying unarmed stage combat in a variety of scene work and exercises. Depending on the proficiency of the class, by the end of the semester, students may be introduced to working with appropriate stage weapons such as the broadsword, rapier, and dagger.

THE 381. Theatre History I. 3 Hours.

Surveys the evolution of theatre as an art form from ancient Greece (5th century B.C.) and related ancient civilizations/times through 19th century Europe. Course Information: This course fulfills a general education requirement at UIS in the area of Humanities.

THE 475. Theatre Practicum. 1,2 Hour.

Student serve as either actors or technical support for the current UIS theatre production. Students are responsible for attending all scheduled rehearsals, call-times, and/or meetings per the rehearsal schedule, including but not limited to tech and dress rehearsals, performances and "strike." Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 4 hours.

THE 476. Directing for the Theatre. 4 Hours.

Examination of fundamentals of directing for the theatre and other directing concepts including script analysis, creation of promptbooks, blocking, working with various theatre artists and adapting to spaces. In-class and out-of-class work, including scheduled rehearsals. Course Information: Same as COM 476.

THE 477. Playing Shakespeare. 4 Hours.

A combination of survey and rehearsal of Shakespeare's works, along with practical applications for performance. Course work will include analysis of select Shakespeare plays, as well as rehearsals and performances of scenes and/or monologues from those plays. Course Information: Same as ENG 342.

THE 489. Senior Capstone. 2 Hours.

This course is an opportunity for students to evaluate and integrate their previous coursework, training, and experience in theatre. Students will be exposed to information skills and strategies necessary for survival in the professional world, including resume writing, project proposals, auditioning, and/or design submissions. Course Information: Prerequisite: Senior Status.

THE 499. Tutorial. 1-4 Hours.

Intended to supplement, not supplant, regular course offerings. Students interested in a tutorial must secure the consent of the faculty member concerned before registration and submit any required documentation to him or her. Independent study. Specialized instruction; students may arrange for special courses on otherwise unavailable topics, subject to availability. Course Information: May be repeated to maximum of 8 hours if topics vary.