Theatre Arts

The major and minor in theatre arts are administered by the Department of Theatre Arts: Frau (chair); Professors James; Associate Professor Rundle; Guest Artists Donovan, Walker, Yukich; Guest Designer Tyler; Visiting Lecturers Daniels, Holder, Tuleja; Professional Staff Bergeron, Dubin, Hill.

Overview

The Department of Theatre Arts is both an educational department and a producing organization within the College. The diverse skill set students of Theatre Arts acquire – creative thinking, collaboration, discipline and leadership – are attributes that enhance any career choice, but students also gain the education and practical skills necessary to enter the professional theatre world.

Our faculty and staff are working professionals who model artistic rigor, the synthesis of theory and practice and collaboration. The department is open to all students – those that are interested in a broad study of theatre and performance as well as those that choose to focus on a specific area of study—acting and directing, design, history and theory or playwriting.

Students are encouraged to attend classes and auditions for productions at all institutions within the Five College Consortium.

Contact Info

Barbara Bunyan, theatre manager, senior administrative assistant
Ombretta Frau, chair

Requirements for the Major

A major must acquire a foundation in the three areas of design, performance (acting and directing), and theatre history and dramatic theory, but thereafter she is free to tailor her program to fit her particular interests. With her faculty advisor, she is expected to assume responsibility for the shape and emphasis of her theatre training, through elective courses and practical experiences, as part of an overall liberal arts education. All majors must complete a production card (see advisor).

Credits

- Nine courses (36 credits)
- At least 12 credits at the 300 level

Courses

- One course 100, Introduction to Theatre
- One course in design:
  - 120, Topics in Design
  - 122, Scene Design I
  - 124, Costume Design I
  - 126, Lighting Design I
  - 220, Topics in Design
  - 222, Scene Design
  - 224, Costume Design
  - 320, Topics in Design
- One course in performance
  - 105, Acting I
  - 205, Acting II: Characterizations
  - 215, Topics in Performance
  - 315, Topics in Performance
- Two courses in theatre history:
  - Theatre Arts 251, Histories of Performance I
  - Theatre Arts 252, Histories of Performance II
- One course in dramatic literature (offered through any department) or one theatre seminar (350)
- 12 credits of electives, of which 8 must be taken within the department (limited to 8 practicum credits)

Other

- Lab: Some 100-level theatre arts courses have a lab component. Theatre labs, much like those in the sciences, consist of outside work that complements a course. Labs (also known as crew) require participation in one of the two mainstage productions of the semester. A student may choose to work on a preparation crew (two hours per week for approximately ten weeks dependent upon production needs. Students will receive professional training in the area in which they choose to participate. A lab is a graded portion of the course.

Requirements for the Minor

Credits

- A minimum of 16 credits above the 100 level

Courses

- At least one course at the 300 level

Independent Work

Senior Honors Thesis Requirements and Procedures

Students wishing to write a senior honors thesis in the department must demonstrate excellence in critical writing and the desire to explore a topic in depth through extensive research. In certain cases, traditional research methods may be supplemented by creative work, as long as that work is understood to be an organic part of the written thesis, and vice versa.

The student should discuss her interest with a faculty member in the department and work closely with him or her throughout the entire process. Two additional readers should be included on the student’s committee.

By February 1 of her junior year, the student should submit a proposal to the chair of the department that includes the following:

- A brief explanation of why she wants to pursue an honors thesis.
- A three to five-page description of the thesis. This should include an introduction to the subject, a breakdown of chapters and their contents, a tentative schedule for completion of the work, and a preliminary bibliography. If additional research outside the College is required, this must also be detailed.
- Two samples of critical writing, preferably papers from previous classes, with professors’ comments included.

Note: If creative work is involved as a form of research, the proposal must include a clear explanation of the relationship between artistic practice and critical writing, the resources needed to complete the artistic work, and a schedule for doing so.

The department will meet to discuss the proposals early in the spring semester. If any revisions to the proposal are suggested, the student should submit them to the chair as soon as possible.

Final decisions will be announced on or about March 1, and are based on the student’s demonstrated abilities, the feasibility of the particular topic, and the availability of faculty resources.
Senior Project Requirements and Procedures

Students wishing to do a senior project must demonstrate advanced skills in the field of the proposed project (i.e., directing, playwriting, performance, etc.) and the ability to facilitate and complete the project. If the project requires the participation of additional students, the student making the proposal must demonstrate strong leadership skills.

The department will meet to discuss proposals in early April. Final decisions will be based on the availability of faculty, staff, and department resources.

The student should discuss her interest with a faculty member in the department. She and the faculty member should discuss the project feasibility and the factors involved to complete the project. The student should also ask the faculty member to review her proposal before turning it in to the chair.

Immediately following spring break, the student should submit a proposal to the department chair that includes the following:

- a brief explanation of why she wants to do a senior project
- a three to five-page description of the project. This should include a description of the creative project, with a step-by-step breakdown of the process involved to complete it, and a list of additional people (i.e., designers, actors, stage managers, etc.) needed or involved in the project.
- a timeline
- a list of possible venues
- a script, screenplay, or writing sample, depending on the type of project proposed
- supplemental materials that may better help us understand your project

The department will meet to discuss proposals in early April. Final decisions will be based on the student’s demonstrated abilities, the feasibility of the project, and the availability of faculty, staff, and department resources.

Independent Study

Independent studies are available to qualified students wishing to explore course work that is not offered at the Five Colleges. To submit an independent study proposal for department approval, the student, in collaboration with the instructor, must provide the following:

- A written outline clearly articulating the reasons for the independent study.
- A suggested schedule of study, including the number and nature of written assignments, possible reading list, and the expectations of the student and her instructor.
- A brief narrative stating the student’s qualifications for independent, intensive work.

Timeline: A complete proposal should be submitted by the end of the semester before the time of proposed study.

Teacher Licensure

Students interested in pursuing licensure in the field of theatre can combine their course work in theatre arts with a minor in education. In some instances, course work in the major coincides with course work required for licensure; in other cases, it does not. For specific course requirements for licensure within the major of theatre arts, please consult your advisor or the chair of the theatre arts department. For information about the requirements for the minor in education, please consult “Teacher Licensure” in the Other Degree and Certificate Programs chapter and Ms. Lawrence in the psychology and education department.

Licensure also requires a formal application as well as passing scores on the Massachusetts Test of Educator Licensure (MTEL) in both the literacy component and the subject matter component. Licensure application information and materials and Copies of the test objectives for the MTEL are available in the Department of Psychology and Education.

Course Offerings

THEAT-100 Introduction to Theatre
Fall
Taught by Department of Theatre Arts faculty and staff, this course offers the student a study and practice of theatre as a collaborative art. Course includes the analysis of the dramatic text in terms of the actor; the director; the scenic, costume, lighting, and sound designers; and technicians. Close analytical readings of play texts and critical/theoretical essays will be supplemented by attending theatre productions both on and off campus and by staging students’ own theatrical projects.

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
S. Daniels
Notes: requirement for the Theatre major
Credits: 4

THEAT-105 Acting I
Spring
An introduction to performance through a variety of improvisational exercises designed for developing basic techniques. After exploring visual, aural, tactical, and literary performance sources, the students will rehearse and present two performance projects.

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
S. Daniels
Prereq: Theatre 100.
Credits: 4

THEAT-120 Topics in Design

THEAT-120CC Topics in Design: ‘Costume Construction’
Not Scheduled for This Year
This course takes students through the theatrical process of creating clothing and accessories for the stage. Topics covered are hand sewing techniques, fabric identification and use, and clothing alterations. The course will explore basic pattern drafting and draping, and some accessory construction. Students will work from costume renderings to build and alter clothing for Rooke Theatre productions.

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
E. Bergeron
Notes: lab; materials fee $45
Credits: 4

THEAT-122 Scene Design I
Not Scheduled for This Year
An introduction to the art and work of the set designer in the performing arts. Students will learn how a designer approaches a script, how this work impacts a production, and what means are used in the execution of the process. They will learn how to develop their own visual imaginations and how to create visual concepts through discussions, renderings, models and some hand drafting. No previous experience in theatre, performance, or the visual arts is required.

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
V. James
Notes: lab; $30 materials fee. Additional purchase of design supplies and materials is the responsibility of the student.
Credits: 4

THEAT-124 Costume Design I
Not Scheduled for This Year
An introduction to the art and work of the costume designer in the performing arts. Students will learn how a designer approaches a script, how the designer’s
work impacts a production, and what methods are used in the execution of the design process. Students will learn how to develop their own visual imaginations and how to create visual concepts through discussions and renderings.

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Advisory: No previous experience in theatre, performance, or the visual arts is required.

**THEAT-126 Lighting Design I**

Fall

An introduction to the art and practice of lighting design for the theatre. This course will cover the basics of light, lighting equipment and how to develop a design for a theatrical production. Students will have the opportunity to use the Black Box Light Lab to create their own lighting designs from selected scenes of plays and musicals and learn the basics of programming a computerized lighting board. Students enrolled in this class will automatically be signed up for the Theatre Arts Department Light Prep Crew for the semester, where students learn to hang and focus lights on the Rooke Stage for the department’s mainstage productions.

**THEAT-180 Introduction to Technical Theatre**

Spring

This course will examine the materials and techniques used in building and operating theatrical scenery. It will include prop building, rigging, and welding for the theatre. Students will learn the skills to work in the scene shop interpreting scenic designs for department productions.

**THEAT-205 Acting II: Characterization**

Not Scheduled for This Year

A highly interactive course, focusing on scene work, using the Stanislavsky approach to acting. Classes include preparation exercises leading to the relaxation, concentration, and imagination of the actor. Practical tools explored in the course are designed to offer the student greater vocal, physical, and imaginative freedom and clarity as well as text analysis skills. Course includes characterization work and introduces the unique nature of the monologue.

**THEAT-215 Topics in Performance**

This course offers a specific approach to performing. Topics include mask characterization, physical theatre techniques, acting Shakespeare, and vocal training, among others.

Instructor permission required.

**THEAT-215SP Topics in Performance: 'Solo Performance'**

Fall

Designed for students wanting to stand in their own spotlight, this course examines the art and craft of solo performance, focusing on monologues, soliloquies and TED Talk-type speeches. Coursework includes the observation and analysis of exceptional solo performances on stage, in film and various media. Students will learn and practice skills used by professional actors to relax, focus and engage their audience. Final projects will include the presentation of two contrasting audition monologues or a TED Talk-style presentation open to the public.

**THEAT-215VM Topics in Performance: 'Voice and Movement'**

Spring

This course introduces students to a range of vocal and physical techniques for creative expression in performance. Through a series of classroom exercises and performances, students develop a process for reducing habitual tensions, enabling them to find maximum effect with minimum effort, connect their movement and voice to imagery and text and increase the strength, flexibility and dynamic qualities of their voices and bodies. Techniques are drawn from a wide variety of voice and movement pedagogies including Linklater, Suzuki, Feldenkrais, Oida and Pisk.

**THEAT-220 Topics in Design**

Various topics in theatrical design, or in related design fields, including theory, practice, and history. Subjects may include opera performance and design, costume crafts, and materials and techniques, among others.

**THEAT-220BC Topics in Design: 'Costume Crafts: Costumes Beyond Clothing'**

Spring

Designed to explore the art of costume crafts vs. costume clothing, this course teaches students how to create dimensional objects through the use of flat patterning. Students explore how craft work utilizes ways in which sculpture, painting, color theory, sewing, pattern drafting, costume research and theory all come together. Millinery, armor, masks, fabric painting and dyeing, as well as body sculpting will be covered.

**THEAT-220DF Topics in Design: 'Design for Film'**

Not Scheduled for This Year

The class will study the development of Art Direction and Costume Design for Film and Television from their beginnings in the Twentieth Century to the present. Students will engage in an investigation of the field through written work, visual presentations and practical projects.

**THEAT-220DN Topics in Design: 'The Domestic Interior'**

Fall

A visual history of domestic life, cultural and social intercourse related to dramatic literature and film. Students will learn how to identify the place and the period of domestic interiors through style, form, and pattern. They will study the...
impact of social, economic and family organizations on living spaces and their
use. Topics discussed will include classical revivals, the China trade, the
industrial revolution, European country houses, American colonial farms, and
living with modern technology. Students will be required to prepare papers with
visual presentations. The course will include site visits to houses and museums.
Apply to requirement(s): Humanities
V. James
Credits: 4

THEAT-220DR Topics in Design: ‘Drawing for Theatrical Set and Costume
Design’
Not Scheduled for This Year
This course is an investigation into the fundamentals of drawing for costume and
set design, with illustration of visual ideas as the focus. Topics will include figure
drawing, garment, fabric, and texture rendering for the purposes of costume
design, and scale and perspective drawing of objects and environments for set
design. Various media will be explored including pencil, paint, and mixed media
collage.
Crosslisted as: Art Studio 226SC
Apply to requirement(s): Humanities
J. Ford
Instructor permission required.
Prereq: Theatre Arts 122 or Art Studio 120 or Art Studio 116.
Notes: Lab fee of $50 for materials retained by student.
Credits: 4

THEAT-222 Scene Design
Spring
The art and work of the set designer in the performing arts. Students will learn
how a designer approaches a script, how this work impacts a production, and
what means are used in the execution of the process. They will learn how to
develop their own visual imaginations and how to create visual concepts through
discussions, renderings, models and some hand drafting. No previous
experience in theatre, performance, or the visual arts is required.
Apply to requirement(s): Humanities
V. James
Notes: lab; $30 materials fee. Any additional purchase of design supplies and
materials is the responsibility of the student
Credits: 4

THEAT-224 Costume Design
Not Scheduled for This Year
An introduction to the art and work of the costume designer in the performing arts.
Students will learn how a costume designer analyzes a script, approaches
research, renders costume sketches, and how this work impacts a production.
Apply to requirement(s): Humanities
J. Ford
Prereq: Theatre Arts 100, 120, or one course in Art Studio.
Notes: lab; purchase of design supplies and materials is the responsibility of the
student—a supply list will be provided.
Credits: 4

THEAT-234 Topics in Theatre Studies
THEAT-234CW Topics in Theatre Studies: ‘Androgyny and Gender
Negotiation in Contemporary Chinese Women’s Theater’
Not Scheduled for This Year
Yue Opera, an all-female art that flourished in Shanghai in 1923, resulted from
China’s social changes and the women’s movement. Combining traditional with
modern forms and Chinese with Western cultures, Yue Opera today attracts
loyal and enthusiastic audiences despite pop arts crazes. We will focus on how
audiences, particularly women, are fascinated by gender renegotiations as well as
by the all-female cast. The class will read and watch classics of this theater,
including Dream of the Red Chamber, Story of the Western Chamber, Peony
Pavilion, and Butterfly Lovers. Students will also learn the basics of traditional
Chinese opera.
Crosslisted as: Asian Studies 215, Gender Studies 204CW
Apply to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives
Y. Wang
Notes: Taught in English
Credits: 4

THEAT-234LT Topics in Theatre Studies: ‘Latina Theatre and Performance’
Not Scheduled for This Year
This course offers transnational approaches to the theory and political practice of
performance in the Americas with a focus on work by Latinas in the United
States and women in Latin America. We will interrogate the ways in which race,
sexuality, class, gender, indigenous and diasporic identities inform the
methodological and aesthetic mandates of an array of artists from across
disciplines. Employing multiple modes of performance from theater, dance,
performance art, ritual, visual art, and folkloric music, we will explore how these
practices have functioned and continue to allow for politically subversive or
resistant transformation.
Crosslisted as: Latina/o Studies 240
Apply to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives
M. Díaz-Sánchez
Credits: 4

THEAT-243 Drafting for Theatre
Not Scheduled for This Year
This course is an introduction to the essentials of drafting scenic and lighting
plans for theatrical productions. Students will be taught the drafting conventions
that are specific to the theatre industry. Projects will include the drafting of
ground plans, centerline sections, front elevations, and light plots. Students are
expected to already have a basic knowledge of theatre vocabulary and an
understanding of the design process and technical needs of creating and building
a set or lighting design for a theatre production. Drafting projects will
incorporate both pencil drawing and CAD software techniques.
Apply to requirement(s): Meets No Distribution Requirement
L. Dubin
Prereq: Theatre Arts 122, 126, or 180.
Notes: design supplies fee of $25.00
Credits: 4

THEAT-251 Histories of Performance I
Fall
A survey of world performance history, including: the evolution of human
language and consciousness; the rise of oral, ritual, and shamanic performance;
religious and civic festivals; and imperial theatre practices that position the stage
at the dangerous intersection of religious worship, public taste, royal patronage,
and government censure. Understanding performance as both artistic practice
and social institution, this course emphasizes the role performance has played in
changing audiences and as a cultural and political force in various societies. We
explore not only how performances were created—in terms of design,
dramaturgy, architecture, and acting—but also for whom, and why.
Apply to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives
H. Holder
Credits: 4

THEAT-252 History of Performance II
Spring
A historical survey of dramatic texts and world performance traditions from the
seventeenth to the twentieth centuries, with attention given to: the influence of
print culture on early modern theatrical movements; the rise of nationalism and
the creation of dramatic genres; and the effects of industry and technology on experimental modernist forms. Understanding performance as both artistic practice and social institution, this course emphasizes the role performance has played in changing audiences and as a cultural and political force. As such, we explore not only how performances are created—in terms of design, dramaturgy, architecture, and acting—but for whom, and why.

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives
H. Holder
Credits: 4

THEAT-256 Costume History through the Nineteenth Century
Not Scheduled for This Year
This course surveys the history of Western dress from Ancient Egypt and Rome through the nineteenth century. By investigating the evolution of fashion, students will gain an understanding of clothing’s relationship to the arts, architecture, and its function in society. Classes consist of lectures, discussions, and examination of primary resources. Students will be evaluated based on a series of presentations and research projects.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
J. Ford
Credits: 4

THEAT-280 Stage Management
Not Scheduled for This Year
This course will examine stage management techniques for academic, and professional theatre and explore the role of the stage manager in various theatre environments. Each student will be required to stage manage a production. Students will also be required to work within the stage management requirements of the Theatre Department. This course will examine the fundamentals of stage management techniques. Emphasis on the 'Responsible For Everything' role of the stage manager. Students will be required to see and evaluate local theatrical productions.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
C. Killion
Notes: theatre tickets, supplies, and materials are the responsibility of the student
Credits: 4

THEAT-281 Shakespeare
Fall and Spring
A study of some of Shakespeare’s plays emphasizing the poetic and dramatic aspects of his art, with attention to the historical context and close, careful reading of the language. Eight or nine plays.
Crosslisted as: English 211
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
E. Hill, S. Sutherland
Restrictions: Course limited to sophomores, juniors and seniors
Credits: 4

THEAT-282 Theatre Practicum
Fall and Spring
Applies to requirement(s): Meets No Distribution Requirement
J. Daniels, L. Donovan, N. Tuleja, The department
Instructor permission required.

Advisory: by audition or interview only
Credits: 2-4
Course can be repeated for credit.

THEAT-283 Playwriting
Fall
This course offers practice in the fundamentals of dramatic structure and technique. Weekly reading assignments will examine the unique nature of writing for the theatre, nuts and bolts of format, tools of the craft, and the playwright’s process from formulating a dramatic idea to rewriting. Weekly writing assignments will include scene work, adaptation, and journaling. The course will culminate in the writing of a one-act play. Each class meeting will incorporate reading student work aloud with feedback from the instructor and the class. Students will listen, critique, and develop the vocabulary to discuss plays, structure, story, and content.
Crosslisted as: English 205
Applies to requirement(s): Meets No Distribution Requirement
Other Attribute(s): Writing-Intensive
J. Yukich
Prereq: An English writing course, one course in theatre arts.
Advisory: An English writing course, one course in theatre arts, or permission of instructor
Notes: may be re-taken at 300 level with permission of instructor
Credits: 4
Course can be repeated for credit.

THEAT-285 Directing
Spring
This course is designed to be an introduction to the fundamental theories and principles of directing for the stage. Visual theory, text analysis, collaborative techniques, and organizational strategies are examined and applied in class exercises, including the direction of a major scene. Each student will be required to cast, rehearse, and present to the public a fully realized scene by the end of term. Directing is a complicated activity that requires you to do and be many things, and this course will help you lay the foundation to discovering your own process.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
N. Tuleja
Prereq: Theatre Arts 105.
Credits: 4

THEAT-295 Independent Study
Fall and Spring
The department
Instructor permission required.
Credits: 1-4
Course can be repeated for credit.

THEAT-305 Acting III: Styles
Not Scheduled for This Year
A laugh, a laugh, my kingdom for a laugh! This performance-intensive course will focus on classic comedic styles, ranging from Shakespeare to Oliver Goldsmith's 'She Stoops To Conquer'. Through a series of classroom explorations, students will learn how to craft a believable character, using the gesture, vocal, and physical language of certain comedic styles including: Commedia, Slapstick, and Restoration. Each student will present at least one soliloquy and one scene, with the final scene presented to the public.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
N. Tuleja
Prereq: Theatre Arts 105.
Credits: 4
THEAT-315 Topics in Performance
Topics courses offer a specific approach to performing. They may include mask characterization, physical theatre techniques, acting Shakespeare, and vocal training, among others.
Instructor permission required.

THEAT-315AP Topics in Performance: 'Advanced Performance Workshop'
Not Scheduled for This Year
This course is for actors, directors, dramaturges, choreographers, anthropologists, video and visual artists, and designers. This workshop will develop performance pieces collaboratively. Students will work in teams that explore and investigate a chosen theme, a piece of text, or a type of behavior. Student will present weekly projects over the course of the semester. Use of edited sound, images, and video.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
The department
Instructor permission required.
Credits: 4

THEAT-320 Topics in Design
Various topics in theatrical design, or in related design fields, including theory, practice, and history. Subjects may include opera performance and design, costume crafts, and materials and techniques, among others.

THEAT-320AD Topics in Design: 'Art Direction for Film and Television'
Not Scheduled for This Year
A study of the art and practice of designing a production on film, the art director as visual conceptualizer, and the techniques of designing sets and locations. Students read film scripts and prepare story boards. They also view films and study them to learn the designer's role in filmmaking.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
V. James
Prereq: Theatre Arts 122 and 4 credits in Art Studio.
Advisory: A set design course or permission of instructor
Notes: lab fee TBD; students should have access to a still photography camera and supply their own materials
Credits: 4

THEAT-320CD Topics in Design: 'Advanced Costume Design'
Fall
A semester intensive course exploring the art and work of the costume designer in the performing arts. Students will expand on the process 'from page to stage,' including but not limited to period research, rendering techniques, production documentation, and the process of translating a design in the third dimension. Major stylistic developments in 20th Century costume will be explored. Students will generate a professional level costume design for an entire musical or opera.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
A. Walker
Advisory: A College level costume design course
Credits: 4

THEAT-320SD Topics in Design: 'Advanced Set Design'
Not Scheduled for This Year
For students with particular interest in scene design. This course investigates advanced design ideas, budgets, and the technical demands of translating a design into a real stage space.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
V. James
Prereq: Theatre Arts 122 and 4 credits in Art Studio.
Advisory: Two set design courses (at least one at the 200 level) and permission of instructor
Notes: 3 meetings (1 hour) and lab.
Credits: 4

THEAT-324 Costume Design II
Not Scheduled for This Year
Continuing the art and practice of designing costumes for theatre and opera, students investigate the creative process and technical skills of design, read plays and librettos, and conceive their own designs. The course surveys the history of world clothing and of costume design for the performing arts. Students provide their own materials.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
The department
Prereq: Theatre Arts 124, 224, or an art studio course.
Credits: 4

THEAT-334 Topics in Theatre Studies
Various topics in theatre studies including particular theatrical periods and genres. Topics may include melodrama, post-colonial theatre, early 20th century avant-garde movements, feminist theatre, etc. These courses include historical and theoretical approaches and could involve interdisciplinary collaboration.

THEAT-334EA Topics in Theatre Studies: 'Early Modern Drama'
Not Scheduled for This Year
All the world's a stage. This course surveys the era of literary history that invented this powerful idea. The drama of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries is a drama obsessively self-conscious, bursting with disguises, confidence tricks, cross-dressers, rituals, masques, and plays-within-plays. Reading Shakespeare as well as his rivals and peers (Marlowe, Jonson, Webster, and others), we will consider how theater, and the idea of theater, illuminates such concepts as desire, evil, gender, and ideology. Plays will likely include Titus Andronicus, Doctor Faustus—I/L, The Alchemist, and The Duchess of Malfi.
Crosslisted as: English 317MD
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
S. Roychoudhury
Prereq: English 200 and either English 210 or 211.
Credits: 4

THEAT-334MJ Topics in Theatre Studies: 'Marlowe, Jonson, Middleton'
Spring
A seminar on three major early modern dramatists—Christopher Marlowe, Ben Jonson, and Thomas Middleton—focusing on the range of genres, characters, conflicts, and aspirations explored in their plays. These playwrights, along with their contemporary Shakespeare, shaped the late sixteenth and early seventeenth century theatre into a site for performing authority and conquest, national and individual identity, trickery and carnival, desire and sexuality, and complex unfoldings of revenge. Readings of two or three plays by each of the three dramatists will be supplemented by recent studies of early modern theatricality.
Crosslisted as: English 317MJ
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
S. Sutherland
Restrictions: This course is open to Juniors and Seniors.
Prereq: English 200 and English 210 or 211.
Notes: meets English department pre-1700 requirement; meets English department seminar requirement
Credits: 4
THEAT-350EN Seminar: ‘En Garde, a Study of Stage and Screen Violence’
Fall
All Drama is Conflict. This course investigates how dramatic conflict is represented in theatre, television and film and examines its effect on the audience. Through a series of readings, class discussions, and viewings, including but not limited to, Romeo & Juliet, The Duelists, and Fight Club, students will attempt to answer the question: what is it about human nature that makes us fascinated by violence as a form of entertainment?
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
N. Tuleja
Prereq: 8 credits in Theatre Arts.
Credits: 4

THEAT-350HL Seminar: ‘Hey, let’s start a theatre company!’
Not Scheduled for This Year
Students will develop and run their own performance company. The class, operating under a specific budget, will choose a season of work to be presented to the public. All decisions, including management, artistic direction, marketing, directing, and casting, will be made by the students taking the course. Each student will also be expected to write one research paper on a performance company of their choosing, in consultation with the professor. This course is designed for the performing arts student who wants to create a company in a safe and supportive environment.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
N. Tuleja
Prereq: 8 credits in Theatre Arts.
Credits: 4

THEAT-350MU Seminar: ‘Musical Theatre’
Not Scheduled for This Year
An exploration of musical theatre from both a production and performance standpoint. Classes will focus on acting the song, character development for the musical style, physicalization, the world of the musical, and a historical overview of American Musical Theatre. Four to five musicals will be used as source material.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
N. Tuleja
Prereq: 8 credits in Theatre Arts.
Credits: 4

THEAT-350WO Seminar: ‘Women in American Theatre and Drama’
Not Scheduled for This Year
This course offers a history of women in performance, from the colonial era to the present day. Americans inherited a European theatrical economy that was largely male dominated, though actresses played a central role on stage and in the public imagination. Today, while serious inequities remain, women are gaining access to the most privileged and powerful positions in a swiftly changing field. We are therefore equally interested in how women have participated in theatrical culture—as actors, producers, playwrights, directors, designers, managers, and audience members—and how they have been represented on commercial, experimental, and regional stages, and across genres and communities.
Crosslisted as: Gender Studies 333BB
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
E. Rundle
Prereq: Gender Studies 101, or Theatre 100 or 251 or 252.
Credits: 4

THEAT-350WT Seminar: ‘Witches in the Modern Imagination’
Fall
From the middle ages to the present day, witches have evoked both fear and fascination. Their fellowships (real or fantastic) challenged the prevailing power structures of church and state patriarchies and upset the ordered precepts of the modern world. This seminar offers an overview of the history of witchcraft in Atlantic cultures, with special attention to the early modern British and American colonial eras. We will examine figures of the witch in European art; religious and legal texts that document the persecution of sorcerers; and dramatic, literary, and cinematic representations of witches that have helped to shape our understanding of gender, nature, theatricality, and power.
Crosslisted as: Gender Studies 333WT
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
E. Rundle
Restrictions: This course is open to Juniors and Seniors.
Instructor permission required.
Prereq: Gender Studies 101.
Advisory: Required online application
https://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/gender/gender-studies-333-application; preference to Gender Studies and Theatre Arts majors.
Credits: 4