THE—THEATRE

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

THE U100 Theatre at Northeastern 1 SH
Intended for freshmen in the College of Arts and Sciences. Introduces freshmen to the liberal arts in general; familiarizes them with their major; helps them develop the academic skills necessary to succeed (analytical ability and critical thinking); provides grounding in the culture and values of the University community; and helps them develop interpersonal skills—in short, familiarizes students with all skills needed to become a successful university student. Prereq. Theatre freshmen only.

THE U101 Art of the Theatre 4 SH
Focuses on theatre in performance by examining the work of theatre artists (actors, designers, directors, and playwrights). Introduces students to the dynamics of performance and to the reading of play texts, and provides a brief overview of the development of Western theatre.

THE U120 Acting 1 4 SH
Focuses on the fundamental techniques and skills needed by an actor to strengthen imagination and increase freedom of expression. Includes the use of monologues and/or scenes for classroom analysis. Prereq. Theatre majors only.

THE U130 Actors and Acting 4 SH
Focuses on the experience of investigating performance practice through exploring the role of the performer when preparing to be involved in a theatrical event. Examines multiple approaches of performance techniques and strengthens creative thinking, expressive skills, and promotes theatrical literacy for audience members.

THE U131 Technical Theatre 1 4 SH
Covers the basic skills of technical theatre required for all theatre professionals. Introduces the student to stage management, scenery and costume construction, and stage lighting. A minimum of thirty hours of crew work is required per semester, along with attending both strikes for departmental shows. Assignments and hours are arranged with the area supervisor. Prereq. Permission of department chair.

THE U210 Theatre and Society 4 SH
Overviews several great practitioners of theatre. In particular, stresses how society influenced the thought and craft of playwrights, actors, directors, designers, and theorists. Pays careful attention to how the play’s ideas are translated into performance. Uses video, discussion, and live performance, when possible, as integral elements in the course.

THE U220 African-American Theatre 4 SH
Surveys the history of African-American theatre artists in America from the time of Ira Aldridge to the present day. Also examines the works of African-American playwrights from the Harlem Renaissance to the present, with an emphasis on the period beginning with Baraka’s Dutchman. Same as AFR U220.

THE U250 Voice and Movement for Theatre 4 SH
Focuses on vocal and physical exercises that enable the actor to connect with the voice through freeing the physical and emotional self. Vocal work emphasizes centering, physicalization, breath support, articulation, resonance, and projection. Physical work develops concentration, control, and stamina through exercise, relaxation, improvisation, manipulation of energy flow, rhythms, and imagination. Emphasizes using the body as an expressive instrument. Includes selected monologues and/or scenes for classroom analysis. The course uses the techniques of Linklater and Viewpoints. Prereq. Theatre majors only or permission of department chair.

THE U270 Theatrical Design 4 SH
Introduces the visual aspects of modern theatrical production and the creative processes by which these come into being, through a basic survey of the three major design disciplines, their supporting technology, and their working interrelationship. Addresses how artistic concepts are developed and related, how they are communicated to other artists and an audience, and how one develops the critical processes necessary to evaluate these concepts.

THE U300 Theatre History 4 SH
Explores the history of the theatre and its development in the West, focusing on Greece, Rome, Medieval Europe, Golden Age Spain, Elizabethan and Stuart England, Italian Renaissance, and the spread of Italianate forms throughout Europe during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Prereq. Sophomore standing or above.

THE U310 American Musical Theatre 4 SH
Traces the development of the American musical from The Black Crook to the present. Considers the role of musical theatre as both entertainment and serious art form through an examination of script, score, dance, and design. Includes works by composers and lyricists such as Rodgers and Hammerstein, Lerner and Loewe, Cole Porter, Bock and Harnick, Leonard Bernstein, and Stephen Sondheim. Prereq. Sophomore standing or above.

THE U315 Theatre/Modernism 4 SH
Covers seminal playwrights of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries whose works have had a major impact on both modern drama and theatrical methods of production. Prereq. Sophomore standing or above.
THE U320 The American Theatre 4 SH
Traces the historical development of theatre in America, as well as its role as a social institution, economic enterprise, and art form. Prereq. Sophomore standing or above.

THE U325 Script Analysis for the Stage 4 SH
Aids the theatre practitioner in developing the skills necessary for analyzing scripts in preparation for production. Focuses on dramatic theory and structure and theatrical techniques that enable an actor, director, designer, or playwright to uncover the problems of translating theory into practice. Prereq. Theatre major/minor or permission of department chair.

THE U330 Playwriting 1 4 SH
Offers students the opportunity to develop a series of dramatic dialogues that culminate in the writing of a one-act play. Uses a workshop format. Prereq. Sophomore standing or above.

THE U335 Contemporary Theatre 4 SH
Examines the current state of commercial, regional, and other noncommercial theatre in the United States, using readings, lectures, reports, and weekly visits to theatre productions in the area. Explores through lectures the background of these types of theatre in twentieth-century American and European theatre. Prereq. Sophomore standing or above.

THE U342 Acting 2 4 SH
Continues THE U120. Focuses on developing the actor's sense of truth and emotional freedom. Emphasizes creating, developing, and sustaining character and developing ensemble. Includes monologues and scenes performed for classroom analysis. Prereq. THE U120 and permission of department chair.

THE U343 Acting 3 4 SH
Continues THE U342. Focuses on further development of the actor's tools, script and character scoring, research, and exercises for physical and psychological freedom. Deals with scene work from a spectrum of theatrical genres. Includes scenes performed for classroom analysis work. Prereq. THE U342 and permission of department chair.

THE U344 Intermediate Acting 4 SH
Focuses on developing the actor's sense of truth and emotional freedom. Emphasizes creating, developing, and sustaining character and developing ensemble. Includes monologues and scenes performed for classroom analysis. Prereq. THE U130 and permission of department chair.

THE U345 Acting for the Camera 4 SH
Presents the fundamentals of camera acting, adjusting the actor's physical responses to the mechanical eye of the camera and the delicate ear of the microphone. Involves studio work before the television camera to explore the genres of dramatic, commercial, and industrial acting. Prereq. THE U120 or THE U130 and permission of department chair.

THE U360 Stage Makeup 4 SH
Focuses on the principles of, the reasons for, and the materials used in makeup for the theatre, television, and films. Includes the practical application of types and styles of makeup: straight, old-age, character, and corrective. Prereq. Permission of department chair.

THE U365 Technical Theatre 2 4 SH
Continues THE U131. Covers the intermediate skills of technical theatre required for all theatre professionals. Students pursue more advanced technical skills in areas such as drafting, and the reading of technical drawings for both scenery and lights. A minimum of thirty hours of crew work is required per semester, along with attending both strikes for departmental shows. Assignments and hours are arranged with the area supervisor. Prereq. THE U131 and permission of department chair.

THE U370 Lighting Design for the Stage 4 SH
Examines basic principles and practices of stage lighting including the qualities and functions of light, lighting instruments and controls, basic electricity, color in light, and analysis of the script in terms of light requirements. Expects students to develop light plots and schedules for various kinds of stage productions. Includes lab work on lighting crews for University productions. Prereq. Permission of department chair.

THE U380 Costume Design 4 SH
Presents the beginning designer with the opportunity to investigate costume design theory and to foster perceptual development. Through lectures and projects, gives students the opportunity to explore both the abstract and historical aspects of costume design as well as textual analysis and its conceptual implications. Does not require prior art or design education. Prereq. Sophomore standing or above.

THE U385 Pattern Drafting and Costume Construction 4 SH
Develops the skills and techniques necessary for the patterning, cutting, and construction of costumes for the stage. Covers flat pattern drafting, draping, and finishing techniques. Prereq. Sophomore standing or above.

THE U460 Scenic Design for the Stage 4 SH
Introduces the theory and practice of theatrical design and the role of the designer in the production process. Through project work, examines the use of graphics tools-line, form, balance, color, rhythm, and so on-in the development of the design idea. Emphasizes understanding and utilizing spatial relationships, visually expressing conceptual themes, and understanding the various uses, problems, and practical considerations of proscenium, thrust, and arena staging. Prereq. Permission of department chair.
THE U465 Theatrical Drafting 4 SH
Exposes the student to the basic graphics language needed to translate a designer’s ideas into technical drawings used for construction, through work on supervised classroom projects. Prereq. Sophomore standing or above.

THE U500 Dramatic Theory/Criticism 4 SH
Examines the major theoretical statements about Western theatre from Greece to the present day. Devotes a significant portion of the course to twentieth-century critical strategies. Prereq. 64 SH toward degree or junior or senior standing.

THE U550 Concepts of Directing 4 SH
Focuses on purposes and techniques of theatrical direction related to script analysis, production style, pictorial composition, rhythmic evolution, and empathic responses. Prereq. THE U120, THE U270, and permission of department chair.

THE U570 Musical Theatre Technique 4 SH
Applies acting technique to the performance of musical material. Explores song through text and character progression, develops a process for approaching a song, and synthesizes movement, gesture, and emotion with melody, rhythm, and lyrics. Involves student performances of solo, small ensemble, and large ensemble material. Does not involve singing technique. Prereq. THE U120, THE U342, and permission of department chair.

THE U600 Advanced Technical Production 4 SH
Allows students the opportunity to acquire and explore the requisite skills for developing working drawings and budgetary analyses for theatrical productions. Focuses on several projects and includes the opportunity to coordinate one substantial production. Requires that the specialized study be executed in close supervision with the instructor. Prereq. All production/design concentration courses and permission of department chair.

THE U701 Rehearsal and Performance 4 SH
Requires students to research, prepare, and perform either a substantial acting role, a design assistantship, a crew head, a dramaturgy, or a stage-management position under the direction and guidance of faculty. Students are expected to keep a rehearsal log and synthesize and evaluate the experience in a final paper. May be repeated for credit up to three times for theatre majors. Fulfills the College of Arts and Sciences experiential education requirement for theatre majors. Fulfills theatre core. Prereq. Permission of department chair.

THE U702 Capstone Rehearsal and Performance 4 SH
Requires students to research, prepare, and perform either a substantial acting role, a design assistantship, a dramaturgy, a stage-management position, or other position of responsibility for a departmental production. Also requires an intensive-writing component enabling the synthesis of the theoretical, analytical, and artistic aspects of theatre production. Prereq. Junior or senior standing and permission of department chair.

THE U704 Theatre Practicum 1 1 SH
THE U902 Theatre Practicum 2 1 SH
THE U904 Theatre Practicum 4 1 SH
Offers lab practice in technical production; may be repeated for credit (maximum three credits). Prereq. Permission of department chair.

THE U905 Practicum in Production 5 1 SH
THE U906 Practicum in Production 6 1 SH
THE U907 Practicum in Production 7 1 SH
THE U908 Practicum in Production 8 1 SH
Offers lab practice in rehearsal and performance for production; may be repeated for credit (maximum of four credits). Prereq. Permission of department chair.

THE U921 Directed Study 1 SH
THE U922 Directed Study 2 SH
THE U923 Directed Study 3 SH
THE U924 Directed Study 4 SH
Offers independent work under the direction of members of the department on a chosen topic. Course content depends on instructor. Prereq. Permission of instructor.

THE U954 Experiential Education Directed Study 4 SH
Draws upon the student’s approved experiential activity and integrates it with study in the academic major. Restricted to those students who are using it to fulfill their experiential education requirement. Prereq. Permission of instructor.

THE U970 Junior/Senior Honors Project 1 4 SH
Focuses on in-depth project in which a student conducts research or produces a product related to the student’s major field. Culminating experience in the University Honors Program. Combined with Junior/Senior Project 2 or college-defined equivalent for 8-credit honors project. Prereq. Honors program participation.

THE U971 Junior/Senior Honors Project 2 4 SH
Focuses on second semester of in-depth project in which a student conducts research or produces a product related to the student’s major field. Culminating experience in the University Honors Program. Prereq. THE U970 and honors program participation.
THE U980 Special Topics: Theatre Performance 4 SH
THE U981 Special Topics: Theatre Performance 4 SH
THE U982 Special Topics: Theatre Performance 4 SH
Offers opportunity for in-depth examination of a subject of particular significance to the field. Prereq. Permission of instructor.

THE U983 Special Topics: Theatre History 4 SH
THE U984 Special Topics: Theatre History 4 SH
THE U985 Special Topics: Theatre History 4 SH
Offers opportunity for in-depth examination of a subject of particular significance to the field. Prereq. Permission of instructor.

THE U986 Special Topics: Theatre Design 4 SH
THE U987 Special Topics: Theatre Design 4 SH
THE U988 Special Topics: Theatre Design 4 SH
Offers opportunity for in-depth examination of a subject of particular significance to the field. Prereq. Permission of instructor.