Department of Theatre and Dance

KU Theatre and Dance: Educating the Changemakers of Tomorrow, Today

The Department of Theatre and Dance is a creative, diverse and inclusive educational environment that serves as an inspirational learning incubator for the next generation of scholars, performers, dancers, designers and technicians in theatre, performance, and dance. Our faculty and professional staff support our students to identify and cultivate their unique contributions to an increasingly global world. All of our undergraduate and graduate programs are grounded in the philosophy that artists are critically thinking, self-starting and entrepreneurially engaged artist-scholars. Our students work intensively on acquiring analytical, creative, and technical skills in our classrooms, theatre labs, and dance studios. Our holistic academic training of our students helps them to make the intellectual and practical connections between theory and practice needed to be competitive professionals in academic and professional theater environments. Our outstanding faculty and professional staff offer individualized attention to each student in a safe environment that inspires students to take risks and to explore the vast array of academic and creative choices available at a top-tier research university. Our phenomenal alumni have gone on to practice, teach, and create at the highest level of the profession in professional and academic settings.

University Theatre and the University Dance Companies

The classroom meets the stage in the University Theatre and the University Dance Companies. KU Theatre and Dance students, faculty and professional staff work together to create ten fully produced shows each year, from dramas and concert dance to musicals and operas in alternating years. In our fully-equipped facilities, students are required to engage in all aspects of production onstage and backstage. Students have opportunities to continue study year-round working with union actors, choreographers, directors, and designers with our critically acclaimed Kansas Repertory Theatre (KRT) and the Summer Dance Intensive, in partnership with the Lawrence Arts Center.

Internationally Recognized Faculty Scholars and Artists

The faculty of the Department of Theatre and Dance is creative artists and researchers working in the areas of theatre stagecraft, choreography, performance, design, dramatic literature, dramaturgy, and pedagogy, as well as the historical, literary, and cultural study of theatre, dance, and performance. Our faculty includes award-winning teachers, scholars, and artists working in professional theatre and dance, authoring books and establishing nationally and internationally recognized research and outreach programs.

Support for Students

The Department of Theatre and Dance offers students financial aid in the form of dozens of scholarships, awards, and teaching assistantships each year to graduate and undergraduate students. Friends of the Theatre (FROTH), a community group dedicated to supporting the mission of the University Theatre, provides a fantastic support network for our student shows and curricular enrichment opportunities. Donors to the Dance Division endow support for guest choreographer residencies each semester and special opportunity funds. Once students graduate our program, they join an extensive network of theatre and dance alumni and Professional Advisory Board members that work in all aspects of academe, the entertainment industry, and non-profit organizations.

Undergraduate Degrees

Dance

The BFA in Dance focuses on advanced technical training and preparation for a career in professional performance. An audition is required for entry in the BFA program. The BA in Dance provides rigorous studio training in a liberal arts environment, and allows students to double major in other disciplines. The BA in Dance does NOT require an audition for entry. Instead, students must complete an evaluation at the end of their sophomore year to complete the degree program.

Degrees offered:

- B.A.
- B.F.A.
- Minor in Dance

Performance

The Performance concentration prepares theatre majors for a career as a professional actor. Through small-class studio courses and department productions, our program provides talented performing artists with a solid foundation in acting, movement, voice and speech, improvisation, and musical theatre. Both the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) and Bachelor of General Studies (B.G.S.) require 40 hours. The primary distinctions between the B.A. and the B.G.S. degree are the foreign language requirement (required of the B.A. but not the B.G.S.) and 18 hours junior/senior concentration or minor (required for the B.G.S. but not the B.A.).

Degrees offered:

- B.A.
- B.G.S.

Theatre, Culture, and Society

This concentration is designed for students interested in studying the cultural and social underpinnings of theatre and performance along with courses in acting, directing and design and with participation in University Theatre production. The TCS concentration provides the critical, analytical, and historical education that is the foundation of a liberal arts degree. Both the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) and Bachelor of General Studies (B.G.S.) require 40 hours. The primary distinctions between the B.A. and the B.G.S. degree are the foreign language requirement (required of the B.A. but not the B.G.S.) and 18 hours junior/senior concentration or minor (required for the B.G.S. but not the B.A.).

Degrees offered:

- B.A.
- B.G.S.

Theatre Design

The Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) in Theatre Design is intended as general preparation for the professional designer of scenery, costumes or lighting working in theatre and film or as preparation for graduate studies.
Students learn through small-class studio courses, laboratories, and involvement in productions in the University Theatre.

Degrees offered:
- B.F.A.

Theatre Minor

Theatre welcomes non-majors who wish to learn about acting, drama, design, theatre history, and technical theatre through the completion of a minor.

Graduate Programs

Our M.F.A., M.A., and Ph.D. programs in Theatre and Dance are unique for combining intensive study of theatre and performance with the production training necessary for theater and dance careers in higher education and the professional sector. Our graduate students are immersed in an integrated environment that synchronizes theory and practice in that prepares artists for academic, professional, and all-academic careers. Currently, our M.A. and Ph.D. degrees are focused on Theatre and Performance Studies. Graduate students interested in a dance focus in this area are encouraged to apply.

Master of Fine Arts in Scenography

The M.F.A. in Scenography is a three-year integrated program of study leading to a Master of Fine Arts degree, the terminal degree for professionals working in design for theatre, dance, film, and television. Scenography classes are at the core of the curriculum and students will develop a portfolio in a wide variety of theatrical and performance genres. Students will design in both the large Crafton-Preyer proscenium stage and the Inge black box theatre. Opportunities exist to work with new technologies in theatre design, including Virtual Realities.

Degrees offered:
- M.F.A.

Master’s and Doctoral Degrees in Theatre Studies

The master’s and doctoral programs in Theatre and Dance combine rigorous study of theory, criticism, and history with production work in a collegial atmosphere. MA students admitted are usually coming directly from a four-year college experience with minimal professional experience and intense academic study. Doctoral students can expect to develop expertise in current methodologies, such as those derived from or applicable to contemporary historiography, semiotics, post-structuralism, performance studies, post-modernism and cultural studies. Production practice areas include but are not limited to Acting, Directing, Dance, and Dramaturgy. The research of our faculty ranks us in the top ten among a selection of major institutions in the 2015 Faculty Productivity Index by Academic Analytics. The department is an organizational member of the Association for Theatre in Higher Education and home to the prestigious Journal of Dramatic Theory and Criticism.

Degrees offered:
- M.A. or Ph.D.

Departmental Funding

The Department recognizes that financial support during the graduate years is crucial to student success. Through a combination of university awards, departmental teaching assistantships, tuition assistance, student employment, fellowships, and travel grants, we are able to provide almost all of our students with some level of support. Graduate Students in the department may be supported in their careers by a limited number of departmental teaching assistantships, typically awarded to M.F.A and Ph.D. students. More information regarding funding is available on the Graduate Financial Aid (https://theatredance.ku.edu/graduate-financial-aid) portion of the department website.

Advising

During the first year of enrollment, students must meet with the Director of Graduate Studies once per semester. Returning students will meet one time during the year with the Director of Graduate Studies to determine progress to degree. Advising of students is also conducted by individual faculty members who act as mentor and advisers of students who have interest in their specialty research areas.

Non-Degree Seeking

Students who are interested in enrolling in graduate level coursework in the Department of Theatre and Dance without formal admission to a graduate program at KU are encouraged to apply for graduate non-degree seeking student status. See the department's Non-Degree Seeking page for more information.

Courses

DANC 100. Introduction to the Dance Major. 1 Hour H.
This is a 6 week online course designed to identify what is unique about the KU Dance experience, and to introduce students to the requirements for a BA or BFA degree. The course examines issues of academic integrity, informs students about academic support available to them, familiarizes students with the expectations of a dance major and suggests career opportunities for dance majors. Students complete five modules: Getting Started, Programs and Degrees, Academic Integrity and Support, Expectations and Career Pathways to provide a foundation for academic success in the major. LEC.

DANC 101. Ballet I. 2 Hours.
Classical and modern approaches to the language of ballet for beginners. May be repeated for credit. Does not count toward the dance major requirements. ACT.

DANC 103. Modern Contemporary I. 2 Hours.
Dance technique for beginners with precedents in the movement vocabularies of Isadora Duncan, Martha Graham, Doris Humphrey, Merce Cunningham, and the seminal choreographers of modern dance. May be repeated for credit. Does not count toward the dance major requirements. ACT.

DANC 105. Jazz I. 2 Hours.
Dance technique for beginners based on elements of Latino, African, popular and classical jazz dance forms. May be repeated for credit. Does not count toward the dance major requirements. ACT.

DANC 108. Pas de Deux. 1 Hour.
The elements of classical ballet partnering (pas de deux) are explored. These elements include supported poses, turns, lifts, and their coordination between the partners. For men only. Women enroll in Pointe and Pas de Deux, DANC 307. May be repeated for credit. ACT.

DANC 109. Men's Ballet. 2 Hours.
An introduction to classical ballet focusing on the particular requirements of the male ballet technique including leaps, turns, batterie, and their presentation. May be repeated for credit. ACT.
DANC 150. Choreography I. 2 Hours H.
The introductory-level course in a series of four composition courses (DANC 150, 250, 350 and 550). Includes basic exploration of improvisation: movement studies for solo figure, movement themes for duet, trio, and larger groups; and dances for non-traditional performing spaces both indoors and outdoors. Students will learn fundamental ingredients of dance (space, time, weight, and energy flow) and how to organize them into short compositional forms such as ABA, verse/refrain, or narrative. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. LAB.

DANC 177. First Year Seminar: _____, 3 Hours GE11 / U.
A limited-enrollment, seminar course for first-time freshmen, addressing current issues in Dance. Course is designed to meet the critical thinking learning outcome of the KU Core. First-Year Seminar topics are coordinated and approved by the Office of First-Year Experience. Prerequisite: First-time freshman status. LEC.

DANC 210. Rhythms and Structures of Music. 3 Hours H.
An introduction to the analysis and use of rhythms and the compositional forms of music for dance. LEC.

DANC 211. Ballet II. 2 Hours.
Classical and modern approaches to ballet technique for low intermediate dancers. May be repeated for credit. Counts toward the B.A. in Dance and Dance Minor requirements. Prerequisite: DANC 101 or consent of instructor. LAB.

DANC 213. Modern Contemporary II. 2 Hours.
Dance technique for low intermediate dancers with precedents in the movement vocabularies of classical modernists and contemporary choreographers of dance. May be repeated for credit. Counts toward the B.A. and the Minor in dance requirements. Prerequisite: DANC 103 or permission of instructor. LAB.

DANC 215. Jazz II. 2 Hours.
Dance technique for experienced beginners based on elements of Latino, African, popular and classical jazz dance forms. May be repeated for credit. Counts toward the B.A. and Minor in dance requirements. Prerequisite: DANC 105 or consent of instructor. LAB.

DANC 250. Choreography II. 2 Hours H.
The intermediate course in a series of four composition courses (DANC 150, DANC 250, DANC 350 and DANC 550.) Includes more complex exploration of improvisation; movement studies for solo figure, movement themes for duet, trio, and larger groups; and dances for non-traditional performing spaces both indoors and outdoors. Students will further develop the ingredients of dance (space, time, weight, and energy flow) and how to organize them into studies including compositional forms such as ABA, verse/refrain, or narrative. Prerequisite: DANC 150 or consent of instructor. LAB.

DANC 260. Musical Theatre Dance. 3 Hours.
This course focuses on the dance and movement vocabulary uniquely associated with musical theatre productions, as well as a variety of popular dance styles from the 1920s to the present. Performance techniques for the stage are emphasized. LAB.

DANC 290. Sophomore Review. 0 Hours H.
The Sophomore Review of all majors in the BA program in Dance provides an assessment of student progress in the degree. Transfer students to the BA program participate in the year following their admission to KU. The review process consists of: verification that students are making academic progress; Students should have an overall GPA of 2.0; a self-evaluation composed of written responses to a series of questions about their own artistic, technical and discipline-specific academic progress in the program; a faculty evaluation comprised of written feedback on each students artistic, technical and discipline-specific academic progress in the program; and participation in at least one speedback session prior to the end of the second year. Speedback is a feedback process modeled on the speed dating format. All majors sit with faculty members for 5-minute intervals to receive individual feedback. Students engage with professors with whom they have been in technique class or rehearsal for the current year. There are no prerequisites for entry into the course. The completion of the course will be a prerequisite for enrollment in DANC 550 Senior Project. LEC.

DANC 307. Pointe and Pas de Deux. 2 Hours.
An introduction to pointe and classical partnering work for the intermediate/advanced female ballet dancer, with equal emphasis on pointe technique and style, and on classical repertory for couples. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. LAB.

DANC 308. Pas de Deux. 1 Hour.
The exploration of classical ballet partnering (pas de deux) including supported poses, lifts, turns, and their coordination between the partners. For men only. Women enroll in Pointe and Pas Deux, DANC 307. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. LAB.

DANC 309. Men's Ballet. 2 Hours.
A continuation of the study of male classical ballet technique including leaps, turns, batterie, and their presentation. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. LAB.

DANC 310. Music for Dance. 3 Hours.
An examination of music as accompaniment for dance in both classroom and performance settings. Students will listen and analyze music from various historic periods to develop the skills necessary to select music appropriate for choreography. They will learn techniques for working with accompanists and composers. Prerequisite: DANC 210 or consent of instructor. LEC.

DANC 311. Ballet III. 3 Hours H.
Advanced level technique in classical and modern approaches to the language of ballet. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: Instructor consent. LAB.

DANC 313. Modern/Contemporary III. 3 Hours H.
Dance technique for intermediate/advanced dancers with precedents in the movement vocabularies of classical modernists and contemporary choreographers of dance. May be repeated for credit. Counts toward the B.A., B.F.A., and the Minor in dance requirements. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. LAB.

DANC 315. Jazz III. 3 Hours H.
Dance technique for intermediate dancers based on elements of Latino, African, popular and classical jazz dance forms. May be repeated for variable credit. Prerequisite: DANC 105 or consent of instructor. LAB.

DANC 317. Hip Hop Fundamentals. 3 Hours.
Basic fundamentals of hip-hop dance. Students will learn basic steps for choreography and freestyle based on urban street styles. They will learn the origins and history of the hip hop movement and all urban street styles through lectures and class participation. LAB.

DANC 319. Tap Fundamentals. 3 Hours SC / H.
Introduces the principles of tap dance including rhythm, clarity of sound, syncopation and weight shift. Emphasis is placed on proper execution of basic tap technique, step knowledge, weight distribution, and the development of basic rhythm and syncopation skills. The course will be based on “stomp tap” and “rhythm tap”, working with/without the music to make clear patterned sounds. LAB.
DANC 320. University Dance Company. 0-1 Hours.
A dance repertory, performance and production class. Emphasis is on the development of skills for performing and/or producing dance concerts. Admission by audition only. May be repeated for credit. IND.

DANC 330. Approaches to World Dance. 3 Hours HL. AE42 / H.
This course examines dance forms from throughout the world and how they relate to the times and cultures in which they evolved. Dance forms such as African, East Indian classical, European court dance, ballet, modern, and jazz will be studied through readings, master classes, live performances, videotapes, and films. Prerequisite: 200-level English course. LEC.

DANC 334. Introduction to African Dance Theatre. 2 Hours NW / U.
An introduction to the general techniques of non-verbal theatrical conventions in African cultures. Practical training in movement vocabulary will be supplemented by lectures on the “text” of performance. (Same as AAAS 334 and THR 334.) LEC.

DANC 350. Choreography III. 3 Hours H.
The advanced course in a series of four composition courses (DANC 150, DANC 250, DANC 350 and DANC 550.) Includes in-depth development of improvisation: movement studies for solo figure, movement themes for duet, trio, and larger groups; and dances for non-traditional performing spaces both indoors and outdoors. Students will develop increasingly complex studies of dance (space, time, weight, and energy flow) including compositional forms such as ABA, verse/refrain, or narrative. Prerequisite: DANC 250 or consent of instructor. LAB.

DANC 420. Introduction to Videography and Website Design for Dance. 3 Hours H.
This is a hands-on course exploring digital video technology for dance. Students are introduced to video and website production as well as the time management skills necessary to engage the multi-faceted project that is dance video. We will cover video techniques for recording dance; video editing; collaborating with national and international sites and artists; and self-promotion and marketing strategies with video and websites. The final project will be the creation of a video website for each student. No previous video editing experience is required. Prerequisite: Basic computer literacy. LEC.

DANC 330. Approaches to World Dance. 3 Hours HL. AE42 / H.
This course examines dance forms from throughout the world and how they relate to the times and cultures in which they evolved. Dance forms such as African, East Indian classical, European court dance, ballet, modern, and jazz will be studied through readings, master classes, live performances, videotapes, and films. Prerequisite: 200-level English course. LEC.

DANC 334. Introduction to African Dance Theatre. 2 Hours NW / U.
An introduction to the general techniques of non-verbal theatrical conventions in African cultures. Practical training in movement vocabulary will be supplemented by lectures on the “text” of performance. (Same as AAAS 334 and THR 334.) LEC.

DANC 350. Choreography III. 3 Hours H.
The advanced course in a series of four composition courses (DANC 150, DANC 250, DANC 350 and DANC 550.) Includes in-depth development of improvisation: movement studies for solo figure, movement themes for duet, trio, and larger groups; and dances for non-traditional performing spaces both indoors and outdoors. Students will develop increasingly complex studies of dance (space, time, weight, and energy flow) including compositional forms such as ABA, verse/refrain, or narrative. Prerequisite: DANC 250 or consent of instructor. LAB.

DANC 411. Ballet IV. 3 Hours H.
Advanced level technique in classical and modern approaches to the language of ballet. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. LAB.

DANC 413. Modern Contemporary IV. 3 Hours H.
Dance technique for advanced dancers with precedents in the movement vocabularies of classical modernists and contemporary choreographers of dance. May be repeated for credit. Counts toward the B.A., B.F.A., and the Minor in dance requirements. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. LAB.

DANC 414. Jazz IV. 3 Hours.
Dance technique for advanced dancers based on elements of Latino, African, popular and classical jazz dance forms. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. LAB.

DANC 416. Tap II. 3 Hours SC / H.
Intermediate/advanced tap dance. A continuation of the principles introduced in Tap Fundamentals including rhythm, clarity of sound, syncopation and weight shift. Proper execution of intermediate/advanced tap technique including step knowledge, weight distribution, and the development of rhythm and syncopation skills is emphasized. Prerequisite: Tap Fundamentals or permission of instructor. LAB.

DANC 420. Introduction to Videography and Website Design for Dance. 3 Hours H.
This is a hands-on course exploring digital video technology for dance. Students are introduced to video and website production as well as the time management skills necessary to engage the multi-faceted project that is dance video. We will cover video techniques for recording dance; video editing; collaborating with national and international sites and artists; and self-promotion and marketing strategies with video and websites. The final project will be the creation of a video website for each student. No previous video editing experience is required. Prerequisite: Basic computer literacy. LEC.

DANC 411. Ballet IV. 3 Hours H.
Advanced level technique in classical and modern approaches to the language of ballet. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. LAB.

DANC 413. Modern Contemporary IV. 3 Hours H.
Dance technique for advanced dancers with precedents in the movement vocabularies of classical modernists and contemporary choreographers of dance. May be repeated for credit. Counts toward the B.A., B.F.A., and the Minor in dance requirements. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. LAB.

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Dance technique for advanced dancers based on elements of Latino, African, popular and classical jazz dance forms. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. LAB.

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Intermediate/advanced tap dance. A continuation of the principles introduced in Tap Fundamentals including rhythm, clarity of sound, syncopation and weight shift. Proper execution of intermediate/advanced tap technique including step knowledge, weight distribution, and the development of rhythm and syncopation skills is emphasized. Prerequisite: Tap Fundamentals or permission of instructor. LAB.

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DANC 498. Directed Study in: ______. 1-3 Hours.
Investigation of a special topic or project in aesthetics, dance history, movement analysis, production, or a creative project. A maximum of six hours may be counted toward graduation. Prerequisite: At least seven hours of credit in dance courses. IND.

DANC 520. Pedagogy. 3 Hours H.
Methods and materials designed to address the needs of teaching artists across genres of dance (ballet, modern/contemporary, jazz, creative movement) among children, adults and special populations. Lessons are prepared and tested in the classroom among peers. Prerequisite: Consent of Instructor. LAB.

DANC 530. Practicum in: ______. 1 Hour.
Supervised experience in teaching beginning level dance technique in the styles of ballet, jazz, or modern dance. Different approaches are analyzed, discussed, and tested in the studio. Prerequisite: Intermediate level of dance technique in the style of the practicum. FLD.

DANC 540. Field Experience in Dance Teaching. 3 Hours.
Teaching ballet, modern, or jazz dance technique to children or adults with faculty supervision in an academic or community program. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. FLD.

DANC 550. Senior Project. 3 Hours AE61.
In-depth research project in dance theory or history, or choreography involving the complete development and presentation of a dance idea. Prerequisite: Performance option: DANC 320, DANC 350, DANC 290 (for BA students only) and permission of the dance division. Research option: DANC 340, DANC 370, DANC 375, DANC 460, DANC 462, DANC 290 (for BA students only) and permission of the dance division. IND.

DANC 580. Special Topics in Dance: ______. 3 Hours.
A study of current developments in dance with an emphasis on performance or research. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: Junior or senior standing or consent of instructor. LAB.

DANC 598. Seminar in Dance. 3 Hours.
Special studies in dance. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: Junior or senior standing and consent of instructor. LEC.

DANC 735. Analysis, Criticism, and Choreography. 3 Hours.
The choreographic approaches of outstanding dance masters of the past (for example, Marius Petipa and Isadora Duncan) and present (for example, Martha Graham and Merce Cunningham) will be analyzed in terms of their handling of gesture, time, space, structure, and meaning. Students will be expected to seek out and study readings, photographs, and films in order to do written and performance projects based on the choreographic principles of old and new masters in ballet and modern dance. Prerequisite: A course in dance choreography or consent of instructor. LEC.

DANC 898. Directed Study in: ______. 1-3 Hours.
Directed study in some aspect of aesthetics, dance history, movement analysis, production, or an advanced creative project. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. IND.

Courses

THR 100. Introduction to the Theatre. 3 Hours HL GE3H / H.
Designed to help students by means of experience with theatre as well as study about it to achieve an understanding of its cultural role in contemporary society, to develop a sensitive and informed appreciation of its art, and to make it an integral part of their cultural lives. Lectures, discussion groups, special interest groups, theatre attendance. LEC.

THR 101. Theatre Practicum I. 1 Hour H.
One crew assignment in a University Theatre Dance production qualifies for 1 credit hour. May be repeated for credit. ACT.

THR 105. Improvisation. 3 Hours H.
Designed to free the beginning actor physically, vocally, and emotionally. Beginning with basic physical action and sense memory exercises performed by individuals, the work will progress to pair and small-group improvisations in preparation for scene work. Open to freshmen and sophomores only. LEC.

THR 106. Acting I. 3 Hours HL GE3H / H.
Fundamental techniques in acting. Practice in character creation, body language, and effective stage speech. LEC.

THR 111. Make-Up. 1 Hour H.
The techniques in application of make-up for specific characterizations, both straight and character. Study of the structure of the face and hands for stage make-up. Should be taken concurrently with THR 106, if possible. LEC.

THR 116. Scenographic Techniques. 3 Hours H.
Emphasis on drafting, model building, and presentation techniques for the theatrical designer or art director. Some work in computer drafting for the designer-technician. Lecture and laboratory periods. LEC.

THR 120. Public Speaking as Performance. 3 Hours GE22 / H.
This course offers students a unique embodied approach to public speaking. Students will compose and deliver presentations. Theatre games, improvisational techniques, and vocal exercises will help students gain awareness of how mind, body, and speech interrelate. Students will learn to manage performance anxiety, organize a narrative, speak extemporaneously and articulate clearly. Texts used in acting training will supplement a public speaking textbook. Through a combination of speech assignments and theatre exercises, this course will teach students to generate, explore, organize, interpret, and express ideas orally; to use language and media to express ideas clearly and confidently; and integrate body and mind to serve speaking needs in a variety of contexts and across social, cultural, and disciplinary boundaries. LEC.

THR 177. First Year Seminar: ______. 3 Hours HT GE11.
A limited-enrollment, seminar course for first-time freshmen, organized around current issues in Theatre. May not contribute to major requirements in theatre. First year seminar topics are coordinated and approved through the Office of First Year Experiences. Prerequisite: First-time freshman status. LEC.

THR 201. Theatre Practicum II. 1 Hour H.
One crew assignment in a University Theatre Dance production qualifies for 1 credit hour. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: THR 101. ACT.

THR 204. Study Abroad Topics in: ______. 1-6 Hours H.
This course is designed for the study of special topics in Theatre at the freshman/sophomore level. Credit for coursework must be arranged through the Office of KU Study Abroad. May be repeated for credit if content varies. LEC.

THR 206. Acting II. 3 Hours H.
The study of roles and scenes from plays. Practice in character analysis, creation of roles, rehearsal of scenes, and ensemble work. Prerequisite: THR 106. LEC.

THR 210. Musical Performance for the Actor I. 3 Hours H.
Beginning Studies in Musical Theatre Performance: practical application of voice, acting and movement techniques for musical theatre, solo and group performance. LEC.
THR 212. Beginning Voice and Speech for Actors. 3 Hours H.
A foundation course; introduction to phonetics; training in Standard American Stage Speech; articulation skills; resonance and voice placement. LEC.

THR 213. Movement I: The Acting Instrument. 3 Hours H.
A foundational course in discovering ease and efficient use of the body in a performance context, developing non-verbal communication and partnering skills, and establishing the connection of movement to voice production. Trains actors in proper warm-up technique, alignment and balance, physical safety, and basic tumbling skills. LEC.

THR 215. Approaching Design. 3 Hours HL GE3H / H.
Conceptualization and visualization of the elements involved in creative design for theatre, dance, television, and film. LEC.

THR 216. Scenic Production. 2 Hours H.
Introduction to the planning, construction, and mounting of scenery for theatre, television, and film. Concentration on the technical organization of scenic production. Lecture, discussion, and laboratory periods. LEC.

THR 220. Costume Production. 2 Hours H.
Introduction to techniques of costume construction, including study of fabrics, color, fundamentals of pattern making, and draping of costumes for theatre, television, and film. Concentration on the technical organization of costume production. Lecture, discussion, and laboratory periods. LEC.

THR 224. Lighting Production. 2 Hours H.
Introduction to the planning and execution of lighting for theatre, television, and film. Concentration organized any given semester to study particular subject matter or to take advantage of special competence by an individual faculty member. Topics change as needs and resources develop. Class discussion, readings, and individual projects. LEC.

THR 301. Theatre Practicum III. 1 Hour H.
One crew assignment in a University Theatre Dance production qualifies for 1 credit hour. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: THR 201. ACT.

THR 302. Undergraduate Seminar in: _______. 3 Hours H.
Course organized any given semester to study a particular subject matter or to take advantage of special competence by an individual faculty member. Topics change as needs and resources develop. Class discussion, readings, and individual projects. LEC.

THR 303. Summer Theatre. 1-6 Hours H.
Provides experience in a wide range of theatre activity related to the summer theatre production or productions. Work may include activity in the following areas: acting, directing, design, technical theatre, voice and/or movement. Specialized skills are developed through individual classes, production preparation and performance. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. ACT.

THR 304. Study Abroad Topics in: _______. 1-6 Hours H.
This course is designed for the study of special topics in Theatre at the junior/senior level. Credit for coursework must be arranged through the Office of KU Study Abroad. May be repeated for credit if content varies. LEC.

THR 305. Honors Seminar in: _______. 3 Hours H.
Special topics seminar serving students enrolled in the University Honors Program. Course organized any given semester to study a particular subject matter or to take advantage of special competence by an individual faculty member. Topics change as needs and resources develop. Prerequisite: Students must be enrolled in the University Honors Program. LEC.

THR 306. Acting III. 3 Hours H.
Advanced projects in acting. Character and scene analysis, scoring the role, rehearsal, and performance. Prerequisite: THR 206. LEC.

THR 307. Undergraduate Theatre Internship. 1-3 Hours AE61 / H.
Supervised study with an approved theater company or project. May be repeated for credit. No more than six hours may be applied to the B.A. or B.G.S. degrees. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor and at least seven hours credit in the department. INT.

THR 308. Script Analysis. 3 Hours H.
This course provides knowledge and methods enabling students to conduct in-depth study of dramatic scripts. Emphasis is given to the analysis skills appropriate to practitioners of stage and screen arts. LEC.

THR 310. Musical Performance for the Actor II. 3 Hours H.
Intermediate Studies in Musical Theatre Performance: practical application of voice, acting and movement techniques for musical theatre, solo and group performance. Prerequisite: THR 106 and THR 210. LEC.

THR 312. Acting with an Accent. 3 Hours H.
A performance class for actors using monologues and scenes involving the use of accents and dialects. The course will also provide instruction in many of the most used American regional, British regional dialects, and foreign language accents. Prerequisite: THR 212, or by permission of instructor after the student demonstrates an ability in the International Phonetic Alphabet. LEC.

THR 313. Movement II: Physical Characterization. 3 Hours H.
The study of diverse physical acting techniques, and an investigation into creating a character through manipulation of the acting instrument. Actor training in performance neutrality, mask work, age, and gender distinctions. Prerequisite: THR 213 and permission of instructor. LEC.

THR 316. Beginning Scene Design. 3 Hours H.
Study of scenic design process with beginning problems in textual analysis, style, historical research, and preliminary and finished methods of design presentation. Concentration on developing fundamental design skills and awareness. Prerequisite: THR 116 and THR 215, or permission of instructor. LEC.

THR 320. Beginning Costume Design. 3 Hours H.
Study of the costume design process with beginning problems in textual analysis, style, historical research, and preliminary and finished methods of design presentation. Concentration on developing fundamental design skills and awareness. Prerequisite: THR 215. LEC.

THR 324. Beginning Lighting Design. 3 Hours H.
Study of the lighting design process with beginning problems in textual analysis, style, historical research, with preliminary and finished methods of design presentation. Concentration on developing fundamental design skills and awareness. Prerequisite: THR 116 and THR 215, or permission of instructor. LEC.

THR 326. African Theatre and Drama. 3 Hours NW / H/W.
A study of the origin and development of continental African theatre and its affinity to the Levant. Traditional, colonial and contemporary dramatic theories and experiments will be examined in play selections. (Same as AAAS 355.) LEC.

THR 327. African-American Theatre and Drama. 3 Hours AE41 / H.
A historical study of Black Theatre in the U.S.A. from its African genesis to its contemporary Americanness. Epochs in African-American dramaturgy will be critically examined. (Same as AAAS 356.) LEC.

THR 334. Introduction to African Dance Theatre. 2 Hours NW / U.
An introduction to the general techniques of non-verbal theatrical conventions in African cultures. Practical training in movement vocabulary.
will be supplemented by lectures on the "text" of performance. (Same as AAAS 334 and DANC 334.) LEC.

THR 380. Popular Culture: ____. 3 Hours HL GE3H / H.
Interdisciplinary examination of popular culture oriented around a specific genre or theme. Objects of study may include popular forms of live performance such as musicals or vaudeville, as well as media-based performances (radio, television, film, internet). Specific topic to be studied changes as needs and resources develop. May be repeated for credit for different topics. LEC.

THR 401. Stage Management and Assistant Direction. 1 Hour H.
Majors are assigned to stage manage or assistant direct a University Theatre production, or to take related workshops in stage management or assistant directing. May be repeated for credit ACT.

THR 404. Children and Drama. 3 Hours HL / H.
Exploration of forms, methods, and materials appropriate for development of elementary-age children in dramatic arts. LEC.

THR 405. Children and Media. 3 Hours H.
The applied study of child development theories and research methods on the influences and effects of television and related visual media on childhood in the contexts of families, schools, and society. (Same as ABSC 405 and PSYC 405.) LEC.

THR 406. Audition Techniques. 3 Hours H.
This course prepares students for all types of audition experiences. It includes study in techniques of prepared auditions, cold readings, interviews, and the musical audition for actors. Emphasis is placed upon developing resumes and photo portfolios as well as concentrated study in professional contracts, unions, and agent acquisition. Prerequisite: THR 206. LEC.

THR 407. Advanced Acting Special Topic. 3 Hours.
This course is designed for the study of special topics in performance techniques involving advanced skills for the actor at the junior/senior level. Prerequisite: THR 306. Theatre major or minor students. LEC.

THR 410. Musical Performance for the Actor III. 3 Hours H.
Advanced Studies in Musical Theatre Performance: practical application of voice, acting and movement techniques for musical theatre, solo and group performance. Prerequisite: THR 106, THR 210, and THR 310. LEC.

THR 413. Stage Combat Skills. 3 Hours U.
Study of the illusion of violence in a dramatic context and the special skills necessary for creating believable and safe stage fights. Actor training in armed and unarmed combat, including one or more of the following: rapier and dagger, broadsword, and quarter staff. Prerequisite: THR 313 and permission of instructor. LEC.

THR 416. Design Forum. 3 Hours U.
Depending on student qualifications and specialization, focus is on scenic, costume, and/or lighting design. Special attention placed on developing collaborative awareness and the conceptual and presentation skills that underlie and inform the design process. Prerequisite: THR 316 or THR 320 or THR 324. LEC.

THR 429. Postcolonial Theatre and Drama. 3 Hours NW AE42/GE3H / H.
The course develops an understanding of the postcolonial concept and its different manifestations in theatre and drama across nations and cultures. It approaches postcolonialism as a way of reading theatre, and as a genre within theatre by exploring how the "colonial project" has reconfigured the concept, content, and context of theatre in both colonized and colonizing cultures. In addition to the study of postcolonial playwrights and their works, the course is also an introduction to postcolonial theory and its critics. (Same as AAAS 429.) LEC.

THR 445. Teaching Theatre in the Middle/Secondary Schools. 3 Hours H.
Study of philosophy and methods appropriate to teaching improvisation, acting, stagecraft, directing, playwriting, dramatic literature, and theatre history in middle/secondary schools. Includes curriculum development, instructional and evaluative strategies, and management of co-curricular theatre programs. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. LEC.

THR 498. Honors Directed Study in Theatre. 3 Hours AE61 / H.
Individual creation of an original product that integrates theatre knowledge and skills. Selected in advance with advice, approval, and supervision by an instructor. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor, senior level status, and 3.5 GPA in Theatre and 3.25 GPA overall at the time of enrollment. IND.

THR 499. Directed Study in Theatre. 3 Hours AE61 / H.
Individual creation of an original product that integrates theatre knowledge and skills. Selected in advance with advice, approval, and supervision by an instructor. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor and junior or senior level status. IND.

THR 506. Acting for the Camera. 3 Hours H.
A study of acting techniques appropriate to the requirements of the camera. Emphasis is placed on developing audition skills necessary to compete for roles in dramatic features, corporate videos, and commercials. Actors acquire skills essential to the transition from stage to camera. Prerequisite: Permission of instructor. LEC.

THR 507. Acting Professionally. 3 Hours.
This course prepares students for entering the world of professional acting. It includes study in audition techniques such as prepared auditions, cold readings, interviews, and musical auditions. Emphasis is placed on developing portfolios as well as acquainting students with professional contract, unions, and agents and other aspects of the profession. Open to theatre major and minor students. Prerequisite: THR 306. LEC.

THR 508. Fundamentals of Directing. 3 Hours H.
Offered as a first course in play directing. Designed primarily for theatre majors and secondary education majors in language arts with a theatre and drama concentration. The content is principally descriptive in nature with some practical experience. Lecture and laboratory periods. Prerequisite: THR 308. LEC.

THR 509. Dramatic Script Writing. 3 Hours H.
Study and practice in the fundamental techniques of dramatic writing and the application of such techniques most specifically to theatre. Open upon consent of instructor to students who have completed one course in advanced composition and one course in the theory or history of drama. LEC.

THR 512. A Vocal Approach to the Classics. 3 Hours H.
This is an advanced voice and speech course for actors aiming to further increase their command over tone, rhythm, pacing, and diction. Their range and power will be extended. Through discovery of the demands of a variety of classical texts, the actor will be challenged both in verse and in prose to develop the skills necessary to fully interpret that material. Prerequisite: THR 212. LEC.

THR 516. Scenic Painting Techniques. 3 Hours H.
Study of painting equipment, tools, pigments, binders, and vehicles, and their relationship to the surfaces to be painted. Instruction in basic painting techniques. Prerequisite: THR 115 and THR 215. LEC.

THR 517. Computer-Aided Design. 3 Hours U.
Study of new media in theatre and film/video production, primarily computer technologies and methods for the theatrical designer or art
THR 518. Scenography and the Classic Script. 3 Hours H.
Holistic production design, including lighting, scenery, and costumes, for
classic theatre scripts. Contrasts historical styles of production with styles
for contemporary spaces and audiences. Projects tailored to the needs
and level of the students. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. LEC.

THR 519. Scenography and the Modern Script. 3 Hours H.
Holistic production design, including lighting, scenery, and costumes, for
modern theatre scripts. Examines modern styles of production. Projects
tailored to the needs and level of the students. Prerequisite: Consent of
instructor. LEC.

THR 520. History of Period Style I. 3 Hours H.
A survey of Western style from ancient Egypt to the Restoration. Focus
is placed on developing a comprehensive understanding of the stylistic
relationships between art, architecture, clothing, decor, manners, and
social and political history. Prerequisite: Nine hours in theatre/design/
technical courses or consent of instructor. LEC.

THR 521. History of Period Style II. 3 Hours H.
Continuation of THR 520, from the Restoration to the present day.
Prerequisite: Nine hours in theatre/design/technical courses or consent of
instructor. LEC.

THR 525. History of Theatre. 3 Hours H.
Study of developments in world theatre and drama from the ancient world
to the eighteenth century. Prerequisite: THR 308. LEC.

THR 526. History of Theatre II. 3 Hours H.
Study of developments in world theatre and drama since the eighteenth
century. Prerequisite: THR 308. LEC.

THR 527. Asian Theatre and Performance. 3 Hours NW / H/W.
A survey of traditional and modern theatre and performance in Asia, with
greatest attention given to India, China, and Japan. A study of plays,
dramatic genres, history, conventions of play production, acting styles and
other performance forms. LEC.

THR 528. History of U.S. Theatre and Drama. 3 Hours H.
Historical approach to the development of theatre and performing arts in
the United States. Prerequisite: THR 308. LEC.

THR 529. Race and the American Theatre. 3 Hours U.
The representation(s) of race in significant texts and performance styles
in American theatre analyzed according to political ideologies, dramatic
movements and the impact of these factors on the representation of the
"other" in the theatre. (Same as AAAS 585 and AMS 529.) LEC.

THR 550. Applied and Interactive Theatre. 3 Hours H.
This course is an exploration of interactive drama techniques and
practices of the evolving field of applied theatre. The tools of applied
theatre serve varied purposes and are being used around the world
for community-building, personal empowerment, to address social and
political issues, and to strengthen communication skills. The class will
work specifically on community-based dialogue and classroom situations
that students and professors encounter in their daily lives. LEC.

THR 560. Collaborative Production. 3 Hours AE61 / H.
Seniors collaborate as a theatre company to create an original production
that integrates several of the following areas: improvisation, playwriting,
acting, directing, dramaturgy, design, technical production, and stage
management. Collaboration of group project approved in advance with
advice, approval, and supervision by at least one instructor. Prerequisite:
Senior level and consent of at least one instructor. IND.

THR 599. Special Topics in Scenography. 1-6 Hours U.
Individual studio activity. Course content to be determined by the student
under the supervision of a faculty member. May be repeated for credit in
subsequent semesters. Prerequisite: Permission of instructor. IND.

THR 603. Theatre for Young Audiences. 3 Hours U.
A survey of theories, history, literature, criticism, production methods, and
audience research about theatre performed by adults for children and
adolescents. Emphasis is on child development and community outreach.
Prerequisite: THR 308 or consent of instructor. LEC.

THR 604. Drama with Young People. 1-3 Hours U.
A laboratory experience in developing and conducting improvisational
drama workshops with children or adolescents in local schools. Includes
readings by leading theorists and practitioners. Prerequisite: Actors cast in
current KU Theatre for Young People production, or THR 404, or consent
of instructor. LEC.

THR 609. Play Directing. 3 Hours H.
Readings, lectures, and practice dealing with the relationship between
actor and director. Prerequisite: THR 508. LEC.

THR 617. Computer-Aided Design II. 3 Hours U.
Continuation of THR 517. Emphasis on computer-generated images
as scenic media in production situations. Prerequisite: THR 517, or
permission of instructor. LEC.

THR 618. Scenography and the Musical Theatre. 3 Hours H.
Holistic production design, including lighting, scenery, and costumes, for
musical theatre, opera, and dance. Examines development and changes in
design styles in the evolution of musical theatre, opera, and dance and
the special requirements of these forms. Projects tailored to the needs
and level of the students. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. LEC.

THR 619. Scenography and the Contemporary Script. 3 Hours H.
Holistic production design, including lighting, scenery, and costumes, for
contemporary scripts. Examines contemporary episodic scripts written
for the stage that are based on a filmic structure, the special problems of
these kinds of scripts, and the respective problems of designing for
theatre and film. Projects tailored to the needs and level of the students.
Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. LEC.

THR 620. Scenography and the Experimental Production. 3 Hours H.
Holistic production design, including lighting, scenery, and costumes, for
experimental scripts/scenarios. Examines experimental approaches to
a variety of script/scenarios, including mixed-media production. Projects
tailored to the needs and level of the students. Prerequisite: Consent of
instructor. LEC.

THR 626. Myth and the Dramatist. 3 Hours U.
This seminar critically explores myths in dramatic literature from ancient
to contemporary times, using select authors from different cultures. Analysis
of the works will be based on both conventional and post-structuralist
theories and specific emphasis will be on myths that have been adapted
cross-culturally and/or in different time perspectives. LEC.

THR 702. Graduate Seminar in: ____. 3 Hours.
Course organized any given semester to study particular subject matter or
to take advantage of special competency by an individual faculty member.
Topics change as needs and resources develop. Class discussion,
readings, and individual projects. LEC.

THR 703. Directed Readings in Theatre. 1-3 Hours.
Research reading and presentation of reports on specific subjects related
to the students major area of specialization. May be repeated up to a total
of six credits on petition. Required of all MFA Scenography students. IND.
THR 704. Study Abroad Topics in: _______. 1-6 Hours.
This course is designed for the study of special topics in Theatre. Credit for coursework must be arranged through the Office of KU Study Abroad. May be repeated for credit if content varies. LEC.

THR 707. Theatre Internship. 3-12 Hours.
Study with an approved theatre company. Emphasis may be in one or all of the following areas: acting, directing, stage management, technical theatre, promotion management. No more than six hours may be applied to an M.A. degree. Course will be graded satisfactory/unsatisfactory. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. IND.

THR 715. Problems and Techniques of Direction. 3 Hours.
Practical experience in directing. Prerequisite: THR 609. RSH.

THR 719. M.F.A. Production Seminar. 3 Hours.
To be taken by M.F.A. candidates during those semesters in which they are assigned to design one or more elements in a production to be mounted on one of our stages. Weekly critique and discussion of solutions to practical design problems from conception through execution. May be repeated for a total of no more than six hours credit. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. IND.

THR 725. Russian Theatre and Drama from Stanislavski and Chekhov to the Present. 3 Hours.
A study of the development of Russian theatre and dramatic literature from 1898 to the present. Lectures and readings in English. (Same as SLAV 562.) LEC.

THR 800. Introduction to Graduate Study in Theatre. 3 Hours.
Major emphasis is placed upon the principles of research, bibliographical data, and research methods useful in theatre and performance studies. The course should be taken at the beginning of the graduate student’s program. LEC.

THR 801. Professional Development Seminar. 1 Hour.
Preparation for faculty careers in theatre and related fields, including issues of research, teaching, and service. At least three hours per semester will be devoted to training in responsible scholarship. May be repeated for credit. RSH.

THR 803. Summer Theatre: Graduate. 1-3 Hours.
Provides graduate level experience in a wide range of theatre activity related to the summer theatre production of productions. Work may include activity in the following areas: acting, directing, design, technical theatre, voice and or movement. Specialized skills are developed through individual classes, production preparation, and performance. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. FLD.

THR 815. Advanced Play Production. 1-3 Hours.
Individually supervised directing of theatre pieces for public presentation. In special cases credit may be given for musical direction, choreography, or stage management. Prerequisite: THR 715. FLD.

THR 817. Theory of Acting and Directing. 3 Hours.
Readings, lectures, discussions and papers on acting and directing theory; is concerned with the divergence between presentational and representational acting methods and the emergence of directing art. Prerequisite: THR 609 or THR 715. LEC.

THR 819. Advanced M.F.A. Production Seminar. 3 Hours.
Continuation of THR 719, but production design assignments will be more complex and larger in scope. May be repeated for maximum of six hours credit. Prerequisite: Six hours of THR 719 and consent of instructor. IND.

THR 826. Seminar in African Theatre. 3 Hours.
A study of developments in African theatre in the 20th Century focusing on themes, concepts, styles, and critical perspectives. The course will investigate the idea of an “African theatre” and identify different periods and movements within national and international contexts. The analysis of representative works and authors will be grounded within appropriate theoretical frameworks. LEC.

THR 828. Seminar in American Theatre and Drama. 3 Hours.
Intensive investigation of selected topics. Individual study emphasized. LEC.

THR 898. Investigation and Conference (for Master’s Students). 1-8 Hours.
Directed research and experimentation in theatre. Limited to eight hours credit toward the Master’s degree. RSH.

THR 899. Master’s Thesis. 1-6 Hours.
THE.

THR 901. Theatre Seminar in: _______. 3 Hours.
A graduate seminar devoted to selected historical, theoretical, or critical issues in theatre. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. LEC.

THR 914. Theories of Race and Performance. 3 Hours.
Theories of Race and Performance is an inter-textual graduate course that explores interdisciplinary scholarship on race and performance. It seeks to translate these theories into practical application in various visual, audio and performance texts in popular culture. The course is divided into modules aimed at gaining an understanding of the shifting meaning of race over time and its relationship to ethnicity, gender, sexuality, class, nation, and power. How do we perform our identities? How is race constructed and maintained through performance? To begin to answer these questions, we will examine the ways in which racial identities are created through performance. SEM.

THR 915. Modern Theatre and Drama. 3 Hours.
A study of the movements in playwriting and theatrical production in Europe and America from the mid-19th century to World War II. Prerequisite: THR 525 and THR 526 or comparable courses. LEC.

THR 916. Postmodern Theatre and Drama. 3 Hours.
A study of developments in Europe and American playwriting, directing, acting, and design from World War II to the present. SEM.

THR 917. Dramatic Theory I. 3 Hours.
A survey of dramatic theory from Plato to Lessing. LEC.

THR 918. Dramatic Theory II. 3 Hours.
A survey of dramatic theory from Lessing to Langer. LEC.

THR 919. Dramatic Theory Seminar. 3 Hours.
Study in depth of selected theorists. Offered as determined by faculty availability and student interest. LEC.

THR 920. Practicum in Criticism. 3 Hours.
Contemporary approaches to theatre and drama criticism. Emphasis on actual practice, using a variety of critical methods. FLD.

THR 922. Theatre Historiography. 3 Hours.
This course focuses on the advanced study of research methods, subjects, interpretative paradigms, theoretical frameworks, and philosophies of history employed in contemporary approaches to writing and teaching theatre history. Prerequisite: THR 525 and THR 526 or equivalent. LEC.

THR 998. Investigation and Conference (for Doctoral Students). 1-8 Hours.
RSH.

THR 999. Doctoral Dissertation. 1-12 Hours.
THE.