

# THEATRE AND DANCE (THDA)

There is no area of human endeavor that theatre does not touch. To study theatre is to learn a great deal about yourself and about the world in which you will live. No course of study will prepare you better for life in a rapidly changing world.

The award-winning faculty at the University of New Hampshire provide theatre and dance majors with superlative training within a broad liberal arts context. Students may take courses in acting; voice and movement; dialects; directing; choreography; design and theatre technology; the history, theory and criticism of drama and theatre; youth drama; secondary theatre education; playwriting; storytelling; puppetry; ballet; theatre dance (jazz and tap); aerial dance; and musical theatre. Students interested in performance, technical and historical aspects are trained to step into professional careers while still broadening the scope of their preparation through a rich liberal arts education. The program encourages students to explore their interests through independent studies and internships, special projects and active personal involvement in lecture and laboratory classes, with the possibility for integration with other departments. To assist with financial needs, the department awards scholarships to selected majors each spring.

The Department of Theatre and Dance offers over 25 performance opportunities every year in either musicals, plays or dance concerts. In addition to performing, students are given the opportunity to direct, stage manage, design, choreograph or write scripts for the work done in our department. We offer jazz, tap and ballet studies. In addition, UNH was the first university to add Aerial Dance to course offerings. Students study with faculty who have worked locally, nationally and internationally.

In addition to comprehensive liberal arts preparation, six specific course sequences are available within the theatre major:

1. courses leading to a theatre major with an option in acting & directing;
2. courses leading to a theatre major with an option in dance: ballet, theatre dance (tap and jazz) and aerial dance. Students also have the option of pursuing dance education leading to K-12 dance teacher certification. You may achieve dance licensure in two different ways. You may pursue dance education/licensure through the undergraduate program. This leaves no room for double majors or minors. If you want to broaden your undergraduate education and need more space for classes outside of THDA, you may pursue the five-year program, beginning preparation for teaching at the undergraduate level and then pursuing a graduate degree to get dance certification. Students complete a baccalaureate degree in theatre with a dance option and move into a fifth year of study with a full-year internship, leading to either the Masters in Education (M.Ed.) or a Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) degree and licensure for teaching;
3. courses leading to a theatre major with an option in design & theatre technology;
4. courses leading to a theatre major with an option in musical theatre;
5. courses leading to a theatre major that, if desired, may be combined with requirements of the Department of Education to pursue a K-12 teacher's license. You may achieve theatre licensure in two different ways. You may pursue secondary theatre education/licensure through the undergraduate program. This leaves no room for double majors or minors. If you want to broaden your undergraduate education and need more space for classes outside of THDA, you

may pursue the five-year program, beginning preparation for teaching at the undergraduate level and then pursuing a graduate degree to get theatre arts certification. Students complete a baccalaureate degree in theatre with a secondary theatre education option and move into a fifth year of study with a full-year internship, leading to either the Masters in Education (M.Ed.) or a Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) degree and licensure for teaching;

6. courses leading to a theatre major that, if desired, may be combined with requirements of the Department of Education, in conjunction with a fifth year master of education (M.Ed.) program, to prepare students for elementary school certification with an undergraduate option in youth drama.

Auditions are required for the acting, dance and musical theatre options. Interviews are strongly encouraged for all other areas. The audition session will last approximately three hours. In addition to the audition, students will take part in group acting exercises, do a dance call and have an opportunity to ask questions during a comprehensive department overview. Please note that entrance into Department of Theatre and Dance options is contingent upon acceptance into the University of New Hampshire. Prospective students who live more than 250 miles away may contact the department to discuss other audition options. Audition dates, as well as detailed entrance requirements, can be found at the Department of Theatre and Dance website.

## Minoring in Theatre and Dance

A minor acknowledges a level of competence and academic focus without the depth a major requires. Students may pursue a minor while majoring in another subject when the demands of that major prevent the possibility of a double major.

<https://cola.unh.edu/theatre-dance>

## Programs

- [Theatre Major \(B.A.\)](#)
- [Theatre Major: Acting and Directing Option \(B.A.\)](#)
- [Theatre Major: Dance Option \(B.A.\)](#)
- [Theatre Major: Design & Theatre Technology Option \(B.A.\)](#)
- [Theatre Major: Musical Theatre Option \(B.A.\)](#)
- [Theatre Major: Secondary Theatre Education Option \(B.A.\)](#)
- [Theatre Major: Youth Drama Option \(B.A.\)](#)
- [Arts Administration Minor](#)
- [Dance Minor](#)
- [Musical Theatre Minor](#)
- [Theatre Minor](#)
- [Youth Drama Minor](#)
- [Studies in Fashion and Design Cognate](#)
- [Studies in the Design of Interior Space Cognate](#)

## Courses

### Theatre & Dance (THDA)

#### THDA 401 - New Student Seminar

**Credits:** 1

This course is an introduction to being a theatre and dance major. Students will examine academic standards expected in our department as well as management skills essential for success in balancing rehearsal and practicum schedules with academic responsibilities for all classes. This course is focused on helping majors understand expectations of being a Theatre and Dance major along with ways to cope with the stress.

**Grade Mode:** Credit/Fail Grading

#### THDA 435 - Introduction to Theatre

**Credits:** 4

Introduces all aspects of theatrical production: play writing, acting, directing, design, technical theatre and construction, and theatre management. Cultural and social context of theatre in our time and through the ages. Introduces major classical and modern types of theatre. Selected plays are read and discussed, and attendance at theatrical production is required.

**Attributes:** FinePerformingArts(Discovery)

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**Special Fee:** Yes

#### THDA 436 - History of Theatre I

**Credits:** 4

The history of theatre and its drama is introduced through close study of the world's greatest plays from the Greeks through the end of the 17th century -- How these plays were performed then, how they are performed now, their political, social, and cultural urgencies.

**Attributes:** FinePerformingArts(Discovery); Writing Intensive Course

**Equivalent(s):** THDA 436H

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

#### THDA 436H - Honors/History of Theatre I

**Credits:** 4

The history of theatre and its drama is introduced through close study of the world's greatest plays from the Greeks through the end of the 17th century -- How these plays were performed then, how they are performed now, their political, social, and cultural urgencies.

**Attributes:** FinePerformingArts(Discovery); Honors course; Writing Intensive Course

**Equivalent(s):** THDA 436

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

#### THDA 438 - History of Theatre II

**Credits:** 4

The history of theatre and its drama is introduced through close study of the world's greatest plays of the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries -- How these plays were performed then, how they are performed now, their political, social and cultural urgencies.

**Attributes:** FinePerformingArts(Discovery); Writing Intensive Course

**Equivalent(s):** THDA 438H

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

#### THDA 438H - Honors/History of Theatre II

**Credits:** 4

The history of theatre and its drama is introduced through close study of the world's greatest plays of the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries -- How these plays were performed then, how they are performed now, their political, social and cultural urgencies.

**Attributes:** FinePerformingArts(Discovery); Honors course; Writing Intensive Course

**Equivalent(s):** THDA 438

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

#### THDA 439 - In Bed with the Bard: Shakespearean Seduction from Romeo and Juliet to Leonardo and Claire

**Credits:** 4

Introduces the imaginative process by which actors and directors bring Shakespeare's plays to life on the stage. Detailed study of eight plays.

**Attributes:** FinePerformingArts(Discovery)

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

#### THDA 440A - Honors/Theatre and Social Justice

**Credits:** 4

This course that will examine to what degree dramatic literature and theatre art has effected socio-political change in the past, and in the present, through an in-depth exploration of texts, artistic methods and theatrical techniques. Students will create theatrical art related to various sociopolitical issues. Absolutely no experience in theatre is necessary, as this course is built around the premise that we all have the ability to create art and affect politics and society.

**Attributes:** FinePerformingArts(Discovery); Honors course

**Equivalent(s):** THDA 444

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

#### THDA 441 - Exploring Musical Theatre

**Credits:** 4

This is an introductory course designed to enhance the student's enjoyment and understanding of musical theatre. Course content and internet exploration as well as play attendance are designed to acquaint students with and nurture an appreciation for musical theatre. This course is intended for introductory students of all majors who are interested in studying musical theatre elements, styles, and significance.

**Attributes:** FinePerformingArts(Discovery)

**Equivalent(s):** THDA 440

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**Special Fee:** Yes

#### THDA 442 - Introduction to the Art of Acting

**Credits:** 4

Designed for non-THDA major students interested in the art of acting. Students broaden and deepen their own creativity, gain a deeper understanding of human behavior and interaction, and strengthen analytical skills through class work and projects. Focuses on the basic skills of acting: the ability to effectively communicate, to gain access to the full spectrum of human emotions, and increase spontaneity. Important innovators and theorists in the field of theatre and acting are covered, such as Sanford Meisner, Constantine Stanislavski, Bertolt Brecht, Jerzy Grotowsky, Augusto Boal, and Jacques Lecoq. Additional topics include contemporary plays and playwrights, an historical perspective of the art of acting, and the current state of live theatrical performance. Theatre majors not allowed.

**Attributes:** FinePerformingArts(Discovery)

**Equivalent(s):** THDA 551

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**Special Fee:** Yes

**THDA 444A - What's Old Becomes New: Dramatic Adaptations****Credits:** 4

To what degree does updating theatrical themes contribute to societal norms and relevant commentary? This course will examine how enduring dramatic ideas evolve by comparing plays that are written in reaction to or as an extension of a provocative piece, both carrying on similar themes but told in updated ways. Students also will investigate the role these adaptations play in theatre history, why they are done and whether they are justified as quality art.

**Attributes:** FinePerformingArts(Discovery); Inquiry (Discovery); Writing Intensive Course

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**Special Fee:** Yes

**THDA 444B - Famous Dancers of the 20th Century****Credits:** 4

The purpose of this course is to provide an introduction to the dancers of the twentieth century whose contributions to the art form have made dance an important cultural necessity. This includes examining how their style of dance and unique personalities has had a major influence on our perceptions of dance and how they have had an effect on society.

**Attributes:** FinePerformingArts(Discovery); Inquiry (Discovery); Writing Intensive Course

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**THDA 450 - History of Musical Theatre in America****Credits:** 4

Study of the development of the musical and its relationship to American social history.

**Equivalent(s):** THDA 440

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**Special Fee:** Yes

**THDA 455 - Musicianship and Beginning Vocal Techniques for Musical Theatre****Credits:** 2

This course is a combination course designed to help musical theatre students develop the appropriate musicianship skills as well as beginning vocal techniques. Musicianship skills include melodic and rhythmic sight reading, harmony reading and singing, basic piano skills, as well as key signature and interval recognition. Beginning vocal techniques include breath management, strengthening vocal fold closure, releasing tension and creating space in the acoustic chamber (throat and mouth). These skills will help musical theater students develop the ability to overlap strong vocal work with strong musicianship specifically for industry standard auditions and performances in Musical Theatre.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**THDA 458 - Costume Construction****Credits:** 4

Study and development of costuming techniques, including hand and machine sewing, pattern drafting, alterations, and fabric manipulation. Emphasis on demonstrated understanding.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**Special Fee:** Yes

**THDA 459 - Stagecraft****Credits:** 0 or 4

Elements of play production: basic building components, tools, and materials for producing the scenery; equipment and shop layouts supporting all of the areas of the set, lighting, and costume designs; and consideration of various stage spaces and theatrical venues. Practical application on University theatre productions. Lab.

**Attributes:** FinePerformingArts(Discovery)

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**Special Fee:** Yes

**THDA 460 - Elements of Design****Credits:** 4

Course is designed for students who are interested in theatrical design elements including scenery, costume, lighting and sound. Class encompasses lecture, discussion, presentation and studio (work in class) formats. Critique and discussion are essential to the creative thinking that a designer needs to have. Throughout the course, each student is expected to complete projects that incorporate the design elements they have studied.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**Special Fee:** Yes

**THDA 462 - Ballet I****Credits:** 4

Introductory lecture and dance technique course focusing on the fundamentals of ballet technique and the historical development of ballet from the Renaissance to modern times. This ballet class will improve strength, flexibility, coordination, agility, endurance, and musicality while incorporating an appreciation for artistry. No dance experience required, only willingness to develop at your own pace. Open to both majors and non-majors.

**Attributes:** FinePerformingArts(Discovery)

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**THDA 463 - Theatre Dance I****Credits:** 4

Introductory lecture and dance technique course focusing on how technology, industrialization and popular culture impact the art by discussing dancers, choreographers, films and musicals of the 20th century. Jazz and tap class will improve strength, flexibility, coordination, and musicality. No Dance experience required, only willingness to develop at your own pace. Students with prior experience are expected to register for THDA 563 or THDA 663. Instructor determines appropriate level. Class open to both majors and non-majors.

**Attributes:** FinePerformingArts(Discovery)

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**Special Fee:** Yes

**THDA 464 - Ballet Cross-Training****Credits:** 1

Traditional ballet exercises will be modified to focus on repetition and body mechanics to improve athletic skills through dance. This ballet class will help students further develop strength, coordination, speed, agility, flexibility, fluidity, balance, efficiency of movement, and mental focus. Particular emphasis will be given to psychomotor skill development through challenges that require applying unfamiliar ballet vocabulary while moving to music. No dance experience required, only willingness to develop at your own pace in a fun, judgment-free environment.

**Repeat Rule:** May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**THDA 475 - Stage Makeup****Credits:** 2

Fundamentals of juvenile, old age, character, and special stage makeup techniques.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA 487 - History of Dance****Credits:** 4

This course will be a study of dance from prehistory to the present. Through an interactive approach students will gain methods to perceive, create and respond to the history of dance through integrated arts and technology. Activities both in and out of the classroom will aid in the understanding of dance and how it has evolved throughout history both socially and as a means of entertainment. This course will also examine how dance has influenced or collaborated with other art forms.

**Attributes:** FinePerformingArts(Discovery)**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**THDA 500 - Musical Theatre Voice I****Credits:** 0 or 1

This course provides students with a foundation in healthy, relaxed, and dynamic singing of primarily musical theatre repertoire. In addition to expanding the student's knowledge of and ability to sing various styles of musical theatre repertoire, this course provides a venue to explore and develop analytical skills relating to character and script.

**Repeat Rule:** May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**THDA 522 - Storytelling, Story Theatre, and Involvement Dramatics****Credits:** 4

This course actively explores storytelling techniques based on individual needs. An examination of story theatre and involvement styles leads to practical experience in individual performances. Participants will actively develop performance techniques that reflect a variety of styles and approaches for storytelling. We will examine the historical significance of storytelling in Eastern and Western civilizations and develop a perspective on its role in culture and religion. Applications for both educational and entertainment purposes will be explored through acting and vocal techniques, games, media, felt board, and puppetry. This course will include an examination of story theatre and involvement styles and the development of the ensemble for performance. The projects will include individual performances and group collaboration of selected stories appropriate for a wide range of audiences. The final project will reflect the participant's individual needs and utilize storytelling techniques developed in the course.

**Attributes:** FinePerformingArts(Discovery)**Equivalent(s):** THDA 622**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA #531 - The London Experience: Discovery****Credits:** 4

Learn about one of the greatest cities in the world during this 10-day trip to London. This Discovery class begins as a two-week, on-line course and then packs in a busy schedule visiting amazing sights and taking in some of the best theatre in the English speaking world. The course offers an insight into the history, politics, society and culture of London through the lens of art, architecture, music, and of course, theatre.

**Co-requisite:** INCO 589**Attributes:** FinePerformingArts(Discovery)**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA #532 - The London Experience****Credits:** 2

Exploration of the culture and history of London while enhancing study of live theatre prior to active study in the country. IA (continuous grading).

**Co-requisite:** INCO 589**Repeat Rule:** May be repeated for a maximum of 4 credits.**Equivalent(s):** THDA 592C**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA 541 - Arts Administration and Entrepreneurship****Credits:** 4

This course will explore multiple facets of the business of running an arts-based organization. The course will also examine business-related issues relevant to individuals seeking to build a career in the arts. The class will provide an overview of the essential knowledge needed for effective arts management and to cultivate the skillset needed to develop, fund, promote and deliver arts-based projects.

**Attributes:** Inquiry (Discovery)**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA 546 - Costume Design for the Theatre****Credits:** 4

How to design costumes for the theatre, not figure drawing, although drawing techniques are taught. Script analysis and research and presentational techniques for costume design explored and implemented.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA 548 - Stage Lighting Design and Execution****Credits:** 4

This class is designed for students who are interested in theatrical lighting design. The class meets 3 hours per week. It is a project-based course taught in various formats including lectures, hands-on practices, class discussions, and presentations. The class will help students develop the skills for lighting design and creative thinking that are essential for a critical thinker.

**Attributes:** FinePerformingArts(Discovery)**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA 549 - Vectorworks Computer-Aided Design Drafting for the Theatre****Credits:** 2

This course will help students develop essential drafting skills used to present design ideas, technical solutions, and communication in productions. Drafting is a form of visual presentation that brings the design ideas to realization. Throughout the semester, students will learn about the basic graphic standard in the industry, gain proficiency in VectorWorks software, and develop a clear and accurate presentation for their designs.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**THDA 551 - Acting I****Credits:** 4

Development of fundamental vocal and physical stage techniques for actors and directors through exercises, improvisation and theatre games.

**Attributes:** Inquiry (Discovery)**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes

**THDA 552 - Acting II****Credits:** 4

Focuses on strengthening the actor's ability to achieve a higher level of truth, presence, and spontaneity on stage. Building on the approach devised by Sanford Meisner, this highly intensive class creates a bridge to connect these developing skills to various forms of text.

**Prerequisite(s):** THDA 551 with a minimum grade of D-.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA 554 - Stage Combat****Credits:** 4

This course actively explores stage combat techniques for unarmed combat as well as basic rapier swordplay. Students are expected to prepare hand-to-hand acting projects as well as a final rapier fight project which demonstrates proper stage combat techniques learned during the semester.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA 555 - Acting The Song****Credits:** 4

Foundations of solo musical theatre performance, with a special focus on Acting the Song. Students will review beginner acting techniques and transfer their work from the realm of the monologue into the realm of the musical theatre solo assessed through solo performances and written assignments.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**THDA 562 - Ballet II****Credits:** 2

This dance technique class is taught at an intermediate level and is an extension of Ballet I with a focus on developing ballet vocabulary and artistry. Open to both majors and non-majors.

**Repeat Rule:** May be repeated for a maximum of 16 credits.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**THDA 563 - Theatre Dance II****Credits:** 2

This dance technique class is an extension of THDA 463. Students will become versatile in a variety of dance styles, including contemporary and musical theatre style jazz and tap dance. Technical execution, artistry and improvisation will be explored. Open to both majors and non-majors.

**Repeat Rule:** May be repeated for a maximum of 16 credits.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA #564 - Compocinema****Credits:** 4

Compocinema examines dance/movement as an interdisciplinary form that integrates the human body, digital video camera, the computer program, and site-specific and/or collaborative formats. Emphasizing conceptual and practical approaches, students (individually and in groups) will take turns developing and performing movement as well as planning, designing, shooting, editing, observing, describing, analyzing, and revising video of dance/movement as artistic expression.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**THDA 565 - Aerial Dance I****Credits:** 2

This class focuses on beginning aerial dance language and skills as well as body conditioning. Apparatuses including fabric, trapeze and lyra are introduced.

**Repeat Rule:** May be repeated for a maximum of 16 credits.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**THDA 570 - Movement & Vocal Production****Credits:** 4

Expansion of the student's body-voice awareness, utilizing basic theories and lessons of Lessac Kinesensics and other somatic voice and body practices. Students will build breath-body connection and capacity, expand resonance and articulation, explore body alignment and expressiveness to build a foundation for a healthy and dynamic body-voice for stage and screen performance.

**Prerequisite(s):** THDA 551 with a minimum grade of D-.**Equivalent(s):** THDA 470**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA 576 - Pointe****Credits:** 2

This class is taught at an intermediate level focusing on developing pointe technique and artistry. Classical variations are incorporated to study the history of ballet through practical application. 1-2 years of pointe technique required. If interested in beginning the study of pointe technique, contact the instructor. Open to both majors and non-majors.

**Repeat Rule:** May be repeated for a maximum of 16 credits.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**THDA 583 - Introduction to Puppetry****Credits:** 4

Introduces the art of puppetry for general appreciation, entertainment, application in the classroom, and as a therapeutic tool. Emphasis on constructing a variety of puppets (e.g., hand, rod, shadow, and scarf) and adapting literary sources for scripts and performance.

**Attributes:** FinePerformingArts(Discovery)**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA 589 - Practicum****Credits:** 1

The practicum ensures a breadth of experience in the major, including sets, costumes, lighting, props, box office, marketing, and performing. Students must register for practicum every semester. They are notified of their practicum assignment at the beginning of each semester.

**Repeat Rule:** May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits.**Equivalent(s):** THDA 689**Grade Mode:** Credit/Fail Grading**THDA 592A - Special Topics****Credits:** 1-4

Special topics, projects in theatre and dance. Content varies according to needs and interests of students and faculty. Course descriptions are available in department office.

**Repeat Rule:** May be repeated for a maximum of 16 credits.**Equivalent(s):** THDA 592**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA 600 - Musical Theatre Voice II****Credits:** 0 or 1

This course is a continuation of THDA 500: Musical Theatre Voice I. Students build on the groundwork in vocal technique, analysis, and performance established in Musical Theatre Voice I and continue to explore and develop these skills.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading



**THDA 624 - Theatre for Young Audiences****Credits:** 4

Introduces coaching and directing techniques for classical and contemporary acting styles in theatre for young audiences. Historical contents leads into practical exploration of actor training and coaching, production and design, choreography, and business management for theatre and for youth programs. Students develop teaching strategies for young performers and participate in a culminating project.

**Equivalent(s):** THDA 624A, THDA 624B, THEA 624A, THEA 624B**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA 630 - Actor's Voice Through Text****Credits:** 4

Continuing development of the actor's techniques for creating increased vocal expressiveness. Expands actor's awareness and use of their voice through in-depth analysis and interpretation of text. Exploration of the application of vocal technique to film and theatre scripts from intimate to heightened communication including vocal extremes.

**Prerequisite(s):** THDA 570 with a minimum grade of D-.**Equivalent(s):** THDA 550**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**THDA 632 - Interpretation of Shakespeare in Theatre****Credits:** 4

Increases understanding of Shakespeare's language and action, and improves ability to speak his verse and prose with clarity and verve. Students achieve insights into Shakespeare's plays through the medium of performance. Weekly oral and written assignments.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**THDA 633 - Dance Composition****Credits:** 4

Practical, developmental approach to process of creating dances.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA #638 - American Theatre: 1920-1970****Credits:** 4

A survey of American plays from O'Neill onward. Students read and analyze two plays a week. Oral, written, and theatrical assignments.

**Prerequisite(s):** THDA 436 with a minimum grade of D- or THDA 438 with a minimum grade of D- or THDA 450 with a minimum grade of D-.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**THDA 640W - Playwriting****Credits:** 4

To illuminate and guide each student through the art and craft of writing for performance. This course explores the fundamental principles needed to build a realistic play that is intended to be produced upon the stage. Though the course is built around the construction of plays, the principles, writing exercises, readings, and other assignments serve as a solid base for any form of dialogue driven writing.

**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course**Equivalent(s):** THDA 540, THDA 540W, THDA 750**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA 641 - Stage Management****Credits:** 4

Introduces to the concepts and skills needed for stage management. Stage managers perform a central role in the theatrical production, coordinating artistic and technical elements. They need a thorough understanding of the script, strong management skills, and a solid background in all aspects of the theatre. Prepares students to function as a stage manager in productions at any theatre.

**Equivalent(s):** THDA 592B**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA #650 - Scene Painting for the Theatre****Credits:** 4

This course focuses on developing scene painting techniques used by modern scenic artists in theatre. The class will encompass 3 hours per week for lectures, painting technique demonstrations, and working on individual projects. Students will need to commit hours outside class meeting time to completed large scale projects in the scene shop.

**Equivalent(s):** THDA 592E**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA 651 - Rendering for the Theatre****Credits:** 2

Theatrical rendering is a presentational arrangement of given items in perspective appropriate to a set or in a costume at a frozen moment during the production, indicating appropriate mood, atmosphere, and depth. For the theatre, this is generally done in watercolor, but many other media are possible and are explored.

**Equivalent(s):** THDA 592F**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA 652 - Scene Design****Credits:** 4

Scene design from script to finished design. Both aesthetic and practical viewpoints considered. Emphasis on presentational techniques: study of perspective and finished rendering.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA 655 - Musical Theatre Scene Study****Credits:** 4

Builds on and expands the techniques learned in Acting I and Musical Theatre Voice I, with a special emphasis on partner work and scene study.

**Prerequisite(s):** THDA 551 with a minimum grade of D- and THDA 555 with a minimum grade of D-.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**THDA 662 - Ballet III****Credits:** 2

Advanced-level course in technique. Open to both majors and non-majors.

**Repeat Rule:** May be repeated for a maximum of 16 credits.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**THDA 663 - Theatre Dance III****Credits:** 2

This dance technique class is an extension of THDA 563. Students will become seasoned in contemporary jazz, musical theatre style jazz and tap dance. Technical execution, choreographic artistry and improvisation will be explored. Class open to both majors and non-majors.

**Repeat Rule:** May be repeated for a maximum of 16 credits.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes

**THDA 665 - Aerial Dancell****Credits:** 2

The study of aerial arts including two and one point trapeze and fabric. Class open to both majors and non-majors.

**Repeat Rule:** May be repeated for a maximum of 16 credits.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA 670 - Dialects****Credits:** 4

Study and practice in basic dialect acquisition for performers.

**Prerequisite(s):** THDA 551 with a minimum grade of D-.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA 672 - Audition****Credits:** 4

Business aspects of creating and maintaining a performance career, including resumes, photos, agents, casting directors, website building, networking, unions, trade publications, audition material, cold-reading, camera acting, and voice over.

**Prerequisite(s):** THDA 551 with a minimum grade of D-.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**THDA 683 - Advanced Puppetry****Credits:** 4

In-depth study of the theory and practice of puppetry for the advanced student. Students develop skills in manipulation and construction of selected puppet forms and apply these skills in performance. Examines historical perspectives and the application of puppetry in the classroom and as a therapeutic tool.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA 700 - Musical Theatre Voice III****Credits:** 0 or 1

This course is a continuation of THDA 600: Musical Theatre Voice II. Students continue to develop their skills of vocal technique, analysis, and performance established in Musical Theatre Voice II, while focusing these skills towards their application in auditioning for, and performing in, professional theatre.

**Repeat Rule:** May be repeated for a maximum of 3 credits.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**THDA 721 - Arts Integration****Credits:** 4

This course examines the value and practical application of incorporating the arts into non-arts educational settings. From the perspective of multiple intelligences and varied learning styles, students investigate how the arts can enhance teaching methodology by developing and implementing lesson plans for a variety of non-arts subject areas.

Active theatre involvement is limited; the focus is on practicing teaching methods.

**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course**Equivalent(s):** THDA 621**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA 727 - Methods of Teaching Theatre****Credits:** 4

This course is the culminating experience for theatre education. The purpose is to provide practical information and skills that theatre teachers will use as source material for the classroom and to prepare for the education job search. Students will examine a variety of teaching models in order to articulate a personal teaching philosophy, write comprehensive semester curricula and course syllabi, and create an extracurricular program plan and philosophy.

**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course**Equivalent(s):** THDA 627**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA 729 - Community Oriented Drama Programs****Credits:** 1-4

Advanced practicum in designing, developing, and producing drama programs for the school and community. Includes audience analysis and marketing skills as well as adapting spaces, soliciting volunteers, and working with a limited budget.

**Repeat Rule:** May be repeated for a maximum of 12 credits.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA 732 - Choreography****Credits:** 4

Theoretical and practical consideration of the creative and aesthetic aspects of ballet, modern, and theatre dance.

**Prerequisite(s):** THDA 633 with a minimum grade of D-.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA 741 - Directing****Credits:** 4

A process oriented approach to the art of stage directing. The course begins with an in-depth focus on script analysis. Students then develop their skills as the "master storyteller" through imagination, interpretation, communication, and style.

**Prerequisite(s):** THDA 551 with a minimum grade of D- and THDA 552 with a minimum grade of D-.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA 742 - Directing II****Credits:** 4

In-depth study of the theory and practice of stage direction for the advanced student. Builds on 741, Directing. Students strengthen and expand their existing knowledge of the subject area. Exploration focuses on three areas of directorial communication: application to periods and styles, exploration of avant-garde theory, and directorial technique. Concludes with a major project mounted for public performance.

**Prerequisite(s):** THDA 741 with a minimum grade of D-.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**THDA 755 - Musical Theatre Repertoire****Credits:** 4

Students learn to integrate and expand on techniques in previous acting, musical theatre, and voice classes, with special emphasis given to audition techniques, repertoire expansion and specialization, and in-depth analysis of the business and personal requirements necessary to be a successful artist in the professional theatre.

**Prerequisite(s):** THDA 551 with a minimum grade of D- and THDA 555 with a minimum grade of D-.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**THDA 758 - Acting III****Credits:** 4

Applies the principles and techniques acquired by students in THDA 551 and THDA 552 to various genres, such as epic and absurdist, and to mediums such as television and film. Special attention is given to characterization beyond the student's standard range and the development of the actor as a creative artist, using the techniques of such methodologists as Lecoq, Laban, and Grotowski.

**Prerequisite(s):** THDA 551 with a minimum grade of D- and THDA 552 with a minimum grade of D-.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**Special Fee:** Yes

**THDA 759 - Acting: Period and Style****Credits:** 4

Techniques of style analysis and period research. For the first time in the students' undergraduate actor training, students synthesize their basic actor training with the heightened language and archetypal characterization inherent in the classical theatre of the ancient Greeks, the Commedia dell'Arte, the Renaissance, the Neoclassical period, and the Restoration period.

**Prerequisite(s):** THDA 551 with a minimum grade of D- and THDA 552 with a minimum grade of D- and (THDA 436 with a minimum grade of D- or THDA 438 with a minimum grade of D-).

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**Special Fee:** Yes

**THDA 760 - Teacher Planning for Theatre****Credits:** 4

Focuses on lesson and unit planning for the areas of high school theatre history, play analysis, and play writing. Students will practice various methods of teaching these areas of drama.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**Special Fee:** Yes

**THDA 786 - Dance Pedagogy****Credits:** 4

Methods course that focuses on the art and science of teaching the movement forms of ballet, modern, jazz and tap. Designed to prepare students who are seeking dance certification with a M.Ed. or a M.A.T., or who wish to open their own studio. Provides background into the nature of teaching, standards that make up good teaching, awareness of National/State standards, and study and practice of lesson plans in K-12 school curricula or private studios.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**THDA 791 - Internship in Theatre and Dance****Credits:** 2-8

Fieldwork with a regional or touring theatre or with a theatre education program. This advanced-level internship allows the student to experience a professional theatre/theatre education setting prior to graduation. Normally supervised by a qualified theatre professional, with frequent consultation with a faculty sponsor. Written report required. May be part- or full-time with credits assigned accordingly.

**Repeat Rule:** May be repeated for a maximum of 12 credits.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**THDA 795 - Independent Study****Credits:** 1-8

Advanced individual study. Specific independent study opportunities are sometimes posted in the Theatre and Dance Department Office. Project, which includes a substantial piece of writing, must be developed with supervising instructor.

**Repeat Rule:** May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits.

**Equivalent(s):** THDA 795W

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**THDA 795W - Independent Study****Credits:** 1-8

Advanced individual study. Specific independent study opportunities are sometimes posted in the Theatre and Dance Department Office. Project, which includes a substantial piece of writing, must be developed with supervising instructor.

**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course

**Repeat Rule:** May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits.

**Equivalent(s):** THDA 795

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**THDA 796 - Independent Study****Credits:** 1-8

Advanced individual study. Specific independent study opportunities are sometimes posted in the Theatre and Dance Department Office. Project, which includes a substantial piece of writing, must be developed with supervising instructor.

**Repeat Rule:** May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits.

**Equivalent(s):** THDA 796W

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**THDA 798 - Senior Thesis****Credits:** 2

Supervised research leading to the presentation of a major research paper.

**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**THDA 799 - Capstone Project****Credits:** 2 or 4

This required course incorporates and tests the knowledge that majors have learned over their careers in the Department of Theatre and Dance. Capstone experiences are tailored to each student through conference with their adviser in their specific Theatre and Dance track.

**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course

**Equivalent(s):** THDA 799H

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**THDA 799H - Honors/Capstone Project****Credits:** 4

See description for THDA 799.

**Attributes:** Honors course; Writing Intensive Course

**Equivalent(s):** THDA 799

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

## Faculty

<https://cola.unh.edu/theatre-dance/faculty-staff-directory>