

# THEATRE MAJOR

The Theatre Program at Fairfield offers students a liberal arts education balanced between theory and practice: we study theatre and we make theatre. Students work with theatre professionals in acting, dance, design, directing, playwrighting, production, and entertainment technology, and study with professors specializing in history, literature, and criticism of the stage. Students leave Fairfield with a solid foundation in theatre production skills, as well as a strong understanding of the cultural and intellectual contributions theatre continues to make in our world.

Goals for students taking theatre core courses are:

- To gain factual knowledge of all aspects of theatre in practice and theory.
- To develop the specific skills required for working theatre professionals.
- To develop creative capacities as artists, thinkers, and problem solvers.

In advanced courses, students' abilities are enhanced through rigorous engagement in analyzing, critically evaluating, and creating theatre art.

Theatre Fairfield is the production company of the program. Participation in Theatre Fairfield productions is open to all students at the University, regardless of major or minor. We think of Theatre Fairfield as our practical laboratory, where we experiment and refine concepts we are learning in the classroom. Theatre Fairfield's season includes professionally directed and designed productions as well as pieces that feature student playwrighting, directing, designing and acting. In any given four-year period, we produce plays from many historical periods and styles: musicals, comedies, serious plays, period plays, contemporary works, and original plays. Every student has the opportunity to be a performer, writer, director, producer, designer, technician, dramaturg, and critic, and there are many opportunities for advanced work in all of these areas. A group of four production interns, chosen by competitive scholarship, works closely with faculty and staff in administering Theatre Fairfield's season.

Recent productions have included:

- *The Spitfire Grill* by James Valcq and Fred Alley
- *Antigone* by Sophokles, in a new translation by Anne Carson
- *The Taming of the Shrew* by William Shakespeare
- *Pack of Lies* by Hugh Whitmore
- *The Art of Dining* by Tina Howe
- *A Man's World* by Rachel Crothers
- *Avenue Q* by Robert Lopez, Jeff Marx and Jeff Whitty
- *Dancing at Lughnasa* by Brian Friel
- *Measure for Measure* by William Shakespeare
- *Stop Kiss* by Diana Son
- *Rhinoceros* by Eugene Ionesco
- *An Enemy of the People* by Henrik Ibsen
- *The Glass Menagerie* by Tennessee Williams
- *Dead Man's Cell Phone* by Sarah Ruhl
- *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare, directed by distinguished guest artist Barbra Berlovitz
- *Machinal* by Sophie Treadwell
- *The Rocky Horror Show* by Richard O'Brien

- *Cabaret* by John Kander and Fred Ebb
- *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde
- *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* by Steve Martin
- *Dead Man Walking* by Tim Robbins
- *The Birds* by Aristophanes
- *Lend Me a Tenor* by Ken Ludwig
- *The Laramie Project* by Moisés Kaufman

In helping students become well-rounded theatre people, this program emphasizes good research and good communication skills, which are essential to work in the theatre, as well as to all aspects of life. Courses stress the development of written, verbal, and artistic abilities. The program also advocates double-majors and/or minors with other disciplines such as English, psychology, sociology, history, philosophy, communication, and modern languages, as well as double-majors with the School of Business.

Studying in the Theatre Program prepares students for any career that requires creativity, communication skills, and good business practice. Our graduates include managers, lawyers, and educators, as well as theatre professionals working in all aspects of the industry.

## Credit for Theatre Fairfield Productions

In order to understand the nature of theatre, you must engage in the process of making theatre. Therefore, major and minor coursework is supplemented by required participation in Theatre Fairfield productions.

Students earn course credit for such participation. This acknowledges and embraces the educational nature of production work. Grades in these classes are figured in the student GPA, but the class hours count over and above the 120 credit hours required for graduation.

1. TA 0094 Theatre Fairfield: Performance Practicum is a one-credit course that enrolls all students who perform in Theatre Fairfield shows.
2. TA 0095 Theatre Fairfield: Production Practicum is a one-credit course that enrolls all students who are on crews for Theatre Fairfield shows.

## Curriculum Categories

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Theory</b>		
TA 0011	Introduction to Theatre	
TA 0310	Capstone: Theory of Production	
<b>Performance</b>		
TA 0030	Acting I	
TA 0094	Theatre Fairfield: Performance Practicum	
TA 0135	Modern and Contemporary Dance	
TA 0138	Folk and Social Dance	
TA 0210	Theatre in Production	
TA 0230	Acting II	
TA 0231/ FTM 0237	Acting for the Camera	
TA 0240	Directing	
TA 0300	Special Topics (Shell) (in Performance)	
<b>Dramatic Literature and History</b>		
ENW 0204	Creative Writing: Drama	

TA 0110	World Theatre I
TA 0111	World Theatre II
TA 0120/ EN 0125	American Drama
TA 0123/ EN 0120	American Women Playwrights
TA 0210	Theatre in Production
TA 0215	American Musical Theatre: History and Practice
TA 0300	Special Topics (Shell) (in Dramatic Literature and History)
<b>Technology</b>	
TA 0095	Theatre Fairfield: Production Practicum
TA 0150	Introduction to Entertainment Technology
TA 0153	Stage Makeup and Costume Construction
TA 0158	Scene Painting
TA 0300	Special Topics (Shell) (in Entertainment Technology)
<b>Design</b>	
TA 0155	Design I
TA 0253	Costume Design
TA 0256	Stage Lighting
TA 0288	Scene Design
TA 0300	Special Topics (Shell) (in Design)
<b>Arts Administration</b>	
TA 0106	Theatre Management
<b>Internships and Independent Studies</b>	
TA 0395	Internship
TA 0399	Independent Study

## Requirements

For a 33-credit major in theatre, students complete the following:

Code	Title	Credits
TA 0011	Introduction to Theatre	3
TA 0030	Acting I	3
TA 0106	Theatre Management	3
TA 0110	World Theatre I	3
TA 0111	World Theatre II	3
TA 0120	American Drama	3
or TA 0210	Theatre in Production	
TA 0150	Introduction to Entertainment Technology	3
TA 0155	Design I	3
TA 0230	Acting II	3
TA 0253	Costume Design	3
or TA 0256	Stage Lighting	
or TA 0288	Scene Design	
TA 0310	Capstone: Theory of Production	3
Total Credits		33

Theatre majors must participate in the majority of the annual Theatre Fairfield Productions, through TA 0094 and TA 0095.