THEATRE (THEA)

THEA 120 – Introduction to the Theatre  3 credit hours
Study of theatre as a continuing cultural tradition. Designed to explore the role of theatre in society, and acquaint theatre majors and non-majors alike with the basic areas of theatre practice and study. Topics covered may include theater history, dramatic literature, acting, playwriting, theatre technology, and/or design. Methods of instruction include discussions, projects, and hands-on experience with mainstage productions.

THEA 121 – Completing the Look: The Art of Costuming  3 credit hours
Introduction to several techniques and skills used to complete the look of a costume through the art of making masks, period underpinnings (corsets, bustles, etc.), fabric modification, millinery (hats), and armor with a focus on developing a working knowledge of the materials, methods, tools, and supplies used by costume technicians.

THEA 188 – GS Portal  3 credit hours
Students analyze critical issues confronting individuals and society in a global context as they pertain to the discipline in which the Portal course is taught. The Portal is intended to help students succeed in their university education by being mentored in process of thinking critically about important ideas and articulating their own conclusions. Students may take the Portal in any discipline, irrespective of their major or minor. Satisfies the General Studies Portal course requirement. Students may take their Portal course in any discipline. Students who transfer 24 or more hours of General Studies credit to UNK are exempt from taking a portal course.

Total Credits Allowed: 6.00
Prerequisite: First year freshman standing or sophomore standing only.

THEA 210 – Playscript Analysis  3 credit hours
Introduction to the techniques necessary to read, analyze, and understand playscripts for direction, performance, design, or research. Includes the exploration of dramatic structure, plot, character, imagery, and other elements which distinguish plays from other forms of literature.

THEA 220 – Oral Interpretation of Literature  3 credit hours
Development of expression, interpretation, and delivery skills involved in oral presentations through performance of literature, prose, poetry, and drama. Studies may include such topics as literary selection, articulation, projection, and physicalization.

THEA 222 – Acting I  3 credit hours
Exploration of the foundations of acting through creative play, open critiques, and in-class exercises. Study may include an introduction to basic Stanislavski acting terminology and techniques, beginning rehearsal techniques, and performance analysis. Performance skills will be practiced and enhanced through the preparation of monologues and a short scene.

THEA 225 – Acting II  3 credit hours
Continued refinement of acting techniques through the study and final performance of selected scenes, with a focus on character development and script analysis. Coursework will also include the development of emotional realism through work with modern playwrights such as Ibsen, Chekov, Strindberg, and Shaw.
Prerequisite: THEA 225

THEA 235 – Creative Dramatics  3 credit hours
A fun, practical approach to theatre games, improvisation, and movement providing ample opportunities to participate in and learn to teach beginning theatre courses at elementary and high school levels. Possibilities for work in the community.

THEA 237 – Children’s Theatre  3 credit hours
Study of the objectives of theatre for young audiences through practical experience in selection, direction, and production of plays by and/or for children.

THEA 240 – Stage Makeup  3 credit hours
Introduction to stage makeup design and application techniques. Design and application projects are used to familiarize the student with the essential uses of stage makeup for the actor, technician, and educator.

THEA 241 – Introduction to Costume Technology  3 credit hours
Study and training with basic costuming equipment, materials, and techniques. Designed to teach the basics of costume construction including: patterning, cutting, fitting, altering, and caring for costumes. Specific skills are applied through construction projects and work on mainstage productions.

Additional Course Fee Required

THEA 295 – Theatre Practicum  1 credit hour
Practical experiences in theatrical production including, but not limited to: acting, stagecraft, scene painting, electrics, props, technical crews, publicity, and administration.
Department Consent Required
Total Credits Allowed: 9.00

THEA 296 – Elements of Theatrical Design  3 credit hours
Overview of theatrical design intended to acquaint students with basic design elements and rendering techniques in relation to scenery, lighting, and costumes for the stage. Script analysis, production design requirements, the collaborative design process, and the universal language (principles) of design will be explored in depth.

Additional Course Fee Required

THEA 306 – Movement for the Stage  3 credit hours
Basic understanding of how the body, as the actor’s physical instrument, functions in a performance space. Techniques studied will prepare actors to react with creative and impulsive movements, while developing control and stamina through exercise, relaxation, improvisation, and imagination. In-class and environmental movement pieces will be performed throughout the semester.
Prerequisite: THEA 225

THEA 322 – Theatre and Stage Management  3 credit hours
Study of the principles and practices in administration and stage management for theatre producing organizations. Areas covered may include: publicity, season selection, personnel, and audience services; with particular emphasis on stage management including scheduling, rehearsals, production, and performances.
Prerequisite: THEA 135
Additional Course Fee Required
THEA 325 – Advanced Acting  3 credit hours  
Exploration of advanced acting principles and techniques through monologues, ensembles, and scene work. Builds on the foundations developed in Fundamentals of Acting and guides students in the practice of more complex scene analysis and characterization. 
Prerequisite: THEA 225 

THEA 350 – Survey of Dramatic Literature I  3 credit hours  
Examination of play scripts as a genre in world literature. The course will follow the progression of dramatic literature from ancient times to the beginning of the 18th Century. Readings will focus on the genres of comedy and tragedy in the following periods: Ancient Greece, Ancient Rome, Medieval, Tudor and Stuart England. 
Prerequisite: THEA 210 

THEA 351 – Survey of Dramatic Literature II  3 credit hours  
Examination of dramatic literature with primary focus on the modern and postmodern eras of world literature. Specific emphasis will be placed on the philosophical approaches of Realism/Naturalism and Existentialism. 
Prerequisite: THEA 210 

THEA 388 – GS Capstone  3 credit hours  
An interdisciplinary experience where students apply the knowledge, cognitive abilities, and communication skills they have gained from General Studies in designing and completing an original project or paper. Students employ methods and interpretive means of two or more disciplines to integrate knowledge and synthesize their results. Satisfies the General Studies capstone course requirement. Students may take their Capstone course in any discipline. 
Prerequisite: Junior or senior level standing or within 6 hours of completing general studies requirements. 

THEA 400 – Teaching Theatre  3 credit hours  
Preparation of future Theatre instructors for professional work. Learning to plan, prepare, and execute Theatre programs for high schools, continuing studies programs, and community centers. Study will include: creating courses, developing lesson plans, in-class teaching opportunities, organizing class projects, identifying teaching opportunities, coordinating extracurricular activities, and conducting self-evaluations. Will assist students in identifying and developing individual styles of Theatre pedagogy. 
Department Consent Required 

THEA 401 – Special Topics  1-3 credit hours  
Study in a specific area of theatre which will vary each time the course is offered. Topics of study may include performance, history, criticism, play development, technical theatre, as well as others. 
Department Consent Required 
Total Credits Allowed: 6.00 

THEA 413 – History of Theatre I  3 credit hours  
Survey of Theatre History covering the development of the institution of theatre from pre-historical rituals through the Elizabethan period. Areas of study include: theory and criticism, literature, physical theatre, and personnel. 

THEA 414 – History of Theatre II  3 credit hours  
Survey of Theatre History covering periods from the Italian Renaissance through the rise of Realism. Areas of study include: theory and criticism, literature, physical theatre, and personnel. 

THEA 415 – History of Theatre III  3 credit hours  
Survey of Theatre History covering the development of modern theatre in the late 19th and 20th Centuries. Particular emphasis is placed on Realism/Naturalism and Postmodern Theatre. Areas of study include: theory and criticism, literature, physical theatre, and personnel. 

THEA 419 – Costume Design  3 credit hours  
Exploration of the elements and principles of design in relation to theatrical costume design. Specific projects are used to develop the design process with explicit attention to character analysis, period research, design conceptualization, and limitations of budgets and production schedules. Application of construction skills is enhanced through production work. 
Prerequisite: THEA 210 and THEA 241 and THEA 296 or permission of instructor 

THEA 420 – Scenic Design  3 credit hours  
Introduction to the processes and techniques used to apply design elements and principles in the creation of visual environments. Study and practice in script analysis, research, design process, production styles, stage composition, conceptualization, rendering, scenic model-making, etc. will be used to develop and refine design skills. Application of design skills is enhanced through production work. 
Prerequisite: THEA 210 and THEA 296 or permission of instructor Additional Course Fee Required 

THEA 421 – Playwriting  3 credit hours  
Instruction in the craft of playwriting and an organic approach to creating new works. Students will work on original monologues and short plays as they study the elements of drama and the technical format of writing for the stage. Playwriting, play production, competitions, and script publication will be covered. 

THEA 423 – Advanced Theatre Practicum  1 credit hour  
Significant projects in theatre production for advanced Theatre students. Designed to provide students with experience in positions or roles that fully utilize the performance and/or technical skills they have acquired. Projects may include: stage management, directing, major roles, mainstage designs, administration, or others approved by Theatre faculty. 
Department Consent Required 
Total Credits Allowed: 6.00 

THEA 425 – Acting III  3 credit hours  
Advanced training in specific acting styles and techniques such as Greek Drama, Shakespeare, Comedy of Manners, Commedia dell’Arte, Theatre of the Absurd, Augusto Boal’s Theatre of the Oppressed, and the Meisner Technique. Study will include vocal and physical work. 
Prerequisite: THEA 226 

THEA 430 – Modern Dramatic Theory  3 credit hours  
Examination of the basic theories of theatre practice and dramatic literature from 1870 to the present. Realism/Naturalism and 20th Century Postmodernism will be emphasized. 
Prerequisite: THEA 120 or permission of instructor 

THEA 436 – Advanced Technical Theatre  3 credit hours  
Exploration of advanced methods and materials utilized in contemporary technical theatre. Students will become familiar with techniques in mechanical drafting, computer-aided drafting, metalworking, woodturning, foam sculpting, painting, and other technical areas. 
Prerequisite: THEA 135 
Additional Course Fee Required 

THEA 438 – Technical Direction  3 credit hours  
Study of the theory and practice of technical direction for the performing arts and the role of the technical director in the collaborative production process. Course content is focused on the development of skills and techniques for scenery construction, stage rigging, technical drafting, budgeting time and resources, and management. 
Prerequisite: THEA 436
THEA 447 – Lighting Design  3 credit hours
Examination of the mechanics, principles, and practices of lighting for the stage. Course will include: analysis of scripts for lighting design, application of design elements, introduction to lighting equipment and control systems, study of color theory, development and execution of light plots, and an overview of electricity. Hands-on training during mainstage light hang/focus, as well as various design projects will enhance the overall experience.
Prerequisite: THEA 210 and THEA 296 or permission of instructor
Additional Course Fee Required

THEA 460 – Independent Study and Research  1-3 credit hours
Independent study or research of a theatre-related topic under the direction of a Theatre Department faculty member. Proposals for study or research must be submitted to the appropriate faculty advisor prior to registering for this course.
Department Consent Required
Total Credits Allowed: 6.00

THEA 475 – Internship  1-12 credit hours
Practical experience in theatre conducted in cooperation with a professional or resident theatre company. Student work in acting, directing, stage management, design, technical work, or administration will be monitored and evaluated by a Theatre faculty advisor.
Department Consent Required
Total Credits Allowed: 12.00

THEA 480 – Play Direction  3 credit hours
Introduction to the fundamentals of directing for the stage through application of basic principles and techniques to one-act and cutting projects. Projects combine theory and practice in play selection, script interpretation, stage movement, stage composition, interpersonal relationships, production values, rehearsals, and ultimate performance.
Prerequisite: THEA 135 and THEA 210 and THEA 225