

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY  
REQUEST FOR NEW UNDERGRADUATE MINOR OR CHANGE IN MINOR

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MAR 27 2007

OFFICE OF THE  
SENATE COUNCIL

Program Bachelor of Arts

Minor Minor in Theatre -- change in Minor Requirements

Department Theatre College Fine Arts

Bulletin PP \_\_\_\_\_

CIP Code \_\_\_\_\_ UK ID No. \_\_\_\_\_ HEGIS Code \_\_\_\_\_

Accrediting Agency (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

**New  
Minor**

Minor Prerequisites (list course prefix, number and title)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Minor Requirements (list course prefix, number and title)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Minor Electives (list course prefix, number and title)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Total Hours Required

\_\_\_\_\_

Rationale for Proposal

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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**UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY**  
**REQUEST FOR NEW UNDERGRADUATE MINOR OR CHANGE IN MINOR**

**Change in Minor Requirements**

<u>Current</u>		<u>Proposed</u>	
TA 150	3 credits	No Change	3 credits
TA 126	3 credits	No Change	3 credits
TA 190, 390, or 590	1 credit	TA 390 X 3	3 credits
TA 191, 391 or 591	1 credit		
3 <sup>rd</sup> credit selected from any of the above	1 credit		
TA elected courses	12 credits	No Change	12 credits

**Total Hours** 21 hours – No Change


**Rationale for Proposal**  
 This change is part of an overall curriculum revision for the Department of Theatre, B.A. Degree program. This will align the practicum requirements with the Major Requirements.

Will this program be printed in the Bulletin?  Yes  No

**Signatures of Approval:**

10/1/2006  
 Date of Approval by Department of Faculty

Mar 8, 2007  
 Date of Approval by College of Faculty

  
 Reported by Department Chair

  
 Reported by College Dean

\*Date of Approval by Undergraduate Council

Reported by Undergraduate Council Chair

\*Date of Approval by Graduate Council

Reported by Graduate Council Chair

\*Date of Approval by Health Care Colleges Council (HCCC)

Reported by HCCC Chair

\*Date of Approval by Senate Council

Reported by Senate Council Office

\*Date of Approval by University Senate

Reported by Senate Council Office

**ACTION OTHER THAN APPROVAL**

\*If applicable, as provided by the Rules of the University Senate

UNIVERSITY SENATE ROUTING LOG

**Proposal Title:**

Name/email/phone for proposal contact:

**Instruction:** To facilitate the processing of this proposal please identify the groups or individuals reviewing the proposal, identify a contact person for each entry, provide the consequences of the review (specifically, approval, rejection, no decision and vote outcome, if any) and please attach a copy of any report or memorandum developed with comments on this proposal.

Reviewed by: (Chairs, Directors, Faculty Groups, Faculty Councils, Committees, etc)	Contact person Name (phone/email)	Consequences of Review:	Date of Proposal Review	Review Summary Attached? (yes or no)
Theatre Dept.	Nancy Jones 7-3297 nancy.jones@uky.edu	Passed	Jan. 07	no
College Curriculum Committee	Jane Johnson 7-1709 jhjohn@email.uky.edu	Passed	3/6/07	no

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OFFICE OF THE  
SENATE COUNCIL

**B.A. Degree  
Department of Theatre  
College of Fine Arts**

**RATIONALE FOR CHANGES**

Over the past several years, the faculty of the Department of Theatre have brainstormed, researched, and developed a revised curriculum. The B.A. Degree in Theatre program updates will bring cutting edge changes to the curriculum, including multi-cultural, international, and community outreach courses, that will align the Department of Theatre with its benchmarks and provide student opportunities for learning that will allow them to compete in the 21<sup>st</sup> century marketplace.

The program is strongly oriented toward interdisciplinary participation and collaboration. Theater Program courses emphasize the truly inclusive nature of theater, which encompasses performance, literature, design, history, artistic community, and intellectual rigor. Students are expected to acquire a solid familiarity with dramatic literature and to develop the ability to research the historical context and dramaturgy of a play and to write about it. They are also encouraged to Study Abroad in two programs currently being developed in coordination with Asian Theatre and French Theatre. In addition, students will have increased opportunities for Community Engagement by involving them in Social Action Theatre projects across the Commonwealth.

**CHANGES IN DEGREE PROGRAMS**

During the academic year 2005-2006, the Department of Theatre decided to suspend its B.F.A Degree programs for a number of reasons. First, B.F.A. Programs, in general were extremely popular in the 1980's, when many Universities were first implementing them as a "conservatory" style degree option. Over the past twenty-five years, M.F.A. degrees have become vital for actors going into the field of design and/or performance, subsequently the B.F.A. in Theatre has become outmoded and superfluous.

An article in the *New York Times* (Dec. 15, 2005) described the B.F.A. syndrome eloquently, in that many B.F.A. programs are showcasing their graduating acting students in New York City in order to find representation and acting employment. But Casting Directors and agents conclude that B.F.A. Acting students are less desirable to them. These theatre professionals are more interested in young actors who are well read, well traveled, and curious about the world. In other words, a B.A. degree is the more desirable degree in order to compete in the world of theatre arts in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Similarly, Professor Susan Hilferty, who heads the Graduate Design Program at NYU, describes her disillusionment with typical undergraduate theatre majors, who have devoted an inordinate amount of time in their education to practice-oriented coursework. Professors from several graduate design programs of the highest caliber concur with her sentiment. In an October 1999 article in *Entertainment Design*, Ming Cho Lee from Yale School of Drama states that he is, "...looking for a [potential graduate] student with an understanding of history, literature, and curiosity about life. A young student who has a broad-based liberal arts education to connect to the life, the history, the society, the

human experience.” These are the qualities that the Department of Theatre intends to cultivate through the revisions in the B.A. Degree curriculum.

In addition, the Department of Theatre has approximately 70-80 majors, and a faculty of 12. Our resources were not being utilized equitably or efficiently given the small number of majors in the B.F.A. Degree Programs.

Consequently, with these curriculum revisions, we will focus our Departmental energy on a B.A. Degree that will allow theatre students more freedom of choice through categories of electives, and will allow them to devise an individual plan of study based on their areas of interest.

### **CATEGORIES OF CHANGE**

#### ***Change in Existing Courses***

Courses in this section have subtle changes to course content that align them more powerfully to the B.A. Degree revisions.

#### ***Dropped Courses***

By suspending the B.F.A. Degree Programs, the Department of Theatre is removing courses from our curriculum list that deal with topics that are too narrow in focus for a B.A. Degree, have a small number of students who were required to take them under old degree programs, or have outmoded course content.

#### ***Added Courses***

The Department of Theatre is adding courses under several categories:

- Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, and Senior Studios  
These courses will be collaborative learning environments that will incorporate aspects of theory, practice and performance. Senior Studio will be a capstone course, which will have a Reading List of Dramatic Literature and a Comprehensive Written Test to accurately assess our graduating seniors knowledge of Dramatic Literature and Theatre.
- World Theatre 1, 2, 3, and 4  
These courses will replace Theatre History 1 and 2, which focused mainly on the Western European Theatre tradition. In the new World Theatre courses, students will gain a stronger multi-cultural and international perspective. World Theatre 1 will be a provisional major course, which students must pass with a 3.0 or higher. World Theatre 2 and 3 will be major requirements, and World Theatre 4 can be taken as an elective under the category of Theory and History.
- Performance and Practice Electives  
In addition to Studio Performance courses, students can opt to take other courses in this area that include: Advanced Acting, Directing, and Playwriting. The Advanced Directing course (TA 530) will be a research-based course, which will allow students to focus on the individual styles of influential theatre directors, and create performance projects based on their research. The playwriting program will be increased to include a second, more advanced playwriting course, and the faculty member who heads this

area will also direct the Studio Season, where student written and directed plays are produced each semester.

- Design and Technology Electives

New courses include: TA 368, Visual Storytelling, which is a design class focused on puppetry, mask-making and mythology; and TA 360, Graphics for Theatre, which will focus on computer aided drawing and advanced rendering and drawing skills for theatre students.

- Theory and History Electives

Several of the courses in this category have been offered in the past as Topics in Theatre courses with a variety of subtitles. The Department desires to formalize its commitment to multi-cultural, international and cross-disciplinary courses by offering these classes on a regular basis. Examples of courses are Black Theatre Workshop, Asian Theatre, French Theatre and Social Action Theatre.

## **CHANGES IN MAJOR REQUIREMENTS**

### ***Provisional Major Requirements***

The Changes in Major Requirements are outlined on the last page of this document. There are two provisional major requirements, which students need to complete with a 3.0 in order to become full theatre majors. The first is TA 115, or Freshman Studio. This course will be an introduction to many aspects of Theatre Practice and Performance, and will be team-taught by two Theatre Faculty. The content of the course (which will meet five days per week) will encompass the material formerly taught in TA 126 and TA 150. In addition to the content contained in those classes, the new course will give greater focus to ensemble building and creating a collaborative group project each semester. Also, a third faculty member will lecture during specific class sessions on Make-Up for Theatre, which was formerly taught as TA 264. By embedding Make-up for Theatre into the Studio Class, students learn about these techniques within the context of the project they are working on, so they can apply them immediately rather than in academic isolation.

The Department of Theatre will continue to offer TA 126 (Fundamentals of Acting) and TA 150 (Fundamentals of Design and Production) under the revised curriculum. These classes are often taken by students outside the Department of Theatre as electives, and will continue to be useful in terms of recruiting students. In order for the class size in Freshman Studio to remain at 20 students, Theatre Minors will also take TA 126 and TA 150 for their degree requirements.

TA 171, World Theatre 1, will also be required for incoming freshmen students to complete with a 3.0 or higher in order to become Theatre Majors. In this way, the Department can encourage students to link theory, history and practice as they strive for excellence in their academic endeavors.

Students will take a total of 11 credit hours as provisional theatre majors.

### ***Major Requirements***

Many of the major requirements have stayed the same under the curriculum revisions. Students take a total of 38 credit hours that are major requirements. Only one new course is submitted, although it is currently being taught under a Topics in Theatre listing. TA 275, Stage Management, will be a major requirement. It is a crucial course for all theater majors as it deals with organization, problem solving, leadership skills, and an overall knowledge of all aspects of theatre.

### ***Electives***

Under the revised program, Theatre Majors are required to take at least one course (3 credit hours) from each of the following categories of electives:

- Practice and Performance
- Design and Technology
- Theory and History

They are required to take a total of 24 credit hours from these three elective categories, so by shifting the focus of the curriculum to include more electives, students are able to design a program that suits their individual needs, interests, and abilities.

### **CONCLUSION**

The Theater Program is grounded in the belief that theater is a fundamental cultural necessity that enriches all who participate in it. The program emphasizes the practical and the theoretical, and is geared toward students who are interested in theater as a part of a liberal arts education and those who might wish to pursue further professional training or a career in theater.

The revisions in the B.A. Degree curriculum will create a cutting-edge program for the Commonwealth. The concept of collaboration behind the focus of the program is innovative and will bring new vigor to students and faculty.

The proposed curriculum will support the Mission and Strategic Plan of the Department of Theatre, which are directly in alignment with the University-wide goals for excellence.



**Overview of B.A. in Theatre Degree – Curricular Changes**

**Current Curriculum**

**Added Courses**

**Dropped Course**

**New Curriculum**

**Electives:**

- TA 272 Drafting for Theatre
- TA 320 Theatre Movement I
- TA 321 Theatre Movement II
- TA 326 Acting IV\*
- TA 327 Acting V
- TA 397 Summer Theatre
- TA 411 Teaching Theatre Arts
- TA 524 Dialects for the Theatre
- TA 525 Vocal Production II

**Electives:**

- TA 272 Drafting for Theatre
- TA 320 Theatre Movement I
- TA 321 Theatre Movement II
- TA 327 Acting V
- TA 397 Summer Theatre
- TA 411 Teaching Theatre
- TA 524 Dialects for Theatre
- TA 525 Vocal Production II
- TA 326 Advanced Acting\*

TA 300 *Special Projects*

TA 360 *Graphics for Theatre*

TA 368 *Visual Storytelling*

TA 384 *Black Theatre Workshop*

TA 471 *World Theatre IV*

TA 485 *French Theatre*

TA 486 *Social Action Theatre*

TA 526 *Playwrighting II*

TA 530 *Directing III\**

TA 570 *Advanced Design Studio\**

TA 584 *Asian Theatre*

TA 587 *Gender and Performance*

TA 300 *Special Projects*

TA 330 *Directing I*

TA 360 *Graphics for Theatre*

TA 365 *Costume Design*

TA 367 *Lighting Design*

TA 368 *Visual Storytelling*

TA 374 *Scenic Design*

TA 384 *Black Theatre Workshop*

TA 471 *World Theatre IV*

TA 485 *French Theatre*

TA 486 *Social Action Theatre*

TA 526 *Playwrighting II*

TA 530 *Experiments in Directing\**

TA 470 *Adv. Projects in Design\**

TA 584 *Asian Theatre*

TA 587 *Gender and Performance*

\*denotes Change in Existing Course

**Overview of B.A. in Theatre Degree – Curricular Changes**

**Added Courses**

**Dropped Course**

**New Curriculum**

**Pre-Major requirements:**  
 TA 126 Acting Ensemble  
 TA 150 Fund. of Production  
 TA 225 Vocal Production  
 TA 280 Script Analysis

*TA 171 World Theatre I*

**Pre-Major requirements:**  
 TA 115 Freshman Studio  
 TA 171 World Theatre I

TA 280 Script Analysis

**Major Requirements:**

TA 100 Theatre Roundtable

TA 226 Acting II

TA 227 Acting III

TA 330 Directing I

TA 260 Stagecraft

TA 264 Makeup

TA 265 Costume Construction

TA 267 Lighting/Sound Technology

TA 365 Costume Design

TA 367 Lighting Design

TA 374 Scenic Design

TA 100 Theatre Roundtable

TA 226 Acting II

TA 227 Acting III

TA 264 Makeup

**Major Requirements:**

TA 215 Sophomore Studio

*TA 215 Sophomore Studio*

TA 260 Stagecraft

TA 265 Costume Construction

TA 267 Lighting/Sound Technology

TA 271 World Theatre II

TA 275 Stage Management

*TA 271 World Theatre II*

*TA 275 Stage Management*

TA 315 Junior Studio: Act.

TA 316 Junior Studio: Des.

TA 371 World Theatre III

*TA 315 Junior Studio: Act.*

*TA 316 Junior Studio: Des.*

*TA 371 World Theatre III*

TA 380 Theatre History I

TA 381 Theatre History II

TA 382 American Theatre

TA 387 Seminar in Theatre\*

TA 390 Production Practicum\*

TA 391 Performance Practicum

TA 430 Directing II

TA 495 Senior Project

TA 380 Theatre History I

TA 381 Theatre History II

TA 382 American Theatre

TA 391 Performance Practicum

TA 430 Directing II

TA 495 Senior Project

TA 387 Seminar in Dram. Lit.\*

TA 390 Theatre Practicum\*

TA 415 Senior Studio

\* denotes Change in Existing Course

SAMPLE CURRICULUM – 4 Year Plan  
 Department of Theatre • B.A. Degree  
 (This plan does not include any remedial courses and  
 assumes that students have completed H.S. language and math requirements.)

**FALL FRESHMAN**

TA 115	Freshman Studio	8
TA 390	Practicum	1
ENG 104		4
USP Calculus		<u>3</u>
		16

**SPRING FRESHMAN**

TA 265	Costume Construction	3
TA 390	Practicum	1
TA 171	World Theatre 1	3
TA 260	Stagecraft	3
USP	Social Science	3
USP	Natural Science	<u>3</u>
		16

**FALL SOPHOMORE**

TA 267	Light/Sound Technology	3
TA 215	Sophomore Studio	4
TA 271	World Theatre 2	3
USP	Humanities or Elective	3
USP	Cross-Cultural	<u>3</u>
		16

**SPRING SOPHOMORE**

TA 275	Stage Management	3
TA 371	World Theatre 3	3
Theatre Elective		3
TA 390	Practicum	1
USP	Social Science	3
USP	Natural Science	<u>3</u>
		16

SAMPLE CURRICULUM – 4 Year Plan  
 Department of Theatre • B.A. Degree  
 (This plan does not include any remedial courses and  
 assumes that students have completed H.S. language and math requirements.)

**FALL JUNIOR**

TA 387	Seminar in Dramatic Literature	3
	Elective	3
	Theatre Elective	1
TA 390	Practicum	1
USP	Humanities or Elective	3
USP	Elective	3
		14

**SPRING JUNIOR**

TA 315	Junior Studio (Select Intensive)	3
	Theatre Elective	3
TA 390	Practicum	1
	Fine Arts Elective	3
USP	Elective	3
USP	Catch-up	3
		16

**FALL SENIOR**

	Theatre Elective	3
	Theatre Elective	3
TA 415	Senior Studio	3
	Fine Arts Elective	3
	USP Elective	3
		16

**SPRING SENIOR**

	Theatre Elective	3
	Theatre Elective	3
	Theatre Elective	3
	Elective	3
		12