

Theater

<http://www.theater.siu.edu/>
tkidd@siu.edu

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Graduate Faculty:

Bogumil, Mary L., Associate Professor, Ph.D., University of South Florida, 1988; Dramatic Literature.

Fagerholm, Thomas, Assistant Professor, M.F.A., Minnesota State University, Mankato, 2012; Technical Direction.

Fink, Timothy, Professor, M.F.A., Southern Illinois University Carbondale, 1993; 1994. Opera music theater.

Fletcher, Anne, Distinguished Professor, Ph.D., Tufts University, 1992; 2001. Theater history, 20th century American political theater.

Kidd, Thomas J., Associate Professor, and *Chair*, M.F.A., Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, 1999; 2004. Acting, directing.

Merrill-Fink, Lori, Associate Professor and *Director University Honors Program*, M.F.A., University of Arizona, Tucson, 1988; 1988. Acting, voice, and movement.

Moe, Christian H., Professor, *Emeritus*, Ph.D., Cornell University, 1958; 1958.

Naversen, Ronald, Professor and *Director of Graduate Studies*, Ph.D., Southern Illinois University Carbondale, 1989; 1989. Scenic design.

Ojewuyi, Olusegun, Associate Professor, M.F.A., Yale University, 1998; 2004. Acting, directing.

Patrick-Benson, Susan, Associate Professor and *Director of Undergraduate Studies*, M.F.A., Rutgers University, 1995; 2006. Voice specialist.

Rush, David, Professor, *Emeritus* Ph.D., University of Illinois, 1973; 1996

Varns, Mark, Professor, M.F.A., University of Missouri-Kansas City, 1990; 1996. Technical direction, lighting design.

Zea, Wendi, Associate Professor M.F.A Kent State University, 2006; 2009 Costume Design.

The Department of Theater is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Theatre, 11250 Roger Bacon Drive, Suite 21, Reston, Virginia 20190.

The Department of Theater blends scholarship and practice in an academically based theater experience that provides students with broad based exposure to human experience and a sound foundation in the skills of theater craft. Class work in all areas of theater is complimented by a production program that reinforces both scholarship and practice, creating work that is as imaginative and highly polished as possible. Graduates will be able to apply their knowledge of performance, production, theater history, contemporary practice, literature and theory in a wide variety of theater venues. Graduates will also be able to demonstrate intrapersonal and interpersonal skills in the form of leadership qualities, self discipline, creative expression, critical thinking, and the ability to work effectively as a part of a collaborative team. The development and guidance of talent and discipline, both characteristic of the artist/scholar, are the goals of the Department of Theater.

The Department of Theater maintains two theaters for public

productions: the McLeod Theater, a proscenium stage seating approximately 500, and the Christian H. Moe Laboratory Theater, a flexible stage seating up to 110. The playbill typically encompasses a balance of contemporary, classic, and original works, and offers seven productions including a musical and an opera during the academic year (the latter co-produced with the School of Music). The summer season, McLeod Summer Playhouse, consists of three productions operating as a professional summer stock company, offering stipends, and/or graduate credit.

The Department of Theater offers a graduate program of study leading to a Master of Fine Arts degree in theater. An interdisciplinary doctoral study in theater is sponsored by the Department of Communication Studies.

Admissions

To apply students must fill out the online application for Admission to Graduate Study in Theater <http://www.gradschool.siu.edu/>. Applicants for graduate studies in theater must satisfy the minimum requirements of the Graduate School before being admitted to the department. The application includes a statement of purpose, transcripts from all undergraduate and graduate coursework together with three (3) letters of recommendation from former teachers or supervisors. There is a \$65.00 nonrefundable application fee payable online.

There are additional requirements established by each of the areas of study in the M.F.A. program. Applicants in the directing are required to submit materials that are representative of their previous theater work and/or indicate an aptitude for stage direction (including promptbooks, programs, reviews, photos, video tapes or casebooks from previous directing efforts. Prospective directing students are also required to attend an on-campus interview and audition. At this time, each applicant will work with actors on a directing scene to demonstrate their ability to analyze the scene and work with actors. Applicants in the costume, lighting, scene design and technical direction areas are required to submit portfolio samples of their work. Applicants in the playwriting area must submit approximately 2 to 2 1/2 hours of written material consisting of one full-length play and/or several significant short pieces. These materials should be sent directly to the Director of Graduate Studies at the address below.

Although an undergraduate major in theater is not essential for admission to a graduate degree program in theater, the director of graduate studies may require that certain course deficiencies in undergraduate subject areas be remedied. These requirements are stated in writing on the admissions approval form.

More detailed information about these requirements is obtainable from: Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Theater, Mail Code 6608, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Carbondale, IL 62901, 618-453-5741.

Financial Assistance

There are several kinds of financial assistance available to graduate students in the Department of Theater. First, there are graduate fellowships awarded on the basis of superior scholarship. Second, special fellowships are offered annually to students who show promise of success in graduate studies although their academic records have been only average due

to economic disadvantages. The fellowships have no service requirements. Third, graduate assistantships with competitive stipends are available to students who are employed in various academic support positions, such as teaching, research, and production. All fellowships and assistantships include a waiver of tuition (both in-state and out-of-state). Applications for financial assistance may be obtained by contacting the director of graduate studies.

The Master of Fine Arts Degree Program

The Master of Fine Arts degree program in theater emphasizes practical expertise in one of the following areas: directing, playwriting, costume design, lighting design, scene design and technical direction. The department encourages interdisciplinary study in related fields including performance studies, dramatic literature, dramaturgy, musical theatre and opera. In most instances, a three-year residency is required of all M.F.A. students.

All M.F.A. students must complete a minimum of 60 semester hours of course work, including the M.F.A. degree core requirements:

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| THEA 500 | Introduction to Research Methods, 3 hours |
| THEA 501 | Contemporary Developments, 3 hours |
| THEA 599 | Thesis, 6 hours |

Total M.F.A. Core: 12 Hours

In addition, each area of study has specific area and elective requirements which are as follows.

Directing

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| M.F.A. core, 12 hours | |
| THEA 401A | Stage Management, 2 hours |
| THEA 401B | Stage Management Lab, 1 hour |
| THEA 402 | Directing Studio, 3 hours |
| THEA 417 | Advanced Acting, 3 hours |
| THEA 502 | Advanced Directing Studio, 9 hours |
| THEA 504A | Drama, Theories & Conventions, 3 hours |
| THEA 504B | Drama, Theories & Conventions, 3 hours |
| THEA 511A | Playwriting I, 3 hours |
| THEA 520A | Period Styles for Theater, 3 hours |
| THEA 520B | Period Styles for Theater, 3 hours |
| Design Classes, (select 2 of 3) 6 hours | |
| THEA 407 | Scene Design |
| THEA 414 | Costume Design |
| THEA 418 | Lighting Design |
| Electives (by advisement), 9 hours | |

Total: 60 hours

Costume Design

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| M.F.A. core 12 hours | |
| THEA 414 | Costume Design, 3 hours |
| Design & Production Classes, (select 2 of 3) 6 hours | |
| THEA 407 | Scene Design |
| THEA 418 | Lighting Design |
| THEA 419 | Technical Direction |
| THEA 510 | Production Design Seminar, 6 hours (to be taken every semester in residence) |
| THEA 516 | Advanced Design & Production, 2-8 hours (may be taken 4 semesters) |
| THEA 412 | Patterning & Draping for the Theater, |

2 hours

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| THEA 413 | Drafting for the Theater, 3 hours |
| THEA 415-A/B | Costume Crafts I & I 2-4 hours (each section may be taken twice) |
| THEA 512 | Advanced costume Construction, 2-8 hours (may be taken four times) |
| THEA 520A | Period Styles for Theater, 3 hours |
| THEA 520B | Period Styles for Theater, 3 hours |
| Electives (by advisement), 8 hours | |

Total: 60 hours

Lighting Design

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|--|---|
| M.F.A. core, 12 hours | |
| THEA 418 | Lighting Design, 3 hours |
| Design & Production Classes, (select 2 of 3) 6 hours | |
| THEA 407 | Scene Design |
| THEA 414 | Costume Design |
| THEA 419 | Technical Direction |
| THEA 510 | Production Design Seminar, 6 hours (to be taken every semester in residence) |
| THEA 516 | Advanced Design & Production, 2-8 hours (may be taken 4 semesters) |
| THEA 520A | Period Styles for Theater, 3 hours |
| THEA 520B | Period Styles for Theater, 3 hours |
| Electives (by advisement), 19 hours | |

Total: 60 hours

Scene Design

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|--|--|
| M.F.A. core, 12 hours | |
| THEA 418 | Lighting Design, 3 hours |
| Design & Production Classes, (select 2 of 3) 6 hours | |
| THEA 407 | Scene Design |
| THEA 414 | Costume Design |
| THEA 419 | Technical Direction |
| THEA 510 | Production Design Seminar, 6 hours to be taken every semester in residence) |
| THEA 516 | Advanced Design & Production, 2-8 hours (may be taken 4 semesters) |
| THEA 520A | Period Styles for Theater, 3 hours |
| THEA 520B | Period Styles for Theater, 3 hours |
| Elective (by advisement), 19 hours | |

Total: 60 hours

Technical Direction

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| M.F.A. core, 12 hours | |
| THEA 419 | Technical Direction, 3 hours |
| Design & Production Classes, (select 2 of 3) 6 hours | |
| THEA 407 | Scene Design |
| THEA 414 | Costume Design |
| THEA 418 | Lighting Design |
| THEA 510 | Production Design Seminar, 6 hours (to be taken every semester in residence) |
| THEA 516 | Advanced Design & Production, 2-8 hours (may be taken 4 semesters) |
| THEA 520A | Period Styles for Theater, 3 hours |
| THEA 520B | Period Styles for Theater, 3 hours |
| Electives (by advisement), 19 hours | |

Total: 60 hours

Playwriting

M.F.A. core, 12 hours
 THEA 400- or 500-level Theater History courses by advisement, 6 hours
 THEA 500 Research Methods, 3 hours
 THEA 501 Contemporary Developments, 3 hours
 THEA 503 New Play workshop, 18 hours
 THEA 504A Theories and Conventions, 3 hours
 THEA 504B Theories and Conventions, 3 hours
 THEA 511A Playwriting I, 3 hours
 THEA 511B Playwriting II, 3 hours
 THEA 599 Thesis, 6 hours
 Electives (by advisement), 12 hours

Total: 60 hours

Projects: Collaborative Short Play Evenings/Workshop Production of full-length in Festival/Thesis

*Any two of these Theater History courses must be taken in year 1 or 2 by advisement:

THEA 450 Special Topic
 THEA 454 American Theater
 THEA 460 Black Theater
 THEA 525 Contemporary Experiments in Drama
 THEA 550 Special Topics may apply depending on the topic (may be repeated)

Certain other Theater, English or Communication Studies courses may apply with permission

**THEA 402 Directing Studio must be taken in the first two years unless playwrights already have directing experience.

Suggested Electives:

THEA 455 Dramaturgy
 THEA 502 Advanced Directing Studio
 English 492A Creative Writing Fiction
 English 492B Creative Writing Poetry
 English 492C Creative Writing Literary Non-Fiction
 English 592 Creative Writing Seminar
 Dramatic writing not already taken to satisfy requirements (film, TV, performance studies)
 Theater History courses not already taken to satisfy requirements

Besides the core requirements, the students will propose and successfully complete a project to qualify for further study in their chosen area. This project will include a research component in conjunction with a realized practical project.

Thesis requirements vary for each area of study; however, they include a research component as well as a description and evaluation of the student's creative project. In concert with the student's committee, the candidate may choose to separate the two, submitting an approved research paper during the first academic year and a creative thesis after completion of the M.F.A. final project.

The Department of Theater requires an oral examination, conducted by the student's thesis committee, for each M.F.A. candidate. The examination covers the thesis or dissertation, and may include questions designed to ascertain the student's general competence in theater.

Doctor of Philosophy Degree

The Department of Theater offers a program of study in Theater History and Playwriting under the administration of the Department of Communication Studies leading to a Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Communication Studies.

Admission

To apply students must fill out the online application for Admission to Graduate Study in Communication Studies <http://www.siu.edu/gradschl/>. Applicants for graduate studies in theater must satisfy the minimum requirements of the Graduate School before being admitted to the department. The application includes a statement of purpose, transcripts from all undergraduate and graduate coursework together with three (3) letters of recommendation from former teachers or supervisors.

There is a \$50.00 nonrefundable application fee payable online or by check made out to SIU.

Additionally, prospective students must submit materials that are representative of their previous theater work and/or indicate an aptitude for work in their chosen field of study. Applicants to Theater History must include several critical research essays. Applicants to the playwriting must submit approximately 2 to 2 1/2 hours of written material consisting of one full-length play and/or several significant short pieces. All prospective students should include a sample of their research writing. Video tapes/DVDs or websites are acceptable digital materials.

More information for prospective and current students is available at the Department of Theater website <http://www.theater.siu.edu/> and the Department of Communication Studies website <http://cola.siu.edu/communicationstudies/>.

A student must take 51 semester credit hours of course work beyond the master's degree, 24 hours of which must be in Theater, 18 hours in Communication Studies, and 9 hours methodology (tool) courses. In addition, 24 semester credit hours of dissertation work are required for the Ph.D. degree. Course work outside the department must be germane to one of the departmental curriculum areas for purposes of examination and dissertation research. Throughout the program of study, the student must maintain a 3.00 grade point average in all work taken. If the grade point average drops below the minimum, the student is placed on academic warning for the following two semesters. During the last half of the second semester of course work, the student's progress shall be reviewed by the advisory committee to determine continuation, change, or termination of the program. The advisory committee for each student shall be responsible for assembling the necessary information (grades, recommendations, progress in curriculum areas, etc.) for consideration in reaching the above decision.

Advisory Committee. A three (3) person advisory committee shall be established no later than the beginning of the second semester of graduate study to plan the program of study with each student. The chair of the committee shall act as the primary adviser and sign the graduate course request form. This advisory committee is responsible for certifying to the graduate director that the student has met all departmental requirements for admission to candidacy and has passed the Ph.D. preliminary examination.

Students selecting Theater as a curriculum concentration must take the following:

Communication Studies Theater Concentration,
18 hrs. (must include)

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| CMST 501 | Introduction to Research Methods, 3 hours |
| CMST 510 | Rhetorical Theory, 3 hours |

Theater 24 hours (must include)

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| THEA 501 | Contemporary Developments, 3 hours |
| THEA 504A | Theories and Conventions I, 3 hours |
| THEA 504B | Theories and Conventions II, 3 hours |

Methodology Courses, 9 hours.

(must be germane to the dissertation topic)

Dissertation, 24 hours

Total 75 hours

Preliminary Examination. The student must pass a preliminary examination on his/her program of study. The preparation and administration of the examination are determined by the advisory committee in consultation with the student. The examination is taken at the end of the course work.

Dissertation. Each student must register for at least 24 semester hours of dissertation credit in THEA 600. The dissertation director shall, upon consultation with the student, be responsible for setting up a dissertation committee, supervising the dissertation, and administering the final oral examination. The dissertation committee shall approve the dissertation prospectus and pass upon the completed dissertation and oral examination.

The Graduate School requires students who have not completed their dissertation to enroll in THEA 601 Continuing Research until they complete the dissertation or withdraw from the program. Students who do not register for this class will be charged for all semesters before they may graduate.

Students are required to submit an electronic copy of the dissertation to the Graduate School and one bound copy to the Department of Theater.

Courses (THEA)

400-1 to 6 (1 to 2 per semester) Production. Practicum for support of major department productions in all areas. Roles in department productions may fulfill requirement.

401A-2 Stage Management. Study of the theories and skills required to successfully stage manage a theater production. Prerequisite: THEA 217, THEA 218A with C or better and concurrent enrollment in THEA 401B.

401B-1 Stage Management Lab. Practical application of the theories and skills learned in the 401A course and applied on a department of theater production. Prerequisite: THEA 217, THEA 218A with C or better and concurrent enrollment in THEA 401A.

402 3 to 6 (3,3) Directing Studio. Introduction to the art of directing through examination of various genres. An exploration of the fundamentals of directing culminating in scene work and studio presentation. Advanced students will approach the directing process from play selection through dramaturgy to production and through the context of contemporary directing styles. Prerequisites: THEA 217 and THEA 311A with C or

better.

403A-3 Advanced Movement for the Actor. Advanced studies in stage movement with special attention to period styles. Prerequisite: THEA 303A, THEA 317A, THEA 317B.

403B-3 Advanced Voice for the Actor. Advanced studies in voice with special attention to stage dialects and advanced vocal techniques. Prerequisite: THEA 303B, THEA 317A.

404-3 Theater Management. Discussion of legal and financial aspects concerning the professional and community theaters of the United States. Consideration of and practice in managerial activities of an educational theater including administration, purchasing, accounting practices, direct sales, publicity, promotion and public relations.

406-9 (3,3,3) Properties Studio. Beginning and advanced studio work in traditional and non-traditional crafts for theatrical events, including mask work, puppetry, stage furniture construction, upholstery, weaponry, armor, and special effects. Repeatable. Studio fee: \$60. Prerequisite: THEA 218A with C or better.

407-3 Scene Design. Technical and artistic aspects of scene design. Theory and practice. Prerequisite: THEA 218A and THEA 413 with C or better.

409-6 (2,2,2) Scene Painting Studio. Studio work in basic and advanced scene painting techniques and materials. Projects include wood, drapery, foliage, marble, transparencies, scrim painting, dye painting, faux finishes, metal reflections, and murals. Repeatable. Prerequisite: THEA 218A. Studio fee: \$65.

410-9 Children's Theater. Theory and practice in performing theater for children. Class activities include lectures on various aspects of production as well as producing a touring children's play for local area schools. Special approval needed from the instructor.

412-2 Patterning and Draping for the Theater. This course introduces the theatrical costume design and technical student to the basics of pattern development and construction techniques used to develop a 3-dimensional theatrical costume, with focus on giving the student a working knowledge of costume production, flat patterning, and draping techniques. Prerequisite: THEA 218C with C or better. Studio fee: \$25.

413-6 (3,3) Drafting for the Theater. Development of the student's skill in scenographic techniques including ground plans, sections, elevations, and detail construction drawings. Prerequisite: THEA 218A with C or better.

414-3 Costume Design. Technical and artistic aspects of costume design. Development of the design process, understanding and use of color theory and fabric, and practice of costume drawing techniques. Prerequisite: THEA 218C with C or better.

415A-2 to 4 Costume Crafts I. This course focuses on advanced skills in costume technology, including but not limited to, millinery, jewelry-making, armor and masks. Prerequisite: THEA 218C, THEA 412 with grades of C or better. Craft fee: \$35.

415B-2 to 4 Costume Crafts II. This course focuses on advanced skills in costume technology, including but not limited to, dyeing and fabric modification, wig ventilating, and dress form model projects. Prerequisite: THEA 218C, THEA 412 with C or better. Craft fee: \$35.

416A-3 Structural Design for the Stage Part I. An in-depth study of the art and practice of structural design for the stage

including forces, stresses, strains, load analysis, geometric properties of materials and simple beam design. Prerequisite: THEA 218A with a minimum grade of C.

416B-3 Structural Design for the Stage Part II. Continued study of the art and practice of structural design for the stage including beam design, column and tension member design and combined loading design for sawn lumber and steel materials. Prerequisite: THEA 218A and 416A with a minimum grade of C or special approval needed from the instructor.

417-3 to 6 (3,3)Advanced Acting. Utilization of the actor's process in the performance of various theories and styles of acting. May be repeated once for credit. Prerequisite: THEA 317B.

418-3 Lighting Design. Investigation of stage lighting design, theory and professional practice. Special attention to color theory and its application to stage lighting. Lecture/Laboratory. Prerequisite: THEA 218B and THEA 413 with C or better.

419-3 Technical Direction. Advanced study of principles and procedures of scenic construction and stage rigging. Includes scene shop organization, materials, and specialized stage equipment; preparation for professional technical direction. Lecture and laboratory to be arranged. Prerequisite: THEA 218A and THEA 413 with C or better.

450-3 to 9 Topical Seminar. An intense examination and application of selected areas of interest. Topics will vary and may include such areas as stage management, audition and interview, current political theater.

454-3 American Theater. The development of American theater from colonial times to the present. Includes a study of the American musical theater from preminstrels through contemporary music-drama.

455-3 Dramaturgy. An introduction to the theory and practice of dramaturgy, including a survey of contemporary critical theories as they apply to the pre-production work of the dramaturg. The student will apply methodologies studies to plays from the classical repertory and to the works of new playwrights. Prerequisite: THEA 311A with C or better.

460-3 Black Theatre: Intersections of Culture and Performance. (Same as AFR 420) This course will freely examine the intersections between African and African American theater. It will study the origins, form and agenda of Black Theater by tracing the commonalities of culture and performance between African and African American theaters. Students will be exposed to seminal essays, topical plays and performances while they hone their own critical and creative skills.

500-1 Theater Research Methods. An introduction to the principles and methods of research and writing in theater with a focus on selected areas of specialization within the various degree programs. Required of all Masters Theater students. Restricted to Theater Majors. Special approval needed from the instructor.

501-3 Contemporary Developments. A survey of the significant developments in theater and related arts from the beginning of the 19th century to the present through the study of documentary material, critical works, and selected plays. Individual reports, guest lecturers and lectures provide focus on selected areas. Required reading encompasses a broad spectrum of subjects. Special approval needed from the instructor.

502-3 to 12 (3,3,3,3) Advanced Directing Studio. Emphasis on

practical directing problems and concerns of individual students through research, rehearsal and performance. Includes survey of directing theories and practices with laboratory application of directing techniques. Special approval needed from the instructor.

503-1 to 3 The New Play Workshop. This class prepares students for a prominent feature of the U.S. theater landscape: the new play workshop. This entity, between a production and reading, is an economic and artistic powerhouse, not just for playwrights, but for all theater artists. This class trains students using some of the methods of the most eminent new play workshops in order to demystify the process. Variable credit and repeatable. Special approval needed from the instructor.

504A-3 Drama, Theories and Conventions. A historical and critical survey of dramatic theory, examining key critical texts and representative plays; from the Greeks through the Jacobean. Restricted to graduate standing or special approval needed from the instructor.

504B-3 Drama, Theories and Conventions. A historical and critical survey of dramatic theory, examining key critical texts and representative plays; from the restoration to the 20th Century. Restricted to graduate standing or special approval needed from the instructor.

506-2 to 4 The Collaborative Process. The theory and practice of the collaborative processes involved in play production; how designers, technicians, directors and playwrights interact with and communicate to each other to work as a creative team. Activities involve both hypothetical and fully realized productions when appropriate. May be taken for up to 4 hours.

510-6 (1,1,1,1,1) Production Design Seminar. Exploratory workshop experience in rendering techniques, creative problem solving, design aesthetics, and production philosophies. To be taken by graduate production design students in residence, each semester, with exceptions by consent of instructor.

511A-3 Playwriting I. This course assumes basic writing knowledge. It advances techniques of structure and dialogue in playwriting. Written exercises are submitted and discussed to identify dramatic events. Students will self-produce several short plays in collaborative performances. Students will initiate development of a full-length play. Special approval needed from the instructor.

511B-3 Playwriting II. This course continues to develop advanced techniques of structure and dialogue in playwriting. Students will examine canonical plays to understand the tools used by the playwrights. Students will write short plays and self-produce several short plays in collaborative performances. Students will write a full-length play. Prerequisite: THEA 511A. Special approval needed from the instructor.

512-2 to 8 Advanced Costume Construction. This course focuses on advanced skills in the areas of cutting and draping for the theater. A variety of techniques will be taught, including but not limited to, flat pattering, bias draping, tailoring, and historical construction techniques. Prerequisite: THEA 218C, THEA 412 or special approval needed from the instructor.

516-2 to 12 Advanced Theater Design and Production. An advanced studio-based study of the theories and practices of modern production and design with particular emphasis on the interaction of the sub-disciplines of scenic, costume, light, sound design, and technical production as well as the collaborative

nature of theatrical production. Special approval needed from the instructor.

520A-3 Period Style for Theater I. A survey of the costumes, architecture, furniture, decorative styles and motifs of major periods and countries relating to western culture and theater. Egyptian to the Renaissance.

520B-3 Period Style for Theater II. A survey of the costumes, architecture, furniture, decorative styles and motifs of major periods and countries relating to western culture and theater. Late Renaissance to 20th Century. Prerequisites: THEA 520A or special approval needed from the instructor.

522-1 to 12 SIU Summer Theater. Practical experience in summer stock play production. Performance or technical work in SIU Summer Theater only. Maximum of six hours per summer. Special approval needed from the instructor.

525-3 Contemporary Experiments in Drama. By studying contemporary literary theory and applying these critical tenets to new American plays, students develop tools to use in reading, understanding and writing plays in unconventional, non-traditional styles. Course work includes extensive reading of both essays and plays, discussing these matters, preparing reports and writing a play. Special approval needed from the instructor.

530-1 to 12 Independent Study. Independent research on selected problems. A maximum of three credit hours may be taken for a single project. Special approval needed from the instructor.

550-2 to 6 (2 per topic) Topical Seminar. In-depth studies of topics of special interest to advanced students concerning individual or groups of playwrights, directors, designers, and their techniques and theories. Topic is determined in advance. Special approval needed from the instructor.

560-1 to 21 Professional Work Experience. Credit may be granted for professional work experience prior to acceptance into the program. Special approval needed from the instructor. Graded *S/U* only.

561-1 to 12 Theater Internship. After completion of the M.F.A. core curriculum and basic courses in student's specialization, credit may be granted for internship at professional theaters, training programs, or studios. Special approval needed from the instructor. Graded *S/U* only.

599-1 to 6 Thesis. Minimum of three hours to be counted toward a Master's degree.

600-1 to 36 (1 to 16 per semester) Dissertation. Minimum of 24 hours to be earned for the Doctor of Philosophy degree.

601-1 per semester Continuing Enrollment. For those graduate students who have not finished their degree programs and who are in the process of working on their dissertation, thesis, or research paper. The student must have completed a minimum of 24 hours of dissertation research, or the minimum thesis, or research hours before being eligible to register for this course. Concurrent enrollment in any other course is not permitted. Graded *S/U* or *DEF* only.