Theatre

Marilyn Skow, Associate Professor and Chair
Phillip Church, Associate Professor
Jesse Dreikosen, Assistant Professor
Anthony Galaska, Assistant Professor
Geordan Gottlieb, Assistant Technical Director
Daniel Mitan, Lecturer
Marina Pareja, Lecturer
Celso Peruyera, Technical Director
Wayne Robinson, Associate Professor
Jennifer Smith, Assistant Professor
Lesley-Ann Timlick, Associate Professor
Michael Yawney, Assistant Professor

Adjunct Faculty
Israel Garcia
Ivan Lopez
Stephen Neal

The goal of the Theatre Program is to provide intensive theatre training through classes and productions, conducted with professional theatre discipline and the highest possible aesthetic standards. In addition to completion of course work, theatre majors are required to participate in all major productions while the student is enrolled in the program.

B.A. candidates will complete the core theatre courses and select an additional 18 elective theatre credits from the approved list of theatre courses. B.F.A. candidates will complete their core theatre courses plus a specialization in either performance or design. In conjunction with specified courses in the College of Education the Department offers all of the courses required for the student to be eligible for teacher certification in Theatre Education.

The degree requirements represent a four year program. Upper division transfers must have their lower division preparation evaluated by the university and by the Department and will be advised accordingly.

An audition or portfolio review and/or interview is required of all candidates wanting to enter the theatre program. To qualify for full admission to the program, FIU undergraduates must have met all the lower division requirements, including CLAS, completion of 60 semester hours, and must be otherwise acceptable into the program.

Candidates for whom English is a second language must have a minimum TOEFL score of at least 550, plus an interview with department personnel to determine adequacy of their English writing and speaking skills.

Due to the high cost of producing theatrical productions lab fees are attached to many of our courses.

Bachelor of Arts in Theatre

Degree Program Hours (120)

Common Prerequisite Courses and Equivalencies

Courses which form part of the statewide articulation between the State University System and the Community College System will fulfill the Lower Division Common Prerequisites.

For generic course substitutions/equivalencies for Common Program Prerequisites offered at community colleges, state colleges, or state universities, visit: http://facts.org. See Common Prerequisite Manual.

Bachelor of Fine Arts

Degree Program Hours: 128

Common Prerequisite Courses and Equivalencies

Courses which form part of the statewide articulation between the State University System and the Community College System will fulfill the Lower Division Common Prerequisites.

For generic course substitutions/equivalencies for Common Program Prerequisites offered at community colleges, state colleges, or state universities, visit: http://facts.org. See Common Prerequisite Manual.
Performance Specialization (81)

THE 1020  Introduction to Theatre For Majors 1
THE 4110  Theatre History I 3
THE 4111  Theatre History II 3
THE 4370  Modern Dramatic Literature 3
THE 4971  Senior Projects 1
TPA 1320L  Technical Skills I 1
TPA 1321L  Technical Skills II 1
TPA 2001L  Production Participation (must be repeated for 2 credits) 2
TPA 2010  Introduction to Design 3
TPA 2210  Stagecraft I 3
TPA 2248  Stage Makeup 3
TPA 2290L  Technical Theatre Lab I 1
TPA 2291L  Technical Theatre Lab II 1
TPA 2292L  Technical Theatre Lab III 1
TPA 3230  Stage Costuming 3
TPA 3293L  Technical Theatre Lab IV 1
TPP 2111  Acting II 3
TPP 3310  Directing I 3
TPP 4600  Playwriting I 3

Advanced Courses in Performance Specialization

TPP 3113  Acting IV 3
TPP 3164  Theatre Voice and Movement III 3
TPP 3165  Theatre Voice and Movement IV 3
TPP 4114  Acting V 3
TPP 4115  Acting VI 3
TPP 4195L  Upper Division Production and Performance (May be repeated a maximum of 3 times) 1
TPP 4224  Acting VII 3
TPP 4265  Acting VIII 3
TPP 4971L  Production Participation 2
1 Dance technique class as approved by an advisor 2
And Choose another 3 credits from these electives:

Dance technique class as approved by an advisor 2
MUN 2320  Women’s Chorus 1
MUN 2330  Men’s Chorus 1
TPP 3730  Dialects 3
TPP 3923  Musical Theatre Workshop 3
TPP 4531  Stage Combat 3
TPP 4564  Mime 3

Design Specialization (60)

THE 1020  Introduction to Theatre For Majors 1
THE 4110  Theatre History I 3
THE 4111  Theatre History II 3
THE 4370  Modern Dramatic Literature 3
THE 4916  Research : Portfolio 2
THE 4950  Internship 1-6
THE 4971  Senior Projects 1
TPA 2001L  Production Participation 2
TPA 2010  Introduction to Design 3
TPA 2210  Stagecraft I 3
TPP 2220  Stage Lighting I 3
TPA 2248  Stage Makeup 3
TPA 2290L  Technical Theatre Lab I 1
TPA 2291L  Technical Theatre Lab II 1
TPA 2292L  Technical Theatre Lab III 1
TPA 3002  Period Styles in Theatre Design 3
TPA 3230  Stage Costuming 3
TPA 3293L  Technical Theatre Lab IV 1
TPA 3296  Advanced Technical Project I 2
TPA 4297  Advanced Technical Project II 2
TPA 4298  Advanced Technical Project III 2
TPP 1110  Acting I 3
TPP 2111  Acting II 3
TPP 3310  Directing I 3
TPP 3310  Directing II 3

Plus one of the two following courses:
ART 2330C  Beginning Figure Drawing 3
or
ART 2300C  Beginning Drawing 3

Plus one of the following 3 Specializations:

Costume Specialization (18)

ARH 2051  Art History Survey II 3
ART 3313C  Figure Drawing II 3
TPA 3040  Costume Design I 3
TPA 3930  Special Topics in Theatre: Costume Patterning 3
TPA 3930  Special Topics in Theatre: Costume Crafts 3
TPA 4041  Costume Design II 3

One elective course from the following, as approved by advisor:
ARH 3350  Baroque Art 3
ARH 4310  Early Italian Renaissance 3
ARH 4312  Later Italian Renaissance 3

Lighting Specialization (15)

TPA 3040  Costume Design I 3
TPA 3060  Scene Design I 3
TPA 3070  Stage Rendering 3
TPA 3930  Special Topics in Theatre: Drafting 3
TPA 4221  Stage Lighting II 3

Two elective courses from the following, as approved by advisor:

ART 1201C  2D Design 3
ART 1203C  3D Design 3
ART 2300C  Beginning Drawing 3

Scenery Specialization (15)

ARH 2051  Art History Survey II 3
TPA 3060  Scene Design I 3
TPA 3070  Stage Rendering 3
TPA 3930  Special Topics in Theatre: Drafting 3
TPA 4061  Scene Design II 3

Two elective courses from the following, as approved by advisor:

ARH 2050  Art History Survey I 3
ART 1201C  2D Design 3
ART 1203C  3D Design 3
ART 2300C  Beginning Drawing 3
ART 3313C  Figure Drawing II 3

Minor in Theatre

Required Courses: (24)

THE 2000  Theatre Appreciation 3
THE 4370  Modern Dramatic Literature 3
TPA 2210  Stagecraft 3
TPA 2290L  Technical Theatre Lab I 1
TPP 2100  Introduction to Acting 3
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Theatre Electives (upper division) 11
Theatre minors will not be allowed to take TPP 2110 Acting II.

Course Descriptions

Definition of Prefixes
FIL-Film; THE-Theatre; TPA-Theatre Production and Administration; TPP-Theatre-Performance and Performance Training F-Fall semester offering; S-Spring semester offering; SS-Summer semester offering.

FIL 3001 Introduction to Filmmaking (3). For the beginning student of filmmaking. Survey of the origins and development of cinematography as an art form. Presentation and technical analysis of selected films.

THE 1020 Introduction to Theatre for Majors (1). An orientation to the study, theory, and practice of theatre for freshman theatre majors. It provides the foundation for theatre study at more advanced levels. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. (F)

THE 2000 Theatre Appreciation (3). A study of theatre: process and product, introducing the past of theatre, its literature and traditions; and the means by which theatre is produced: acting, directing and visual design. (F,S)


THE 2820 Creative Dramatics (3). The study of informal drama activity with children. Techniques of improvisation, sense recall, music, and movement are employed.

THE 4110 Theatre History I – GL (3). The development of the theatre from its origins to the early 19th century. (F)

THE 4111 Theatre History II (3). The development of the theatre from early 19th century to the present. (S)

THE 4314 Classical Dramatic Literature (3). Intensive play reading and discussion of plays from the classical canon, including Greek, Roman, Medieval, Renaissance and Restoration dramas. Prerequisites: THE 1020 or THE 2000.

THE 4370 Modern Dramatic Literature (3). Intensive play reading and discussion from early modern through contemporary. (F)

THE 4760 Methods of Teaching Theatre (3). Theory and practice in developing skills as a high school director/teacher. Review tests and resource materials, develop a theatre education philosophy and practice teaching strategies. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor.


THE 4916 Research (1-5). Supervised individual investigation of special research projects. Credit will vary with the nature and scope of the project. May be repeated.

THE 4930 Senior Seminar (2). Theories of theatre presentation. Reading, seminar presentations and discussions cover the theories of playwriting, dramatic forms, acting, directing, design and theatrical criticism. Prerequisite: Theatre major. (S)

THE 4950 Theatre Internship (1-6). Supervised internship in a professional company in acting, directing, stage management, design, technical theatre, or theatre management. Repeatable one time for credit. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor.

THE 4971 Senior Projects (1). Final preparation and performance or presentation of a creative project in the student’s area of emphasis under the direction of a faculty advisor. Theatre majors only.

THE 4972 Senior Thesis (1). Research and writing of a thesis dealing with an aspect of theatre history and/or theory. Prerequisite: Permission of the advisor.


TPA 2001L Production Participation Lab (1). Students perform technical work on theatre productions. Required each term for theatre majors not taking a technical production course. Must be repeated for a total of 2 credits.

TPA 2010 Introduction to Design (3). An introduction to the concept of basic design elements and development of visual vocabulary as a prerequisite for Scenic, Lighting and Costume Design. Lecture and Laboratory. Prerequisite: TPA 2210. (F, S)

TPA 2210 Stagecraft I (3). An introduction to construction techniques used in stage. Direct experience with wood and metal working tools, blueprint reading, and various materials including wood, metal, plastics and fabrics. Lecture and laboratory. Prerequisite: Permission of advisor. (F,S)

TPA 2211 Stagecraft II (3). Advanced problems in the construction and movement of scenery, properties, and special effects. Prerequisite: TPA 2210.

TPA 2220 Stage Lighting (3). Familiarization with stage lighting equipment, purposes, and aesthetics of stage lighting; development of an approach to designing lighting; practical experience in the use of equipment. Lecture and laboratory.

TPA 2248 Stage Make-up (3). Facial analysis, color matching, makeup design and application techniques of makeup for the stage. Includes character analysis and history of makeup styles. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. (S)

TPA 2290L Technical Theatre Lab I (1). Supervised crew work in construction, painting, lighting, costuming, and running major productions. Required of Theatre majors. (F,S)

TPA 2291L Technical Theatre Lab II (1). Supervised crew work. Required of Theatre majors. (F,S)

TPA 2292L Technical Theatre Lab III (1). Supervised crew work. Required of Theatre majors. (F,S)
TPA 2332 Costume Technology (3). Practical instruction in costume construction and care, along with theatrical wardrobe organization.

TPA 3002 Period Styles in Theatre Design (3). An introduction to period styles and ornament and how it applies to Theatre Design. Prerequisite: TPA 2010.

TPA 3040 Costume Design I (3). The theory and practice of designing stage costumes through play and character analysis, research, and translation of this information into effective stage costume designs. Prerequisites: TPA 3230 and permission of the instructor.

TPA 3060 Scenic Design I (3). Nontraditional approaches to the development of design elements for the stage. Prerequisite: TPA 2210.

TPA 3071 Stage Rendering (3). An introduction to the Techniques used in rendering scenery and costume design concepts. Recommended as preparation for TPA 3060.

TPA 3077 Scene Painting (3). A hands-on study of the basic techniques and processes used by scenic artists.

TPA 3230 Stage Costuming (3). Costume history and costume construction techniques, as well as the basics of the design process, fabric identification, and manipulation. Corequisites: TPA 2290L, TPA 2291L, TPA 2292L, or TPA 3293L. (F,S)

TPA 3293L Technical Theatre Lab IV (1). Supervised crew work. Required of Theatre majors. Prerequisite: TPA 2292L. (F,S)

TPA 3296 Advanced Technical Project I (2). Advanced practical projects in theatre design and technology in support of produced departmental productions. Projects are assigned to the student on the basis of emphasis and experience. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor.

TPA 3930 Special Topics in Theatre (1-3). Lecture-lab studies in particular areas of theatre production, one area per semester, including stage management, prop making, sound design, special effects. May be repeated 3 times for up to 9 credits. Prerequisite: TPA 3040.

TPA 4041 Costume Design II (3). A continuation of Costume Design I, with increased emphasis on refining skills developed at first design level, plus developing a personal design style and more advanced construction skills. Prerequisite: TPA 3040.

TPA 4061 Scenic Design II (3). Advanced skills in setting the mood of, and creating movement through a theatrical space. Emphasis will be placed upon rendering Techniques and model making. Prerequisite: TPA 3060.

TPA 4221 Stage Lighting II (3). Advance work in lighting of the stage. Emphasis is on practical training and experience through drafting of light plots accompanied by discussion and evaluation. Prerequisite: TPA 2220.

TPA 4297 Advanced Technical Project II (2). Advanced practical projects in theatre design and technology in support of produced departmental productions. Projects are assigned to the student on the basis of emphasis and experience. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor.

TPA 4298 Advanced Technical Project III (2). Advanced practical projects in theatre design and technology in support of produced departmental productions. Projects are assigned to the student on the basis of emphasis and experience. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor.

TPA 4400 Stage and Theatre Management (3). A two part course introducing practical methods of stage management and aspects of theatre administration: marketing, budgeting, box office, fund raising.

TPA 4912 Portfolio I (1). Supervised individual investigation of special research projects in design and technology. Projects are designed to enhance the student’s portfolio.

TPA 4913 Portfolio II (1). Supervised individual investigation of special research projects in design and technology. Projects are designed to further enhance the student’s portfolio.

TPA 5025 Performance Lighting (2). An introduction to lighting for entertainment art’s performances such as those presented at theme parks, concerts and outdoor performances. Prerequisite: Permission of graduate area advisor.

TPP 1110 Acting I (3). Introduction to acting process using Spolin-based improvisational approach. Includes the study, theory and practice of theatre as it relates to performance. Majors only. Corequisite: THE 1020 (F)

TPP 2100 Introduction to Acting (3). An introduction to the acting process. Self awareness, physical and vocal control, basic stage techniques and beginning scene work will be studied. Intended for the student with little or no acting experience. (F,S)

TPP 2111 Acting II (3). Stanislavsky techniques with an emphasis on making actable choices through rehearsal and text analysis. Scene work using the plays of Anton Chekhov. Majors only. Prerequisites: TPP 1110 and permission of the advisor. (S)

TPP 2112 Acting III (3). Continuation of scene study using Meisner technique. Majors only. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. (F)

TPP 2160 Theatre Voice and Movement I (3). Development of the actor’s voice and body for the demands of clear performance. An exploration of proper vocal production and movement fundamentals. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. Corequisite: TPP 2112.


TPP 3113 Acting IV (3). Continuation of the development and training of acting skills with emphasis on transformational character choices. Scene work in modern styles from playwrights such as O’Neill, Williams, Fornes, and Lorca. Majors only. Prerequisites: TPP 2112 and permission of the instructor. (S)

TPP 3164 Theatre Voice and Movement III (3). Laban, Feldenkrais, and Neutral Mask will be studied to improve
self-use and body articulation. Emphasis on handling heightened texts such as Shakespeare. Prerequisite: Audition for B.F.A. program. Corequisite: TPP 4114. (F)

TPP 3165 Theatre Voice and Movement IV (3). Exploration of physical and vocal approaches to American Musical Theatre from 1920 to the present. Prerequisite: TPP 3164. (S)

TPP 3263 Film Acting for Non-Majors (3). An introduction to the acting process for film and TV. Emphasis on acting, directing and writing process behind and in front of the camera.

TPP 3265 Introduction to Acting for TV/Film (3). An introduction to the fundamentals of acting/directing for TV/Film through practical exercise and creative assignments.

TPP 3304 Playscript Analysis (3). Detailed playscript examination for directors, actors and designers, focusing on identification of those elements upon which successful theatre production depends. Prerequisite: Permission of the advisor. (F)

TPP 3310 Directing I (3). Basic principles of play direction; including problems of selecting, analyzing, casting, and rehearsing plays, script analysis. Prerequisite: TPP 2112. (F,S)

TPP 3530 Stage Combat I (3). A study of combat techniques for the stage including unarmed and rapier fighting.

TPP 3730 Dialects (3). A study of dialects common to western theatre. Prerequisites: TPP 3165 or permission of the advisor.

TPP 3923 Musical Theatre Workshop I (3). An introduction to Musical Comedy performance: integration of the dramatic, musical and movement components will be studied through work on selected scenes. Prerequisite: Permission of the advisor.

TPP 4114 Acting V (3). Classical styles of acting focusing on Shakespeare and the Restoration. BFA majors only. Prerequisites: TPP 3113 and permission of the instructor. Corequisite: TPP 3164. (F)

TPP 4117 Acting VI (3). A comprehensive course in the study of acting, writing and directing for the camera-documentary, dramatic scenes, commercials - offered in conjunction with Channel 17. BFA majors only. Prerequisites: TPP 4114 and permission of the instructor. Corequisite: TPP 3165. (S)


TPP 4195L Upper Division Production and Performance (1). Exploration of the acting process through rehearsal and performance of a play. Class must be repeated 3 times for 3 credits. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor.

TPP 4224 Acting VII (3). Audition techniques through preparation and presentation of audition material. Includes an exploration of professional actor training and actor business protocol. BFA majors only. Prerequisites: TPP 4117, TPP 3165 and permission of the advisor. (F)

TPP 4253 Advanced Musical Theatre Studies (3). Prepares students to audition for all types of musical theatre productions. Class format is a master class. Prerequisites: BFA Student – TPP 3165.

TPP 4265 Acting VIII (3). Survey of techniques used in solo performance and one-actor productions, featuring practical application of these techniques to original materials. BFA majors only. Prerequisite: TPP 4224. (S)

TPP 4311 Directing II (3). A continued study of directing Techniques culminating in the preparation of a play for public performance. Prerequisites: TPP 3310 and permission of the advisor.

TPP 4531 Stage Combat (3). A study of combat techniques for the stage, including fencing, boxing, wrestling, and tumbling.

TPP 4532 Stage Combat II (3). Advanced study of combat techniques for the stage focusing on armed combat, including quaterstaff and broadsword.

TPP 4564 Mime (3). A movement course to teach the actor the physical skill of mime. This course will improve the students attention, strength, balance, dexterity and clarity.

TPP 4600 Playwriting I (3). Study of the theory and principles of writing plays for the stage. Practice in writing either the short or long play. May be repeated.

TPP 4601 Playwriting II (3). A continuation of the study of the theory and principle of writing plays for the stage. Actual practice in writing plays. Prerequisite: TPP 4600.

TPP 4920 Advanced Actor's Workshop I (3). This course will concentrate on the acting demands of a specific period, style, genre, or playwright. Prerequisites: TPP 4114 or permission of the advisor.

TPP 4930 Special Topics in Theatre Performance (1-3). Studio sessions covering selected topics of current interest in theatre performance. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor.

TPP 5615 Graduate Playwriting Workshop I (3). A graduate course in playwriting focusing on structure, character development, conflict dialogue, and dramatic action. Students work through a series of exercises exploring different techniques leading to the development of a 10 minute play and a full length play. Students read and discuss scenes in class. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor.

TPP 5616 Graduate Playwriting Workshop II (3). For graduate students in the Creative Writing program who wish to continue with a second playwriting class. Students work on exercises and scenes leading to the development of a full length play. Prerequisites: One course in playwriting or screenwriting.

TPP 5617 Graduate Playwriting Workshop III (3). A graduate course in playwriting focusing on the development of a full length play with special attention to structure, character development, conflict, dialogue, and dramatic action. Students work through a series of scenes
leading to the development of a full length play.
Prerequisite: TPP 5616.