

Program Assessment Plan

Department Name: Theatre Arts
Major: BA THEATRE ARTS

Student Learning Goals:

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| 1. | To demonstrate a working knowledge of the complex and collaborative theoretical and practical aspects of theatre production. |
| 2. | To demonstrate the qualities of individual responsibility and leadership within the production process. |
| 3. | To demonstrate the ability to apply proper techniques in dance performance and choreography. |
| 4. | To demonstrate knowledge of historical and contemporary perspectives about theatre and allied arts and apply those perspectives either to an advanced research project or to theatrical production. |
| 5. | To demonstrate critical and analytical thinking skills and the refinement of written and oral communication. |
| 6. | To demonstrate the ability to participate in the creative production process as a designer. |

Assessment Plan:

| Assessment Measure: | Goals Addressed: (list by number) | How is the information used? |
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| Evaluation of student efforts in THEA 231 Major Production Participation and THEA 331 Advanced Major Production Participation | 1, 2 | These courses require theatre arts majors to participate in the main stage production schedule as technical-support crew members or leaders for two full semesters (in areas such as scenery, wardrobe/makeup, electrics, props, board operators, or in other capacities depending on the needs of a specific play). Student performance is evaluated by faculty supervisors who document their assessments in writing. Evaluations are then coordinated by the faculty technical director. Strengths and weaknesses are assessed in biannual post-mortem meetings with department chair, faculty and participating students. Dept. chair and faculty then institute changes as needed, which are enforced through weekly production meetings. |
| Public performances of dance and choreography as required in THEA 210 and THEA 410 Repertory Dance | 1, 2, 3 | Dance emphasis majors are required to complete both sections of Repertory Dance. Each course culminates in a series of public performances in which all students are required to participate as both performers and choreographers. The head of the dance option meets frequently throughout the year with department chair reviewing strengths and weaknesses and suggesting necessary changes. Department chair approves recommendations of dance option head. This year for instance, the department instituted a policy of selective enrollment (Permission of Instructor) so that the dance faculty can insure that first-time students in THEA 210 have adequate prior training in basic dance technique. |

| Assessment Measure: | Goals Addressed: (list by number) | How is the information used? |
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| Evaluation of student exams, critical/research essays, and oral presentations completed in each class of the Development of Theatre course sequence (THEA 230, 260, 330, and 360 or 390) | 4, 5 | This 4-semester sequence represents a new integration of what in the past have been two separate content areas, theatre history and dramatic lit. Each May the department chair will meet with the faculty teaching in the sequence to assess the effectiveness or weakness of course materials and strategies. Assessment of the overall sequence will also be a part of exit interviews when they are instituted formally by the department—and when the sequence has been completed for the first time in its entirety—in the spring of 2007. |
| THEA 491: Senior Project | 1, 2, 6 | Theatre majors with emphases in Design now apply to design for main stage productions. Applications are assessed by entire faculty. When a student is selected to design, they are required to enroll in Senior Project and assigned a faculty supervisor and participate in the entire production process. This process is assessed through end-of-term departmental post-mortems and faculty-supervisor evaluations, all of which are overseen by department chair. Chair will make recommendations for changes to individuals or entire faculty, or approves changes suggested by other faculty, based on information provided by production reviews and faculty evaluations. Chair also participates in all production meetings and sees firsthand how students participate in, and are supported by, the production process. |
| Biannual Production Reviews (Post-Mortems) | 1, 2, 6 | Post-mortem meetings are held at the end of each semester to assess strengths and weaknesses of production program. Meetings include department chair, faculty, participating students, and guest artists (if present). The department chair recommends changes or approves changes suggested by other faculty in production policies and procedures. |

Updated: September 15, 2005