Theatre

Department Faculty
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Department Goals
The Department of Theatre seeks to help students to understand the dramatic arts from the perspectives of both informed audience members and godly-wise arts practitioners, by developing both critical and production skills, and developing Christian ethical problem-solving skills as students contemplate the professional theatre and film worlds as a “mission field” in need of Christian intervention.

Teacher Certification
Students who desire teacher certification in Drama should complete a BA degree with a major in Theatre, then enroll in the one-year Master of Arts in Teaching program at Covenant College. To ensure eligibility for entry to the MAT program, it is recommended that you complete the Education Minor. (See page 78.) Two of the courses in the minor, EDU 222 Educational Psychology and EDU 361 Education of Exceptional Children, are required for admission to the program. This program leads to grades P-12 teacher certification through the state of Georgia and through the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI).

See Dr. Jim Drexler in Brock Hall 303 (jdrexler@covenant.edu) for more information.

Requirements for Major in Theatre

The core and distribution requirements for a major in Theatre are those listed for baccalaureate degrees on page 24, with the exception that a course in art, film or music is required to fulfill the core fine arts.

Core requirements .................................................. 58
Electives ................................................................. 22-26

THT = Theatre course at Covenant.
UTC = University of Tennessee at Chattanooga theatre course.*

THT 101 Company Muster I (first term as minor) ........... 0
THT 102 Company Muster II (every semester enrolled as a minor; minimum of 3 times after THT 101: may substitute THT 103 one time for 102) .............. 0-1
THT 202 Introduction to Theatre .................................. 3
THT 220 Contemporary Drama .................................. 4
THT 290 Production Practicum (2 times one hour)
(UTC 1000r Performance and Production may be substituted for one of these) ............... 2
THT 302 Dramatic Arts and Christian Thought ........... 3
THT Electives: Two courses taken from
THT offerings (may include THT 290 more than once),
ENG 266 Reading Film, or
ENG 401 Special Topics in English (if having a dramatic literature focus), or
ENG 418 Shakespeare**, or
MUS 245 Introduction to Musical Theatre, or
UTC theatre courses* .............................................. 2-7
Total hours for the minor ......................................... 20-25

Recommended electives from other departments:
ENG 266 Reading Film, ENG 401 Special Topics (if has dramatic literature focus), ENG 418 Shakespeare,*,** MUS 245 Introduction to Musical Theatre, or UTC theatre courses.*

* Prerequisite for all UTC course work. Students must have completed THT 302 and have the THT Department's approval before beginning course work at UTC.
** Prerequisite for ENG 418 for theatre students is ENG 201 or permission of the instructor. ENG 201 may also satisfy the Core Humanities requirement.

Requirements for Minor in Theatre

THT 101 Company Muster I (first term as minor) ........... 0
THT 102 Company Muster II (every semester enrolled as a minor; minimum of 3 times after THT 101: may substitute THT 103 one time for 102) .............. 0-1
THT 202 Introduction to Theatre .................................. 3
THT 220 Contemporary Drama .................................. 3
THT 235 Acting I ....................................................... 4
* Prerequisite for all UTC coursework. Students must have completed THT 302 and have the THT Department's approval before beginning course work at UTC.
** Prerequisite for ENG 418 for theatre students is ENG 201 or permission of the instructor. ENG 201 may also satisfy the Core Humanities requirement.

**Theatre Courses (THT) **

101 Company Muster I
This course is a pass/fail requirement for theatre majors and minors to develop a greater sense of collaboration, community and ensemble as well as provide additional opportunities for continued development as a Christian artist. The first semester in the sequence requires participation in the makeup and auditioning workshops. Most events also open to interested students outside of the department. Every semester. Zero hours.

102 Company Muster II
This course is a pass/fail requirement for theatre majors and minors to develop a greater sense of collaboration, community and ensemble as well as provide additional opportunities for continued development as a Christian artist. Should be repeated each semester a declared theatre major or minor is in residence unless they are registered for THT 101 or THT 103. Most events also open to interested students outside of the department. Every semester. Zero hours.

103 Company Muster III
This course is a pass/fail requirement for theatre majors and minors to develop a greater sense of collaboration, community and ensemble as well as provide additional opportunities for continued development as a Christian artist. Each student is required to attend a theatre-focused professional conference, choice of conference must be approved by the theatre faculty. Most events also open to interested students outside of the department. Every semester. Zero to one hour.

202 Introduction to Theatre
A survey of historical theatre practice in the West (with some attention given to Eastern styles); introduction to the elements of theatre production together with an examination of the various crafts comprising this collaborative art form: acting, directing, playwriting, design, and criticism; introductory discussion of Christian philosophy of dramatic art. Offered every semester. Three hours. FAR

220 Contemporary Drama
A study of European and American masterpieces of drama from the 1960s to the present day from a Christian perspective. Every other spring. Three hours. HUM

235 Acting I
This course is the first in a two-course sequence which aims to give students an introduction to and training of the stage actor’s tools: voice, body, imagination, concentration, etc., while also helping students to think Christianly about various ethical and aesthetic issues pertaining to acting and the production of plays for public consumption. Meets for three class sessions plus one lab session each week. Every fall. Four hours. FAR

250 Theatre History I: Ancient Theatre through the Eighteenth Century
This is a survey course examining Western theatre history from the Ancient Greeks, through the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Restoration up to the 18th century as well as touching on theatre traditions of Asia. Attention will be placed on the dramatic literature of various periods, conventions of production, subsequent interpretations of the literature, the larger historical context for each period and the changing relationship between religion and theatre. Every other fall. Three hours. FAR

251 Theatre History II: Eighteenth Century to Mid-Twentieth Century
This is a survey course examining Western theatre history from the 18th century up through the avant-garde theatre of the 1960’s. Attention will be placed on the dramatic literature of various periods, conventions of production, subsequent interpretations of the literature, the larger historical context for each period and the changing relationship between religion and theatre. Every other spring. Three hours. FAR

290 Production Practicum
Lower division laboratory course in a variety of aspects of theatre performance and production. Project assignments in departmental productions. Every semester. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. May be repeated for credit two times. One to three hours.

297 Voice and Diction
A course designed to introduce the student to the physical elements of vocal production and the technical elements of vocal variety through the Lessac method, in order to strengthen and broaden the speaker’s technical precision, variety and vocal creativity in production of American Standard Speech. Course work will include transcription work, oral drill and performance. This class serves as the prerequisite to THT 397. Accents and Dialects. Every other fall. Three hours.
299. Special Topics in Theatre
This course offers opportunities for study in various topics of interest within the field of Theatre. These may be short-term courses offered during the semester or during the summer term. Topics will be decided upon by the faculty as need and interest arise. Credit hours to be determined, one to three hours.

300 Stage Management
A course exploring the various tasks and arts which encompass the job of a stage manager in various venues including Equity houses. Prerequisites: THT 202. Offered every other spring. Two hours.

302 The Dramatic Arts and Christian Thought
A study of Christian thought on the arts, with specific reference to dramatic forms. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing; THT 202 or permission of instructor. Offered every other fall. Three hours.

310 Playwriting
A workshop on the art and craft of playwriting with the goal of creating a professionally competitive one act or ten minute play for possible production. Plays should not only be creative, effective, and marketable, but will also be morally responsible in terms of a Christian aesthetic. Lectures on craft issues include voice, structure, format, and the play development process. Class members are expected to produce a one act or ten minute play, to evaluate their own work and that of others in the class, and to complete various exercises and assignments given throughout the semester. Prerequisites: ENG 111 with a grade of “B” or higher and THT 202, or permission of instructor. Every other spring. Three hours.

315 Screenwriting
This course emphasizes the analysis and writing of film screenplays. It acts as a workshop for understanding story structure and development, and enables the scripting of scenes and short films through several informative lectures and workshops. The goal is to help the student identify and write a short script that is creative, marketable, and effective by Hollywood’s standards, while also reflecting a biblical Christian worldview. Prerequisite: ENG 111 English Composition with a grade of “B” or higher, or permission of instructor. Every other spring. Three hours.

360 Basic Design
This course introduces students to the design process for the theatre in the areas of sets, costumes, lighting and sound. Emphasis will be placed on distilling a play into a design concept, developing a design from that concept and working with other designers to achieve a unified design. Co- or prerequisite: UTC 1410 Stagecrafts. Every other fall. Three hours.

370 Professional Development for Theatre
Course designed to prepare students for work in semi-professional and professional theatre including writing resumes, creating portfolios and preparation of audition monologues. Course will cover areas of interest in acting, design and/or stage management. Offered every other spring. Two hours.

390 Production Practicum
Upper division laboratory course in a variety of aspects of theatre performance and production. Project assignments in departmental productions. Every semester. Prerequisite: two semesters of THT 290 or equivalent, plus permission of instructor. May be repeated for credit two times. One to three hours.

397 Accents and Dialects
Study in the elements of and practice in the production of various English dialects and foreign accents for stage and camera use, taken from the following list: American Southern, New York City, New England, Standard British, Cockney, Irish, Scottish, Italian, French, German, or others specially requested. Prerequisite: THT 297 or permission of instructor. Every other fall. Three hours.

399. Independent Study
Designed for the student who has demonstrated potential ability for independent study, this course allows him or her to choose and to explore, under the guidance of an instructor, an area of the discipline not fully covered in available courses. Credit to be determined in each case; maximum credit, three hours per semester.

402 The Dramatic Arts and Christian Thought II
A continued study of Christian thought on the arts, with specific reference to theatre and film. Prerequisites: THT 302, and Sophomore standing or permission of the instructor. Offered every other fall. Three hours.

411 Theatre Internship
Experience working in various capacities, as assigned, in a professional theatre. Such capacities may include but need not be limited to acting, directing, stage management, house and publicity, design, set/prop/costume construction, make-up, crewing, work with theatre outreach and/or education ventures of the theatre. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. Three hours.

435 Acting II
A continued study of principles/practices introduced in Acting I; emphasis laid on scene study, with attention being given to various historic dramatic styles. Meets for three class sessions plus one lab session each week. Every other fall. Prerequisite: THT 235. Four hours.
450 Directing
An upper-division laboratory class in which students will learn the basics of directing plays for the stage as well as direct selections from plays. Prerequisites THT 202 and 235. Offered every other spring. Four hours.

492 Senior Integration Paper
The student will explore and analyze a topic related to the discipline of Theatre in the light of Christian philosophy. The study may result in a written thesis, though often projects such as directing a play, performing a major role, designing a show, etc. are permitted if the student’s first reader deems that the student has successfully completed sufficient preparatory course work. Upon completion of the paper or project, there is a final oral exam. Two or three hours.

UTC Theatre course descriptions for both required and elective courses may be seen at http://www.utc.edu/Academic/TheatreAndSpeech/curriculum.php