THEATRE

Introduction

For over 50 years, YSU’s University Theatre has offered degrees and high-quality productions that critically and creatively serve Youngstown State University, Cliffe College, and the region. Our world-class faculty and staff provide outstanding training for the theatre professionals of tomorrow. Through coursework and hands-on experiences on stage and behind the scenes, our students explore all aspects of the theatre arts. Students receive individualized attention and one-on-one mentoring from our faculty and staff, and our program prepares them with the skills needed for a variety of careers in the theatre arts and beyond. Each year, they're engaged in numerous fully produced mainstage Theatre and Musical Theatre productions, cabarets, the Festival of New Works, conferences, masterclasses with internationally acclaimed guest directors and actors, and more.

University Theatre offers the professional Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) degree, where students may pursue either Theatre or a Musical Theatre concentration, and the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree in Theatre Studies as well as a Film/Video concentration. The department also supports minors in dance, film studies, musical theatre, puppetry, and theatre.

Our alumni may be seen regionally, nationally, and internationally across the theatre and entertainment industries. Our graduates are found on stage and screen—from Tony Award-winning Hadestown to Days of Our Lives—and receiving nominations and awards from The Tony’s to The GRAMMY®S. Our dynamic programs also empower our alumni to become successful directors, designers, choreographers, and more at the national level, including the Great Lakes Theatre Festival and similar festivals. University Theatre degrees and programs will prepare you for success in the theatre industries no matter the path you choose.

University Theatre Contact Information

To learn more about our degree programs, scholarships, performances, faculty, and students, contact the University Theatre Office at 330.941.3810. To schedule a personalized campus visit, contact the Cliffe College of Creative Arts Program Coordinator of Admissions and Recruitment at 330.941.2346 or sawallman@ysu.edu. We would love to learn about your interests, talk with you about our programs, and become an important part of your future.

Dr. Joseph Carucci, Director jwcarucci@ysu.edu
330.941.1439

Degrees and Minors

UNDERGRADUATE MAJORS AND CONCENTRATIONS

- Theatre (B.F.A.)
  - Music Theatre (B.F.A.)
  - Theatre Studies (B.A.)
  - Film/Video Track (B.A.)

MINORS

- Minor in Dance
- Minor in Film Studies
- Minor in Musical Theatre
- Minor in Puppetry for Non-Theatre Majors
- Minor in Puppetry for Theatre Majors
- Minor in Theatre

Learning Outcomes

The student learning outcomes for the major in theatre are as follows:

- **Public Performances** – Students demonstrate competence in applying discipline-specific skills to the creation of theatrical performance.
- **Knowledge of History and Cultural Dimensions** – Students demonstrate knowledge of the history and cultural influences of and upon the institution of theatre throughout the ages and analyze and critique the social significance and cultural resonances of theatrical endeavor as reflected in theatre history and dramatic literature.
- **Informed Assessments of Quality** – Students demonstrate the ability to critically evaluate the multi-faceted nature of the production process and demonstrate comprehension of the variety of artistry and skills that contribute to a finished theatrical production.
- **Critical Thinking** – Students demonstrate problem-solving skills in the creation of artistic work by identifying & articulating goals and assessing and applying necessary processes to achieve said goals.
- **Collaboration** – Students implement communication skills, creativity, and organizational skills required to develop effective teamwork and achieve a unified goal. Individual accountability to the team is fostered as part of the collaborative effort. Students will assimilate multiple views to deepen knowledge and promote critical thinking.

In addition to the above outcomes, learning outcomes in musical theatre also include:

- **Musical Knowledge** – Students demonstrate an understanding of music theory, the keyboard, and the ability to read music.
- **Vocal Competence** – Students demonstrate an ability to sing and act a musical selection in the musical theatre style.
- **Movement** – Students demonstrate ability in the dance disciplines of ballet, tap, and jazz.

Academic Advising

The Cliffe College Academic Advising Office provides optimum assistance to help our students navigate through their undergraduate years and prepare them for academic and future career endeavors! Our Advisors can provide advice about staying on track with your degree program, combining your major with a supporting minor, finding resources to enhance your coursework with study abroad or other student enrichment experiences, and more. **Our goal is to see you succeed!** The Academic Advisor for Theatre students may be reached at 330.941.3623 or nakinizis@ysu.edu.

Facilities

University Theatre is located in Bliss Hall, home of the Cliffe College of Creative Arts and the performing arts complex that houses University Theatre. Whether rehearsing, building scenes, studying, designing and making costumes, or performing, our facilities augment our students’ educational and artistic endeavors. University Theatre students utilize two Theaters, design studios, scene and costume shops, makeup and dressing rooms, and other spaces where they work and perform. They also give productions in a variety of exquisite and historic spaces in the region, ranging from intimate settings to venues for large-scale productions, including The Butler Institute of American Art and Butler North (https://butlerart.com/), the B & O Station (http://banquetatthebno.com/), and DeYor Performing Arts Center (https://deyorpac.org/).

As a theater student, you’ll be able to take full advantage of our state-of-the-art production and performance facilities. Along with spacious studios, your studies will be further enhanced by:

- Ford Theater, a 390-seat proscenium stage where major University Theatre productions are presented; the theater also allows for dance recitals and ensembles.
- Spotlight Arena Theater, a 135-seat flexible capacity arena theater that accommodates small-scale productions and also serves as an experimental space for student-directed plays and various workshops and classroom activities.

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Majors and Concentrations

- Lab theater and rehearsal spaces
- Theater design studio
- Film screening room
- Television production studio (affiliated with PBS channels 45/49 in Northeastern Ohio)
- Scene and costume shops
- Makeup and dressing rooms
- Greenroom
- Box Office
- Front-of-house facilities
- Spacious dance studio

Professional Societies

Alpha Psi Omega

The Theatre Program is a member of Alpha Psi Omega, the National Honorary Dramatics Fraternity. Students may become members of the local chapter by:

- achieving the prescribed cumulative grade average
- earning a prescribed number of points through participation in dramatic activities

Membership requires sophomore standing.

General Procedures and Policies

Students are responsible for knowing about degree requirements and university and Theatre area policies and procedures. This information may be found through the Theatre office, from the Theatre Academic Advisor, or from several sections of this Catalog, including the Academic Policies, Rights, and Responsibilities section.

Director

Joseph W. Carucci, D.M.A., Professor

Professor

Katherine N. Garlick, M.F.A., Associate Professor

Lecturer

Todd Dicken, M.F.A., Senior Lecturer

Adam Day Howard, M.F.A., Lecturer

Minors

- Minor in Dance (http://catalog.ysu.edu/undergraduate/colleges-programs/college-creative-arts-communication/department-theater-dance/minor-dance/)
- Minor in Film Studies (http://catalog.ysu.edu/undergraduate/colleges-programs/college-creative-arts-communication/department-theater-dance/minor-film-studies/)
- Minor in Musical Theatre (http://catalog.ysu.edu/undergraduate/colleges-programs/college-creative-arts-communication/department-theater-dance/minor-in-musical-theatre/)
- Minor in Theatre (http://catalog.ysu.edu/undergraduate/colleges-programs/college-creative-arts-communication/department-theater-dance/minor-in-theater/)

Dance

DNCE 1540 Modern Dance 1 1 s.h.

The theory and practice of modern dance technique at the beginning level. No previous dance experience is expected. Coursework includes body mechanics, axial and locomotor movement, and improvisation.

DNCE 1550 Conditioning and Wellness for the Performing Artist 1 s.h.

A supplement to the study of dance technique and performance, this course will help students increase their strength, flexibility, and stamina. Coursework will include various somatic systems such as Pilates and Yoga and wellness issues such as nutrition, physical and mental health, and injury prevention and treatment.

DNCE 1570 Jazz Dance 1 1 s.h.

The theory and practice of jazz dance technique at the beginning level. No previous dance experience is expected. Coursework includes body mechanics, rhythmic fundamentals, and movement exercises relating to various pop, street, and musical theatre styles.

DNCE 1571 Tap Dance 1 1 s.h.

The theory and practice of tap dance technique at the beginning level. No previous dance experience is expected. Coursework includes vocabulary and movement exercises in both Buck and Wing and Rhythm styles.

DNCE 1572 Ballet 1 1 s.h.

The theory and practice of ballet technique at the beginning level. No previous dance experience is expected. Coursework includes vocabulary and movement exercises at the barre, center, and across the floor.

DNCE 1575 Hip Hop Dance 1 s.h.

An introduction to hip hop dance and its relationship to other aspects of hip hop culture, music, and media. Coursework includes street styles, breaking, and various regional forms.

DNCE 2641 Modern Dance 2 2 s.h.

The theory and practice of modern dance technique at the intermediate level. Increased technical and artistic accomplishment is expected. Course may be repeated twice for up to six hours credit.

Prereq.: DNCE 1540 or permission of the instructor.

DNCE 2667 Musical Comedy 1 s.h.

This course will supplement the dance technique track specifically in support of the study of musical theatre. Students will practice various social, world, and theatrical dance forms, learn selections from iconic choreography, experience mock dance auditions, and explore the skill of dance composition in musical theatre repertory.

Prereq.: One course in either ballet or jazz dance.
DNCE 2670  Jazz Dance 2  2 s.h.
The theory and practice of Jazz dance technique at the intermediate level. Course may be repeated twice for up to six hours credit.
Prereq.: DNCE 1570 or permission of the instructor.

DNCE 2671  Tap Dance 2  2 s.h.
The theory and practice of tap dance technique at the intermediate level. Course may be repeated twice for up to six hours credit.
Prereq.: DNCE 1571 or permission of the instructor.

DNCE 2673  Ballet 2  2 s.h.
The theory and practice of ballet technique at the intermediate level. Increased technical and artistic accomplishment is expected. Course may be repeated twice for up to six hours credit.
Prereq.: DNCE 1572 or permission of the instructor.

DNCE 2698  Survey of Dance  3 s.h.
The role of dance in culture and history, tracing the evolution of various folk, social, and concert forms. Structural and stylistic elements important for the appreciation of movement and dance.
Gen Ed: Arts and Humanities.

DNCE 3751  Modern Dance 3  2 s.h.
The theory and practice of modern dance technique at the advanced level. Increased technical and artistic accomplishment is expected. Course may be repeated twice for up to six hours credit.
Prereq.: DNCE 2641 or permission of the instructor.

DNCE 3770  Jazz Dance 3  2 s.h.
The theory and practice of Jazz dance technique at the advanced level. Course may be repeated twice for up to six hours credit.
Prereq.: DNCE 2670 or permission of the instructor.

DNCE 3771  Tap Dance 3  2 s.h.
The theory and practice of tap dance technique at the advanced level. Increased physical dexterity and rhythmic nuance are expected. Course may be repeated twice for up to six hours credit.
Prereq.: DNCE 2671 or permission of the instructor.

DNCE 3781  Ballet 3  2 s.h.
The theory and practice of ballet technique at the advanced level. Increased technical and artistic accomplishment is expected. Course may be repeated twice for up to six hours credit.
Prereq.: DNCE 2673 or consent of the instructor.

DNCE 3791  Dance Participation  1 s.h.
Involvement with the Dance Ensemble rehearsal process and performance. Must be taken at least four times during the time a student is a dance major. Course may be repeated up to seven times. By audition only.
Coreq.: With any dance technique course or permission of the instructor.

DNCE 4851  Modern Dance 4  2 s.h.
The theory and practice of modern dance technique at the pre-professional level. A high level of technical achievement, artistry, and professionalism is expected. Pre-professional level courses will include composition and pedagogy. Course may be repeated for credit.
Prereq.: DNCE 3751 or permission of the instructor.

DNCE 4881  Ballet 4  2 s.h.
The theory and practice of ballet technique at the pre-professional level. A high level of technical achievement, artistry, and professionalism is expected. Pre-professional level courses will include composition and pedagogy. Course may be repeated for credit.
Prereq.: DNCE 3781 or permission of instructor.

DNCE 4893  Independent Study in Dance  1-3 s.h.
Independent work in dance practice, pedagogy, composition, or theory under faculty guidance. Intended to allow the student to broaden their experience and expertise in an artistic or academic area of dance beyond the published coursework. May substitute for DNCE 3765 OR 4865 in the dance major, should the student propose an appropriate topic and demonstrate equivalent relevance and rigor.
Prereq.: Permission of the instructor.

DNCE 4898  Senior Project  3 s.h.
Capstone experience expected of all students in the major. Significant demonstration of practical or scholarly ability in Dance choreography and/or pedagogy.
Prereq.: Senior standing.

Theater

THTR 1512  Survey of Broadway: The American Musical  3 s.h.
Learn how musicals and American history both dovetail and intersect to give a reflection of who we are as Americans. In this course, students will reclaim knowledge of 20th-century American history, centered around New York City, circa 1900 to the present. Through lenses of cultural trends, government, economy, identity, and technology, the art forms that developed into the American musical will be surveyed, while discovering how the genre itself is affected by society.
Gen Ed: Arts and Humanities.

THTR 1559  Production Design for Stage and Screen  3 s.h.
An introduction to design for theatrical and film production, and the creative processes used by designers to make choices. Topics include script analysis, director and designer communication, and the integration of design elements into a unified production.

THTR 1560  Introduction to Theatre  3 s.h.
The theory, history, cultural role, and physical characteristics of the theatre as an institution in human society.
Gen Ed: Arts and Humanities.

THTR 1561  Stagecraft  3 s.h.
The technical elements of play production, with emphasis on stage mechanics, set construction, and scenic painting.

THTR 1563  Costume Construction and Craft  3 s.h.
Introduction to stage costuming through the study and application of costume construction techniques and costume crafts, the use of appropriate equipment, and costume maintenance through various projects involving the special techniques used for stage costuming.

THTR 1585  Acting 1: Fundamentals  3 s.h.
The fundamental theories and techniques of acting. Through a combination of classroom exercises, laboratory performances, readings and written assignments, will learn the fundamentals of Stanislavsky's acting theory. This course will include a holistic approach to acting whereby the students will develop their physical and vocal instruments, their emotional intelligence, their ability to research and analyze the actor's text, and to reawaken their creative intuition. One hour lecture/three hours lab.

THTR 1590  History of Motion Pictures  3 s.h.
The history of the motion picture from its beginnings to the present, with emphasis on the milestones of film as a performing art. Viewing of significant films from various periods and countries.
Gen Ed: Arts and Humanities.

THTR 2600  Theatre Participation  1 s.h.
Expected involvement in the main stage productions of the department. Students will audition for all main stage productions, or accept a significant assignment in stage management, costume, scenery, lighting or other technical elements of production. Must be taken once each semester during the time that a student is in residence as a theatre major, for a minimum of 3, or its equivalent. Course may be repeated up to three times.
Prereq.: a declared major in theatre, and faculty permission.

THTR 2601  Singing Styles  1 s.h.
Students designated BFA in Musical Theatre will audition for all main stage musicals, as well as audition for participation in all other vocal/singing opportunities within the department. This course serves as the training, support, workshop, and lab for these activities. Students will train in multiple singing styles to achieve higher marketability as versatile performers. Must be taken once during the time each student is in residence as a musical theatre major but may be taken multiple times. Open to minors and non-majors by audition.
THTR 2607 Introduction to Puppetry 3 s.h.
An overview of the history of puppets in world drama, combined with practical exercises in making inanimate objects come to "life" for the purpose of creating works of theater. Includes puppet construction and performance. One hour lecture/three hours lab.
Prereq.: Sophomore standing or permission of the instructor.

THTR 2640 Theatre History 3 s.h.
Survey of the history of the Western theatre and dramatic literature from its earliest recorded beginnings through the early Realism movement. Course examines the place of theatre in society and its potential as a cultural force.

THTR 2661 Introduction to Stage Management 3 s.h.
Introduction to Stage Management will focus on the skills and mechanics necessary to contribute to the production process as a stage manager with a focus on organization, leadership and communication.
Prereq.: THTR 1559.

THTR 2667 Acting 2: Character Creation & Scene Work 3 s.h.
This course builds upon Acting I: Fundamentals. Students explore their developing understanding of the processes and discipline in creating works of dramatic art. The unique dynamics and discovery potential of acting both personally and collaboratively is experienced through recognized acting techniques (i.e. Stanislavsky, Alexander, Hagen, Spolin), methodologies (i.e. The Method, Linklater), and practices (i.e. Lessac). 1 hr lecture/3 hrs lab.
Prereq.: THTR 1585.

THTR 2672 Bodyvoice for Actors 3 s.h.
This course will engage organic-sensory learning of the voice and human body movement through a multimodal approach, imparting deep structure knowledge and skills both dynamic and specific (One hour lecture/three hours lab).

THTR 2690 The Art of Motion Pictures 3 s.h.
Analysis of the structure of the motion picture, the development of the script, the function of editing, the approach to acting in film production, and the problems faced by a director in film production. Criteria of artistic film making. Examples from motion pictures are screened and discussed.
Prereq.: Sophomore standing.

Gen Ed: Arts and Humanities.

THTR 3700 Theatre Participation 2 1 s.h.
Expected involvement in the main stage productions of the department. Students will audition for all main stage productions, or accept a significant assignment in stage management, costume, scenery, lighting or other technical elements of production. Must be taken once each semester during the time that a student is in residence as a theatre major for a minimum of 4, or it's equivalent. Course may be repeated up to four times.
Prereq.: a declared major in theater and faculty permission.

THTR 3701 Professional Preparation 3 s.h.
Preparation for careers in the theatre industry through lecture and discussion addressing business concerns for the theatre professional. Course content covers contracts, taxes, marketing and social media, resumes, e-portfolios, auditioning/interviewing, representation, unions, and general industry legal considerations.
Prereq.: Junior standing as theatre major.

THTR 3707 Topics in Puppetry 3 s.h.
Studio/lecture course designed to provide students with an opportunity to further explore the work of the puppeteer as story-teller and creative artist. Students will receive training in design, manipulation, script writing/adaptation, and puppet performance. Students will develop understanding and skills through lecture, demonstration, laboratory exercise and independent work conducted outside of class. Students will also be involved in group project work leading to a public performance. Course can be taken multiple times if the topic is different. (One hour lecture/three hours lab).
Prereq.: Junior standing or permission of instructor.

THTR 3761 Stage Makeup 3 s.h.
Design and application of makeup for the stage including techniques for character and age makeup, making and applying facial hair, and other specialized makeup procedures.
Prereq.: THTR 1559 or permission of instructor.

THTR 3762 Directing 1 3 s.h.
An intensive study of the process of directing plays. Whenever possible, students direct the equivalent of a one-act play for public presentation. Lab hours by arrangement.
Prereq.: THTR 1559 and THTR 3768 or concurrently or permission of instructor.

THTR 3763 Scene Design 3 s.h.
The history of design in terms of stage scenery; an investigation of current trends, techniques, and media; practical execution of models and sketches by the student.
Prereq.: THTR 1559 and THTR 1561 or consent of the instructor.

THTR 3764 History of Stage Costume 3 s.h.
A survey of stage costumes based on western styles from the ancient Egyptians to the present with emphasis on periods in which the theatre flourished.
Prereq.: THTR 1559 or permission of instructor.

THTR 3765 Lighting Design 3 s.h.
A study of historical development, basic electrical theory, switch boards and lighting instruments; color theory, principles and practices in stage lighting. Lab hours to be arranged.
Prereq.: THTR 1559 and THTR 1561 or consent of instructor.

THTR 3766 Stage Combat 3 s.h.
Applied skills class specializing in armed and unarmed combat for the stage. Safety factors in stage fighting, including safe use of rapier and dagger.
Performance in public required. (One hour lecture, three hours lab).
Prereq.: THTR 1585 or MUEN 0012 or KSS 1514 or permission of instructor.

THTR 3768 Script Analysis for Stage and Screen 3 s.h.
An introduction to various critical approaches to dramatic literature utilized by actors, directors, designers, dramaturgs, and other artists in theatre and film. Special attention is given to the text as a foundation for realized production and the author's use of dramatic structure, action, subtext, and symbolism.
Prereq.: THTR 1560 or permission of instructor.

THTR 3769 Costume Design 3 s.h.
Costume design for the stage through a study of script analysis, design concepts and principles, and costume rendering techniques.
Prereq.: THTR 1559 or permission of instructor.

THTR 3771 Introduction to Dialects 3 s.h.
Introduction to vocal expression as an actor by way of speech and accent/dialect. Content will address vocal heritage of a character in an acting role, speech sounds, patterns, and physiology. Identification of sound symbols of the International Phonetic Alphabet will form a bridge to vocal transformation into character accents. Whole-body exercises will be used to cultivate organic and physical relationship to speaking. Speaking with intention, meaning, and feeling will be explored through the vocal dynamics of volume, pitch, rhythm and resonance (One hour lecture/three hours Lab).
Prereq.: THTR 2667 or permission of instructor.

THTR 3772 Acting 3: Advanced Character Study & Repertoire Acquisition 3 s.h.
This course builds upon all prior courses in acting. Students concretize and habituate an analytical approach to their broadening knowledge of character development, while applying learned skills experienced through recognized acting techniques (i.e. Stanislavsky, Alexander, Hagen, Spolin), methodologies (i.e. The Method, Linklater), and practices (i.e. Lessac). One hour lecture/three hours lab.
Prereq.: THTR 2667 or permission of instructor.
THTR 3774 Musical Theatre Studio 3 s.h.
Performance-based training and coaching, lecture, and media merge to clarify the styles and techniques of musical theatre. This course explores the many musical theatre genres, as well as the historic and stylistic differences therein. Students study, analyze, coach, and rehearse music from the MT canon (1893-present). One hour lecture/three hours lab.
_prereq_: Prerequisite: THTR 2667 and MTVC 1501 or other evidence of vocal training; and junior standing or permission of the instructor.

THTR 4860 Theatre History after 1700 3 s.h.
History of the physical theatre and representative dramatic texts from 1700 to the modern era.
_prereq_: 9 s.h. of THTR coursework, 3 of which must be upper division.

THTR 4870 Acting 4: Acting on Camera 3 s.h.
An exploration of the theory and technique of film and video performance, and the special demands they make upon an actor. (One hour lecture, three hours lab).
_prereq_: THTR 1585 and THTR 2667 and junior standing, or consent of instructor.

THTR 4880 Shakespeare and Period Styles 3 s.h.
Experimentation and experience with classical dramatic literature, analysis and performance with a focus on Shakespeare. Students will develop their performance skills through text analysis, scene study, vocal work, and acting exercises. In addition to the work of Shakespeare, period material may draw from Greek, Commedia, Neoclassical and Restoration. 1 hour lecture/3 hours lab.
_prereq_: THTR 2667 and THTR 3768 or permission of the instructor.

THTR 4891 Theatre History Before 1700 3 s.h.
History of the physical theatre and representative dramatic texts from the Classical period through the Renaissance.
_prereq_: 9 s.h. of THTR coursework, 3 of which must be upper division.

THTR 4893 Independent Study in Theatre 1-3 s.h.
Independent work in theatre production under faculty/staff guidance. Intended as a continuation of individualized creative work beyond THTR 3791 or THTR 3792. Project dependent upon approval of the evaluating faculty member and the student. May be repeated with different topics for a total of 9 s.h.
_prereq_: THTR 3791 or THTR 3792.

THTR 4898 Senior Project 3 s.h.
Capstone experience expected of all seniors in the degree programs of the department. Significant demonstration of practical or scholarly ability in one of the sub-disciplines comprising the disciplines of theatre or dance, and showing evidence of solid writing, speaking, and critical thinking skills. Grading is A,B,C,NC/PR.
_prereq_: Senior standing with the expectation of graduating by the end of the following semester.
_gen ed_: Capstone.

THTR 4899 Topics in Theatre 3 s.h.
In-depth study of selected aspects in theatre scholarship, theory or practice. May be repeated if the topic changes.
_prereq_: Junior standing or permission of instructor.