

# Theatre Arts - Drama and Dance

College of Arts and Humanities

## Department of Theatre Arts

Kathleen S. McKinley, *Chair*

Speech Arts Building, Room 33

(559) 278-3987

### B.A. in Theatre Arts

Option: Dance

### Minor in Theatre Arts

Dance

Drama

### Single Subject Teaching Credential

English/Drama

## Theatre Arts

The theatre arts major offers you the opportunity to develop your skills in acting, directing, dance performance, choreography, playwriting, children's theatre, technical production, scene design, costume design, lighting design, history, literature, and teaching. After completing our program, you will have the background that will enhance your ability to pursue either an advanced degree or a professional career.

Our professionally trained instructors will guide you through a program which is not only educational but fascinating. A major or minor in theatre or dance can be one of the more exciting times in your life because it will develop communication and performing skills that will aid you no matter what career you finally decide to pursue. If theatre is what you want, then the California State University, Fresno Theatre Arts Department is ready to serve you.

The Theatre Arts Department is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST) and holds memberships with the American Theatre in Higher Education, the California Educational Theatre Association, the California Alliance for Arts Education, and the United States Institute of Theatre Technology. The department regularly participates in the American College Theatre Festival (ACTF) and the American College Dance Festival (ACDF). Our students,



faculty, and productions have been awarded many regional and national honors from both ACTF and ACDF.

Our national and international award-winning Theatre Arts Department offers you educational preparation in all aspects of theatre and dance. Besides having the opportunity of being guided by an extensive curriculum and production schedule of more than 10 plays and several dance concerts, you will have the opportunity to study with guest professionals who participate in our program on a regular basis.

At California State University, Fresno you have a variety of production organizations, each providing a different kind of experience. University Theatre produces five major productions a year, cast and crewed by students. The Experimental Theatre Company (ETC) and the University Dance Theatre (UDT) are student organizations that produce their own plays and dance concerts. The Black Theatre Contingent (BTC) presents productions speaking to the African American experience. Playwrights Theatre is dedicated to the production of original plays. Theatre for Young Audiences, as its name implies, produces plays for young people, two of which tour throughout the Valley. You also have the opportunity to work with our resident dance company, The Portable Dance Troupe. As you can see, we offer a variety of opportunities for you to develop and practice your art.

## Facilities

At California State University, Fresno you have the opportunity to study and practice your art with an outstanding faculty in well-equipped theatres and production facilities. Our newly renovated theatre complex consists of a 370-seat proscenium theatre and a 190-seat arena theatre. We also have a 90-seat lab theatre. You will work closely with 14 faculty members who are current in their craft and professionally active in acting, directing, dance, design, and technical production. Playwriting is a specialty of several of our faculty; all have published and two have been awarded Schubert Fellowships. As you might imagine, we encourage the production of original plays at California State University, Fresno.

## Career Opportunities

Professional theatre and dance are very competitive areas especially for performers. Nevertheless, our graduates have more than held their own as actors and dancers in the professional world. As designers, production specialists, and managers, our students have readily found career opportunities. The rapid expansion in home video entertainment promises even more opportunity in the field.

Graduates have also found successful careers in related fields such as radio and television, journalism, rock performances, and touring productions. Many graduates teach in high schools, community colleges, and universities. Several former students have found their theatre training as an asset in such careers as law, theology, and politics.

**Faculty**

Kathleen S. McKinley, *Chair*  
 Kim V. Morin, *Credential Adviser*  
 Jeanette P. Bryon Ruth H. Griffin  
 Dan Carrion Jeffrey C. Hunter  
 M. C. Drake Ronald D. Johnson  
 Thomas Whit Ellis Terry C. Miller  
 Edward F. EmanuEl Bradley J. Myers

**Bachelor of Arts  
 Degree Requirements**

**Theatre Arts Major and Minor**

The theatre arts major, dance option, and minors are designed to provide competencies in the theatre arts for students who intend to pursue study beyond the Bachelor of Arts degree, who are preparing for careers in teaching or for the professional theatre. With the assistance of their advisers and with departmental approval, students follow a track of advanced courses specializing in the areas of Acting or Design/Technology, or students may opt for advanced courses covering a broad range of study by selecting the General track. Students may also pursue a teaching credential through the Single Subject Waiver Program in English/Drama. The Theatre Arts Program offers through the dance option intensive studies in dance performance, choreography, and theory. This option provides preparation for graduate studies or a professional career.

**Theatre Arts Major** *Units*  
**Major requirements**..... **53**

(See *note 1*)  
 Core: DRAMA 10, 33, 34, 110,  
 139, 163, 185, 186 ..... (24)  
 Production: DRAMA 15 and/or  
 DRAMA 115 ..... (8)  
 Concentration (select one) ..... (21)

**Acting**  
 DANCE 20, DRAMA 30,  
 35, 41, 132, 133 ..... (18)  
 Approved electives:  
 DRAMA 15/115 and  
 89/189 excluded (See  
*note 2*) ..... (3)

**Design/Technology**  
 DRAMA 180A, 181A,  
 182A ..... (9)

Select 9 units from the following courses:  
 DRAMA 41, 134A,  
 134B, 155, 157, 180B,  
 181B, 182B ..... (9)  
 Approved electives:  
 DRAMA 15/115 and  
 89/189 excluded (See  
*note 2*) ..... (3)

**General**

Select 6 units from *each* of the following course groupings:  
**Group 1:** DANCE 20, DRAMA 30, 35, 132, 133, 138B ..... (6)  
**Group 2:** DRAMA 41, 134A, 134B, 136, 180A, 181A, 182A... (6)  
**Group 3:** DANCE 160, DRAMA 130, 131, 137, 138A, 140, 151, 188T ..... (6)  
 Approved electives:  
 DRAMA 15/115 and  
 89/189 excluded (See  
*note 2*) ..... (3)

**General Education** ..... **51**  
**Electives and remaining degree requirements**..... **20-26**  
 (See *Degree Requirements*), may be used toward a dual major or minor  
**Total**..... **124**

**Advising Notes**

1. New majors must enroll in DRAMA 10 (fall) and acting concentration students must enroll in DANCE 20 (spring) during their first year in the program.
2. Students must meet with their adviser each semester for program approval.
3. *CR/NC* grading is not permitted in the theatre arts major.

**Theatre Arts Major  
 (Dance Option) Units**

**Option requirements** ..... **48**  
 DRAMA 33, 34, 134B or  
 181B or 182A ..... (9)  
 DANCE 20, 70, 160, 164,  
 166, 168, 171 ..... (20)  
 Production: DANCE 115 ..... (4)  
 DANCE 117A, B, C, or D  
 (must enroll in one section  
 each semester) ..... (6)  
 DANCE 158A, B, C, or D  
 (must enroll in one section  
 each semester) ..... (6)  
 MUSIC 9 ..... (3)

**General Education** ..... **51**  
**Electives and remaining degree requirements\*** ..... **25-31**  
 (See *Degree Requirements*), may be used toward a dual major or minor

**Total**..... **124**

\*DANCE 70 may be applied to satisfy General Education, Area E.

**Advising Notes**

1. Special requirements: Students seeking the dance option are required to have competency in either DANCE 117 (Modern) or DANCE 158 (Ballet) for graduation.
2. A maximum of 12 units of dance technique courses (117, 155, 158) may be credited toward the minimum B.A. graduation requirement of 124 units.
3. *CR/NC* grading is not permitted in the dance major.

**Theatre Arts Minor (Drama) Units**  
 DRAMA 10, 32 or 33, 34, 163 ..... **12**  
 DRAMA 15 and 115 ..... **2**  
 Approved electives (upper division) ..... **6**  
**Total**..... **20**

**Theatre Arts Minor (Dance) Units**  
 DANCE 20 ..... **3**  
 DANCE 117A, 117B, 117C, 158A,  
 158B, 158C ..... **8**  
 DANCE 70, 164, 166, 168 ..... **11**  
 DANCE 115 ..... **1**  
**Total**..... **23**

**Credential Program**

Consult the theatre arts credential adviser concerning the required course of study for the Single Subject Waiver Program in English-Drama.

# Theatre Arts - Drama and Dance

## COURSES

### **Theatre Arts (DRAMA)**

#### **10. The Art of Theatre (3)**

Fundamental knowledge and skills required for study in the Theatre Arts Program which includes the literary basis, technique, visual impact, and presentation of drama.

#### **15. Dramatic Arts Laboratory**

(1-2; max total 6)

(Same as DRAMA 115.) Group laboratory experience in presentation of major productions for public performance. Not available for *CR/NC* grading.

#### **22. Fundamentals of Interpretation (3)**

Discovering and communicating intellectual and emotional meaning of the printed page through preparation and presentation of selected readings from prose, poetry, and drama. G.E. Breadth C1.

#### **30. Voice and Speech for Performance (3)**

Open to theatre arts majors and minors only. Principles of voice and speech for stage performance including the International Phonetics Alphabet, breathing, relaxation, resonance, enunciation, articulation, pronunciation, projection, expressiveness, and vocal characterization. (CAN DRAM 6)

#### **31. Fundamentals of Voice and Articulation (3)**

Open to nonmajors only. Principles of voice and articulation with demonstration in various aspects of oral communication.

#### **32. Introduction to Acting (3)**

Not open to theatre arts majors except dance option. Open to theatre arts minors. A study of the physiological, sociological, and psychological components of acting. Includes role-playing in daily life; characterization; text analysis; diverse cultural and generational perspectives; and relaxation, voice, and body techniques. G.E. Breadth E1.

#### **33. Fundamentals of Acting (3)**

Open to theatre arts majors and minors only. Nonmajors and minors, see DRAMA 32. Fundamental techniques and theories of acting; development of individual insight, skill, and discipline in the presentation of dramatic materials. (CAN DRAM 8)

#### **34. Theatre Crafts (3)**

Introduction to the crafts in technical theatre scene construction, scene painting, property selection, stage lighting, sound production; costume construction, and makeup; laboratory experience in preparing major plays for public performance.

#### **35. Intermediate Acting (3)**

Prerequisite: DRAMA 33. Intermediate studies in acting including text analysis, expansion of the actor's character range and audition techniques.

#### **41. Makeup for Theatre (3; max total 6)**

Theory and practice of makeup for theatre; techniques for characterization, style, and technical processes. Emphasis on basic techniques; introduction to prosthetics. Preparing plays for major public performances. (Formerly DRAMA 135)

#### **62. Theatre Today (3)**

Not open to theatre arts majors. Perspectives on theatre, its origins, and contemporary forms. Explores theatre as an artistic medium for enhancing our understanding of human experience. Emphasis on the content, meaning, and entertainment value of drama in performance. G.E. Breadth C1.

#### **77. Community Service — Theatre (1-3; max total 6)**

Directed field experience developing skills in theatre or dance through a performance or design project; projects may include work with community service or other nonprofit organizations, public schools, special events, and other projects approved by the faculty supervisor.

#### **83. Touring Theatre (1-3; max total 6)**

(Same as DRAMA 183.) Prerequisite: permission of instructor. Experience in touring major productions for public performance.

#### **89. Projects in Production (1-3; max total 9)**

(Same as DRAMA 189.) Prerequisite: permission of instructor. Group projects in all phases of production in laboratory theatre.

#### **110. Design for the Theatre (3)**

Comprehensive study of design aesthetics and application of design to theatrical production, including scenery, costume, lighting, sound, and makeup. Laboratory application, material for major public performance.

#### **115. Dramatic Arts Laboratory (1-2; max total 9)**

(See DRAMA 15.) Not available for *CR/NC* grading.

#### **130. Screenwriting (3; max total 9)**

Principles and techniques in the preparation and marketing of film scripts.

#### **131. Fundamentals of Playwriting (3; max total 9)**

Exercises in plotting, characterization, exposition, and stage business, critical analysis, and revision of manuscripts.

#### **132. Advanced Acting: Period Styles (3; max total 6)**

Prerequisite: DRAMA 35. A study of styles of acting ranging from Greek Tragedy to Theatre of the Absurd with special emphasis on playing Shakespeare. (Formerly DRAMA 133B)

#### **133. Advanced Acting: Scene Study (3; max total 6)**

Prerequisite: DRAMA 35. Advanced techniques including script analysis, characterization, physicalization, and emotional commitment, developed through improvisation and scene study. (Formerly DRAMA 133A)

#### **134A-B. Advanced Theatre Craft (3-3)**

Prerequisite: DRAMA 34. (A) Advanced training in scenic techniques and allied technology. Laboratory application to major public productions. (B) In-depth survey of each phase of the costume design and production process. Laboratory application to major public performances.

#### **136. Puppetry (3)**

Introduction to the art of puppetry: history, construction of various types of puppets and theatre, practice in manipulation, script writing, use of puppets in education and recreation.

#### **137. Creative Dramatics (3; max total 6)**

(Same as CTET 137.) Basic techniques for the use of dramatization in elementary education; sociodrama, dramatization of school subjects, creative dramatic play; simplified staging techniques.

## 138A-B. Children's Theatre

(3-3; 138B max total 6)

(A) Theory, practice, and applications of theatre for children and adolescents; children's plays are examined through reading, discussion, and scene study. (B) Prerequisite: permission of instructor. Theatre for Young Audiences Tour; experience touring children's theatre productions for public performance.

## 139. Fundamentals of Play Direction (3)

Prerequisite: DRAMA 33. Fundamental techniques and theories of stage direction; function, responsibility, movement, analysis, style; practice in directing scenes.

## 140. Experimental Techniques in Play Direction (3)

Experimental techniques of play direction: prerehearsal problems and procedures; structural analysis of plays, composition, picturization, pantomimic dramatization, movement, rhythm.

## 151. Stage and Production Management (3)

Principles and techniques of stage and production management as applied to professional, educational, and community theatre and applied media; production, audition, rehearsal process, and organization; technical and performance process and procedures; production personnel and cost management.

## 155. Sound in the Theatre (3)

Theory, techniques, and procedure necessary to develop and integrate sound, music, and effects in theatre production; hearing, acoustics, environment, sources, transducers, control, systems, equipment; organization and planning. Laboratory experience in preparing plays for a major public performance.

## 157. Theatre Graphics (3; max total 6)

Development of rendering technique and other graphic skills essential to design for the theatre.

## 160. Field Studies in Theatre and Dance (1-6; max total 8)

Prerequisite: permission of instructor. Supervised off-campus study of the theatre arts and dance. Submission of project or term paper required.

## 163. Dramatic Literature (3)

Critical analysis of various types and styles of plays with respect to their form, meaning, and theatricality.

## 164. 20th Century Drama (3)

Study of the plays of major 20th Century dramatists encompassing various nations and cultures, with emphasis on the contemporary scene. Also includes dramatic theory and analysis, and consideration of social and political issues reflected in these authors' works.

## 177. Community Service: Theatre Arts (1-3; max total 6)

Directed field experience developing skills in theatre or dance through a performance or design project; projects may include work with community service or other nonprofit organizations, public schools, special events, and other projects approved by the faculty supervisor.

## 178. Oral Studies of Shakespeare (3)

Appreciation and communication of representative histories, comedies, and tragedies; problems of content and structure from the point of view of the oral interpreter.

## 179. Playwrights' Theatre (1-2; max total 6)

Prerequisite: permission of instructor. Presentation and readings of original and classical plays.

## 180A-B. Scene Design for Theatre (3-3; 180B max total 6)

Prerequisite: permission of instructor. (A) Styles, techniques, and methods of scene design; history. Laboratory application, material for major public performance. (B) Scenery design; design problems of a complicated play; experimental ideas; new materials. Laboratory application, material for major public performance.

## 181A. Costume History for Theatre (3)

A survey of historical periods of dress from early Egyptian civilizations to present day with an emphasis on application to stage usage.

## 181B. Costume Design for Theatre (3; max total 6)

Costume design for theatre and dance incorporating analysis of script, research of historical period, selection of fabric, preparation of budget, and rendering of plates. Emphasis on illustration and design elements.

## 182A-B. Stage and Television

Lighting (3-3)

Prerequisite: DRAMA 34 or 134A-B. (A) Instruments, control, color, electromechanical factors and simplified design and planning lighting leading to and resulting in a major public performance. (B) Lighting as an art, design concepts; lighting plots, projections, sequential cue relationships. Laboratory application, material for major public performance.

## 183. Touring Theatre (1-3; max total 6)

(See DRAMA 83.)

## 185. History of the Theatre and Drama I (3)

History of European theatre and component arts from ancient Greece through the mid-19th century; analysis of representative examples.

## 186. History of the Theatre and Drama II (3)

Prerequisite: DRAMA 163. From Ibsen to the present; analysis of representative examples.

## 188T. Topics in Theatre Arts (1-6; max total 9)

Prerequisite: permission of instructor. Selected topics may include acting, children's theatre, creative dramatics, play direction, technical theatre, theatre history, dramatic literature, and theatre administration. (May include lab hours)

## 189. Projects in Production (1-3; max total 9)

(See DRAMA 89.)

## 190. Independent Study (1-3; max total 6)

See *Academic Placement — Independent Study*. Approved for *SP* grading.

## 194. Shakespeare (4)

(See ENGL 189.)

## IN-SERVICE COURSE

(See *Course Numbering System*.)

## Theatre Arts (DRAMA)

## 303. Topics in Theatre Arts (1-3; max total 9; repeatable with different topics)

In-service training in selected areas of drama/theatre arts.

## COURSES

### Dance (DANCE)

A maximum of 12 units of dance technique courses (DANCE 16, 117, 155, 158), ATHL, and KAC courses may be credited toward the minimum B.A. graduation requirement of 124 units for dance majors.

#### 16. Introduction to Dance (3)

Exploration of basic concepts, techniques and styles through study problems, video and critical readings. Dance concert attendance may be required. G.E. Breadth E1. (Formerly DANCE 116)

#### 20. Physical Theatre (3)

Incorporates the study of body awareness techniques, contact improvisation, commedia dell' arte, clown work, and other physical theatre traditions in an active exploration of actor training and expression.

#### 70. Balance BodyMind (3)

Study of the alignment of the body and continuum between inner, cellular awareness of body through space. Promotes greater ease in movement; reduced emotional stress; knowledge of the body as process. Nondancers encouraged to enroll. G.E. Breadth E1. (Formerly DANCE 170)

#### 115. Dance Laboratory (1; max total 9)

Group laboratory experience in presentation of productions for public performance. Not available for *CR/NC* grading.

#### 117A. Modern Dance Technique (1; max total 2)

Basic aspect of modern dance technique. Emphasis on importance of breath, body alignment, and rhythmic coordination; total movement awareness.

#### 117B. Modern Dance Technique (1; max total 2)

Beginning-intermediate level study of movement fundamentals, locomotor activities, and expressive qualities; development of balance, strength, breath coordination, and technical ability.

#### 117C. Modern Dance Technique (2; max total 6)

Intermediate level of modern dance technique; center practice and locomotor movement, stress on increased movement awareness through individual technical development and personal expression.

#### 117D. Modern Dance Technique (2; max total 12)

Advanced level in modern dance technique; elements of alignment, flexibility, strength,

rhythm, and energy flow. Exposure to techniques of Limon, Nikolais, Humphrey, Graham, and others.

#### 155A. Modern Jazz Dance (1)

Prerequisite: DANCE 16 or 158A. Rhythmic and stylistic devices of jazz and rock movement using modern dance technique as a movement foundation.

#### 155B. Modern Jazz Technique (1)

An in-depth study of jazz dance techniques and different jazz idioms; emphasis on individual style, freedom of expression.

#### 158A. Ballet Technique (1; max total 2)

Beginning level of ballet technique. Basic principles of turnout, plier, etentre, relever, sauter, tomber, tourner, muscular control, and balance. Partial barre work, port de bras, adagio, centre barre, petit allegro, and grand allegro.

#### 158B. Ballet Technique (1; max total 2)

Beginning-intermediate level of ballet technique. Introduction to important theories of French, Russian, Italian, and Danish techniques. Extended practice of complete class; barre, port de bras, adagio, centre barre, and allegro.

#### 158C. Ballet Technique (2; max total 12)

Intermediate-advanced level of ballet technique. Concentrated study and practice of French, Russian, Italian, and Danish concepts and theories of technique.

#### 158D. Ballet Technique (2; max total 12)

Advanced level of ballet technique. Advanced practice and study of French, Russian, Italian, and Danish concepts and theories of technique.

#### 158P. Ballet Pointe (1)

Prerequisite: permission of instructor. Advanced level of ballet technique and technical training for ballet pointe work. Advanced study of style and theory used for ballet pointe.

#### 159. Music as Dance Accompaniment (3)

Study of Western Classical Music Theory and History as it relates to dance exposure to world music. Rhythmic analysis and 20th century approaches to music composition and dance. Development of dancer's percussive and vocal abilities.

#### 160. Creative Movement for Children (3)

Introduction to the basic concepts, principles, and methodology needed to develop an awareness of the aesthetic experience

through dance and creative movement. The aesthetic qualities of dance are stressed to develop the use of creative intelligence and imagination.

#### 161. Musical Theatre (3)

Training of actors for musical auditions through fundamental voice and movement techniques, study of how music and lyrics combine to suggest character, and study of relationship of song, scene, and choreography in various styles.

#### 163. Portable Dance Troupe Company Class (2; max total 8)

Prerequisite: permission of instructor. By audition only, held in fall semester and meets for two semesters. A repertory class consisting of rehearsing, understudying, and performing roles. This laboratory experience leads toward performances and touring.

#### 164. Dance History (3)

The historical development of dance from its origins to contemporary forms including diverse cultural perspectives.

#### 166. Dance Choreography (2; max total 16)

Choreography is approached through the exploration of resources, including improvisation, use, and development of ideas, knowledge of forms, and development of craft. Choreography will be presented in class and performed.

#### 168. Awareness Through Movement (3)

An introduction to the Feldenkrais Method — movement sequences that create new movement skills in the individual. Designed to include movement and observation, analysis and the application of this work in the fields of education and performance.

#### 171. Philosophical Bases and Trends in Dance (3)

The elements and principles common to all arts and their relationship to dance. G.E. Integration IC.

#### 173. Theories of Improvisational Movement (3; max total 9)

Philosophical and physiological ideas in the possibilities of spontaneity as they relate to the actual process of human movement.

#### 174T. Topics in Dance (1-3; max total 12)

Selected topics may include philosophy, psychology, art, theatre, and music as related to dance.