

Dance and Drama

Fine Arts Division

The arts of drama, dance, and film, past and present, are the concern of the Department of Dance and Drama. The central objects of our study are the play, the film, and the dance, and the ways they are brought to life before an audience. Students learn by doing the jobs of the artists who collaborate to make plays, dances, and films. Some courses concentrate on the arts as they were performed in their historical context; others explore in depth the work of the artists: the playwright, screenwriter, choreographer, actor, dancer, director, designer, and filmmaker. Almost all courses require, in conjunction with reading and critical writing, the performance of problems and exercises. Students are encouraged to pursue independent work either in historical and critical research or in creative activity. All courses in the department are open to every student in the College; certain courses have prerequisites noted in the course descriptions.

FACULTY

Jonathan E. Tazewell, Chair, Associate Professor of Drama

Julie A. Brodie, Associate Professor of Dance (on leave first semester)

Balinda J. Craig-Quijada, Associate Professor of Dance

Daniel Elihu Kramer, Assistant Professor of Drama

Hugh Lester, Visiting Professor of Drama

Wendy MacLeod, James E. Michael Playwright-in-Residence

Andrew Reinert, Associate Professor of Drama

EMERITUS FACULTY

Harlene Marley, Professor Emerita of Drama

Margaret S. Patton, Professor Emerita of Dance

Thomas S. Turgeon, Professor Emeritus of Drama

NEW STUDENTS

DANC 105Y-106Y and DRAM 111Y-112Y are considered especially appropriate introductory courses for first-year students or upperclass students new to the department. As the foundation on which the other coursework in the department is built, these courses are recommended to those students considering majors in the department. They are also recommended for other students wishing to diversify their course of study by fulfilling distribution requirements in the fine arts. The major in dance and drama is normally open to students whose performance in DRAM 111Y-112Y or DANC 105Y-106 has been good.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR

Students majoring in the department may emphasize either theater or dance. Students interested in film should follow the major for theater. In either case, students must fulfill the department's minimum requirements, distributed as follows:

Emphasis in Theater (5.5 units):

- DRAM 110 (audit)
- DRAM 111Y-112Y (1 unit)
- DRAM 213 (0.5 unit)
- 1.5 units drawn from Elements of Film and Theater Art (DRAM 221 through 236 and DRAM 321 through 336)
These courses provide a close examination of several aspects of film and theater arts: acting, writing, directing, and design. Reading, discussion, problem solving, and laboratory exercises will increase students' understanding of the artistic experience and develop their skills in the arts of film and theater.
- 1 unit drawn from The Stage and Its Plays (DRAM 251 through 257)
These courses provide a study, in terms of the theater, of selected plays of a period of notable dramatic achievement or the work of an important playwright. Emphasis, by means of problems and exercises, is on the theatrical qualities of the plays and their staging.
- 1 unit drawn from other course offerings in the department
- DRAM 493 (0.5 unit)

Emphasis in Dance (5.5 units):

- DANC 105Y-106Y (1 unit)
- DANC 215 (.5 unit)
- DANC 220 (.5 unit)
- DANC 227 (.5 unit)
- DANC 228 (.5 unit)
- .5 unit drawn from DRAM 220 through 337
- DANC 322 (.5 unit)
- DANC 493 (.5 unit)
- 1 unit of dance technique

THE SENIOR EXERCISE

The Senior Exercise has three parts: a project, an oral discussion of the project, and a written examination. Each senior major, with the advice and consent of the department's faculty, designs a senior project, a major piece of creative or scholarly work. The student will initiate the work and collaborate with others to see it through to completion, all with guidance from one or more faculty members. The faculty guidance will take the form of an independent study, DANC or DRAM 493, for which the student will receive course credit and a grade. When the work is finished, the student and department faculty members will discuss the preparation and choices that shaped the project. At the end of the year, every senior major will complete a six-hour written examination. The awarding of "distinction" is based on the student's performance on all three parts of the exercise.

HONORS

Students interested in reading for honors must begin during the junior year. In the Department of Dance and Drama, honors is a two-year process. All students reading for honors in the department are required to complete both junior honors and senior honors.

To be eligible to read for honors in dance and drama, a student must meet the following requirements:

1. The applicant must be a student in good standing who can offer, at the time of application, a cumulative grade point average of 3.33 or better.
2. The applicant is limited to a single major. Because of the extensive nature of the projects, no double majors will be allowed to read for honors in drama.
3. The candidate for honors will be expected to maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.33 and a GPA of 3.5 or better within the major throughout the course of study.

To apply, the student will present a plan for a scholarly or artistic project in the subject of dance or drama to the department faculty before the first or second semesters of the junior year. This project will be designed to take not less than 1 unit, and not more than 1.5 units, of tutorial study. The faculty will evaluate this proposal in terms of its originality and ambition, its intrinsic and pedagogical value, and its practical feasibility.

Students interested in becoming honors candidates in dance and drama should speak with their advisor or the department chair.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MINOR IN DANCE

The following courses are required for a minor in dance (3.5 units):

- DANC 105Y-106Y (1 unit)
- .5 unit of dance technique
- DANC 215 (.5 unit)
- DANC 227 (.5 unit)
- Choose 2 of the following 3 courses : DANC 220, 228, and 322 (1 unit)

DANCE COURSES**DANC 105Y. Introduction to the Dance**

Credit: .5 unit

Introduction to the Dance is a one-year survey course designed to introduce dance as a performing art form, historically as well as in practice, exploring how dance helps shape and is shaped by cultural values. The format is lecture and discussion, supplemented by readings, videos, and movement experiences. The first semester begins by looking at court dances of Africa, Japan, and France, then tracks the development of dance as a performing art in Europe and the United States from the Renaissance to the present, by identifying important stylistic trends and the works of major contributors to the field. While the focus is Western concert dance, the course also examines some dance phenomena cross-culturally in order to broaden students' understanding of dance and movement and their relationship to cultural beliefs and practices.

The second semester's work continues to chart the historical development of concert dance, while beginning to explore student choreography. Assignments include written work and short movement studies composed by students to explore various aspects of the choreographic process and to embody significant trends in the evolution of dance making. DANC 105Y-106Y students must also enroll in a dance technique course (DANC 107, 108, 109, 208, 209, or 308) during one or both semesters

Instructor: Staff

DANC 106Y. Introduction to the Dance

Credit: .5 unit

See description for DANC 105Y.

Instructor: Staff

DANC 107. Beginning Dance

Credit: .25 unit

This course introduces movement concepts for the beginning-level student in one particular form of dance. The style being offered will vary each semester, depending on adjunct faculty availability, but may include jazz dance, world dance, or tap dance. The specific classes will be determined at the beginning of each academic year. The course involves intensive movement participation; however, there is no stress placed on public performance. No prior experience is necessary. No prerequisite.

Instructor: Staff

DANC 108. Beginning Modern Dance

Credit: .25 unit

This course's focus is on modern dance technique for the beginning-level student. During the semester, self-expression through movement will be explored through exercises emphasizing the basic concepts of breath, mobilizing weight, and improvisation. The course involves intensive movement participation; however, there is no stress placed on public performance. No prior experience is necessary. No prerequisite.

Instructor: Staff

DANC 109. Beginning Ballet Dance*Credit: .25 unit*

The ballet style and movement vocabulary are presented in this technique course for the beginning-level student. During the semester, students will be introduced to the fundamental components of ballet technique, including line, position, and artistry, with a focus on correct body mechanics. The course involves intensive movement participation; however, there is no stress placed on public performance. No prior experience is necessary. No prerequisite.

*Instructor: Staff***DANC 110. The Dance: Production and Performance***Credit: 0 unit*

The Fall and Spring Dance Concerts give dancers, choreographers, and designers an opportunity to present their work in concert. Advised and directed by dance faculty members and guest artists, these concerts are the culmination of one or two semesters of preparation, rehearsals, and regularly scheduled showings of work-in-progress. *The Fall Dance Concert:* In order for students to choreograph for the Fall Dance Concert, students must be enrolled in or have successfully completed DANC 227 or 228. (Please note: DANC 110 audit will be awarded to those dancers, choreographers, and production personnel whose work exhibited high standards.) Choreography proposals must be submitted to the dance faculty by the date announced early each fall semester. Each choreographer then shows the work-in-progress for final selection by the dance faculty. *The Spring Dance Concert:* In order for students to choreograph for the Spring Dance Concert, they must be enrolled in or have successfully completed DANC 227 or 228. Students who have choreographed for the Fall Dance Concert will be given priority. Dance faculty will announce the selected student choreographers early in the spring semester. The same selection process is followed for both Fall and Spring Dance Concerts. Auditions to dance in either concert are held at the beginning of each semester. All dancers who perform in either concert are required to participate in a dance technique course (DANC 107, 108, 109, 208, 209, or 308). Designers are recommended by the design faculty of the Department of Dance and Drama.

*Instructor: Staff***DANC 208. Intermediate Modern Technique***Credit: .25 unit*

Intermediate Modern Technique furthers the work of the beginning-level course with increased application of movement principles established by creative artists and teachers from the American and European contemporary dance tradition. Movement fundamentals from other broad-based techniques and body therapies are also included. No prerequisite; however, permission of the instructor may be necessary if the student has no prior experience.

*Instructor: Staff***DANC 209. Intermediate Ballet Technique***Credit: .25 unit*

Intermediate Ballet Technique furthers the work of the beginning-level course with a more in-depth application of the ballet vocabulary and style. Prerequisite: DANC 109 or equivalent or permission of instructor.

*Instructor: Staff***DANC 215. Contemporary Dance History***Credit: .5 unit*

This course investigates the development of dance as a performing art in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. The course examines major trends that influence dance-making—which include technology, globalization, and collaboration—by observing the work of principal artists. This course investigates aesthetic points of view, beliefs, and assumptions inherent in dance practice, dance criticism, and history writing. Prerequisite: DANC 105Y-106Y.

*Instructor: Staff***DANC 220. Dance Labanotation***Credit: .5 unit*

This course covers the basic concepts and skills necessary for reading and writing Labanotation, a system for recording movement in symbolic form. Studio work will emphasize re-creating and performing dances from written scores in addition to the theoretical analysis of movement. Class requirements may fulfill Dance Notation Bureau standards for certification in Beginning Labanotation. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.

*Instructor: Staff***DANC 227. The Choreographer I***Credit: .5 unit*

The theory and practice of making dances is the focus of the choreographer. The fundamentals of composing both solo and group works are presented through the exploration of dance dynamics, improvisation, and movement problem-solving. Work will include movement studies, presentations, readings, and discussions. Group preparation time outside of class for movement studies is required. Prerequisite: DANC 105Y-106Y (or concurrent enrollment in 105Y-106Y) or permission of instructor. Enrollment in DANC 107, 108, 109, 208, 209, or 308 is required.

*Instructor: Staff***DANC 228. The Choreographer II***Credit: .5 unit*

Special topics in dance composition are the focus of this course. Students will be presented with advanced choreographic theories and challenges. The choreographic assignments vary each semester and may include studies that emphasize partnering, the use of technology, collaboration, or site-specific work. Course requirements include readings, discussions, and the development and presentation of movement studies. Significant preparation time outside of class is expected. Prerequisite: DANC 227 (The Choreographer I) or permission of instructor. Concurrent enrollment

in a dance technique class is required.

Instructor: Staff

DANC 308. Advanced Modern Dance Technique

Credit: .25 unit

Advanced technique work in contemporary dance builds upon principles of movement established at the beginning and intermediate levels. In-depth exploration of floor work, improvisation, somatic practices, and a variety of postmodern styles promotes artistry, efficiency of movement, and integrated strength. Prerequisite: DANC 208 or permission of instructor.

Instructor: Staff

DANC 322. Dance Kinesiology

Credit: .5 unit

This course studies the science of movement as it relates to dance. Basic anatomy and physiology, the physics of dance, and the mind-body connection responsible for producing and controlling movement are explored to provide students with a deeper understanding of the structure and function of the human body. Lectures, discussions, and movement labs focus on practical analysis and application of material in order to increase movement efficiency, with the ultimate goal of enhancing performance and preventing injury. Prerequisite: sophomore standing or permission of the instructor

Instructor: Staff

DANC 397. Junior Honors

Credit: .5 unit

Junior honors in the Department of Dance and Drama is the first step towards departmental honors. It is required of all students wishing to pursue senior honors. Prerequisite: permission of department chair.

Instructor: Staff

DANC 398. Junior Honors

Credit: .5 unit

See course description for DANC 397. Prerequisite: permission of department chair.

Instructor: Staff

DANC 493. Individual Study

Credit: .25 unit

Students may undertake a project involving either creative activity leading to a major piece of work in one of the aspects of theater or dance art, or reading and scholarly research on a critical or historical subject culminating in a long paper. The course is intended primarily for the student majoring in dance or drama who is engaged in the preparation of a thesis as part of the Senior Exercise. Prerequisite: permission of department chair.

Instructor: Staff

DANC 497. Senior Honors

Credit: .5 unit

Prerequisite: permission of department chair and successful completion of junior honors.

Instructor: Staff

DANC 498. Senior Honors

Credit: .5 unit

Prerequisite: permission of department chair and successful completion of junior honors.

Instructor: Staff

DRAMA COURSES

DRAM 110. The Play: Production and Performance

Credit: 0 unit

The work of DRAM 110 involves the realization in the theater of the work of an important playwright, as expressed in the text for a particular play. Problems in textual analysis, historical research, and the creation of a production lead, by way of independent and cooperative activity involving acting, design, and special problems, to public performance before an audience. Note: Students who, in the judgment of the instructional and directional staff, have made significant creative contributions to the effectiveness of the production will have audit indicated on their academic record.

Instructor: Staff

DRAM 111Y. Introduction to the Theater

Credit: .5 unit

This course examines how theater differs from other arts and how theatrical artists go about their jobs of bringing a play to life on stage. This examination is accomplished through a series of performance or creative assignments. The class is divided into four sections; two meet in the morning and two in the afternoon. Plays, problems, and exercises are performed and discussed in the sectional meetings; about every other week, sections are combined for lectures and demonstrations. In the first semester, the course explores what a play is and how it is structured. Assignments consist of a series of playwriting problems, which students perform in class. In the second semester, students spend about six weeks studying the work of the designer and about six weeks studying the work of the actor. In both cases, the studies are carried out by a series of problems presented or performed in class by students working in teams. In addition, students read at least five plays and a series of essays about the theory and practice of the theater, complete a series of brief written assignments, and take written examinations. As a culmination of the work of both semesters, each student writes, directs, and presents to the class a short, ten-minute play, working with fellow students. Any student with a general interest in the theater will find this a challenging course, regardless of previous experience. Because this course is an introduction to the arts of the theater, it has no prerequisite, but it is a prerequisite to many of the other courses in the department.

Instructor: Staff

DRAM 112Y. Introduction to the Theater*Credit: .5 unit*

See the description for DRAM 111Y.

*Instructor: Staff***DRAM 213. History of the Western Theater***Credit: .5 unit*

This course presents an historical study of Western theater from its origins to the present time. The course will examine the evolution of the physical theater structure and production elements of each period, as well as the relationship between each style and its historical context. The format will include lecture and discussion, readings, and projects. Prerequisite: sophomore standing.

*Instructor: Staff***DRAM 216. History of Clothing and Fashion***Credit: .5 unit*

This course surveys the history of Western clothing and fashion from the ancient world to the present day. Work will include papers, oral presentations, lectures, and discussion. Prerequisite: sophomore standing.

*Instructor: Staff***DRAM 218. Introduction to Film***Credit: .5 unit*

In this course we will consider the collaborative nature of filmmaking and how its various crafts combine to tell stories with perhaps the greatest mass appeal of any artistic medium. We will explore dramatic narrative structure, mise-en-scene, cinematography, editing, and film genres as they have been used and advanced in the history of cinema. This course requires attendance at weekly film showings in addition to regular class meetings. Prerequisite: sophomore standing.

*Instructor: Staff***DRAM 221. The Director***Credit: .5 unit*

This course examines the work of the director through the analysis of plays and the exploration of the visual means of realizing that analysis on stage. Work includes laboratory exercises, written assignments, readings, discussion, and lectures. Students will direct scenes and a short play. This course requires attendance at a weekly lab in addition to regular class meetings. Prerequisite: DRAM 111Y-112Y.

*Instructor: Staff***DRAM 222. The Actor***Credit: .5 unit*

Through the rehearsal and performance of various scenes, students will explore the nature of the actor's contribution to the theater. Work will include performance exercises, readings, and written assignments. Prerequisite: DRAM 111Y-112Y.

*Instructor: Staff***DRAM 223. The Scene Designer***Credit: .5 unit*

Working from varied scripts, students will move from a study of the visual choices implicit in the text to the process of designing scenery. The work of the course places an emphasis on collaboration and includes written assignments, drafting, sketching, and model building. Prerequisite: DRAM 111Y-112Y.

*Instructor: Staff***DRAM 224. The Costume Designer***Credit: .5 unit*

This course presents an introduction to the costume designer's creative process. Through a series of projects, students will explore the relation of the costume to the character, the plot, the work of the director, the actor, and the other designers. Projects involve drawing, painting, collage, writing, and research. Prerequisite: DRAM 111Y-112Y.

*Instructor: Staff***DRAM 225. The Lighting Designer***Credit: .5 unit*

This course introduces students to the properties of light and electricity, and explores the creative process of designing light for the theater, with an emphasis on collaboration. Work includes readings, written assignments, research, drafting, lectures and discussions, laboratory sessions, and design projects. Prerequisite: DRAM 111Y-112Y.

*Instructor: Staff***DRAM 227. Scene Painting***Credit: .5 unit*

This course studies the procedures and materials of the scenic artist. Each student will produce a sequence of scenic projects leading up to a large final project. Whenever possible, the course will use faculty productions in the Bolton Theater as material for study. The format for this course will involve reading, demonstrations, and projects. Prerequisite: sophomore standing.

*Instructor: Staff***DRAM 231Y. The Play: Playwriting and Dramatic Theory***Credit: .5 unit*

In this course, the student is given weekly exercises exploring such topics as dialogue, monologue, exposition, autobiography, writing for the opposite gender, and prismatic structure. The class discusses the resulting short plays in a group critique, after which they are rewritten. Students will finish the first semester with a collection of short plays that can later be developed into longer works. In the second semester, students will complete a one-act play, which will be performed as a staged reading. Students will keep a writer's notebook, do in-class exercises, and read a variety of plays relevant to their weekly assignments. Prerequisite: DRAM 111Y-112Y.

Instructor: Staff

DRAM 232Y. The Play: Playwriting and Dramatic Theory*Credit: .5 unit*

See description for DRAM 231Y.

*Instructor: Staff***DRAM 235. The Screenwriter***Credit: .5 unit*

This course will explore what is particular about writing for the screen. Through weekly writing assignments, students examine the form and structure of the three-act feature film. Students will draw from their personal stories and develop these into cinematic dramatizations. During the semester, each student will work toward a complete two-hour (120-page) screenplay. Prerequisite: DRAM 111Y-112Y.

*Instructor: Staff***DRAM 236. Acting and Directing for the Camera***Credit: .5 unit*

This course will focus on the understanding of cinema through the practical application of production and post-production techniques. Students will learn the art of telling a story on screen by taking on the roles of the major positions in a film production, including producer, director, actor, cinematographer, and editor. Prerequisite: DRAM 111Y-112Y.

*Instructor: Staff***DRAM 251. Classical Theater***Credit: .5 unit*

This course studies the plays of Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, and Aristophanes. The emphasis is on reading for a theatrical understanding of these ancient texts. Course-work includes projects, lecture and discussion sessions, and written assignments. Prerequisite: sophomore standing

*Instructor: Staff***DRAM 252. The English Renaissance Theater***Credit: .5 unit*

This course will explore the plays and theatrical practice of the English Renaissance. Readings will be drawn from the plays of Marlowe, Jonson, Middleton, Webster, and their contemporaries. Prerequisite: sophomore standing.

*Instructor: Staff***DRAM 253. Seventeenth- and Eighteenth-Century Drama***Credit: .5 unit*

This course will study the development of classicism in England and France in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Readings will emphasize textual understanding for the stage. The focus of the reading will be theater of England and France, covering texts of Corneille, Molière, Racine, Wycherley, Congreve, Dryden, Marivaux, Beaumarchais, Farquhar, Goldsmith, and Sheridan. Prerequisite: sophomore standing.

*Instructor: Staff***DRAM 255. The Modern Theater***Credit: .5 unit*

This course studies the major theatrical movements of the first half of the twentieth century, emphasizing plays as they were performed in the theater of the time. The format will include readings, discussions, written assignments, projects, and lectures. Prerequisite: sophomore standing.

*Instructor: Staff***DRAM 256. Contemporary Drama***Credit: .5 unit*

Contemporary Drama will focus on plays of the last twenty years by American playwrights. The class will include work by Tony Kushner, Lanford Wilson, Anna Deveare Smith, Paula Vogel, Stephen Adly Guirgis, David Lindsay-Abaire, and others. Many of the plays will deal with interpretations of and ideas about life in America, specifically the American Dream. In addition to the plays we study, the class will incorporate some discussion of the basic structure of the American theater, the theaters involved with producing the plays read in the class, and some additional readings. The work for the class will include papers, quizzes, presenting scenes from the assigned plays, and an active class presence. Prerequisite: sophomore standing.

*Instructor: Staff***DRAM 333. Advanced Playwriting Workshop***Credit: .5 unit*

In this course, students will be developing a full-length play while simultaneously presenting exercises that explore solo performance, nonlinear narrative, and plays inspired by found text, history, and journalism. We will look at the work of such writers/performers as Bill Irwin, Spaulding Gray, Eric Bogosian, David Kodeski, Anna Deavere Smith, and John Leguizamo. In addition, we will analyze plays by contemporary playwrights such as Conor McPherson, Martin McDonagh, Doug Wright, and Harold Pinter while attempting their playwriting strategies. The semester will culminate in a staged reading of a full-length play. Prerequisite: DRAM 331Y-332Y.

*Instructor: Staff***DRAM 337. The Documentary***Credit: .5 unit*

During this course students will learn the practice of documentary filmmaking from visiting artists and through the study of various documentary films. The instructor of this course will coordinate and supervise the film viewings, lectures, and readings, and will support students as they develop the artistic and technical skills of documentary filmmaking. Four visiting artists will be drawn from professionals in the world of documentary film. Each of them will teach about some aspect of documentary technique and style during a three-week module. There will be one major video assignment in each module and a public screening of projects at the end of the semester. This course is intended to be a fusion of practical filmmaking skills through the use of digital video technology and a deeper

understanding of the nature of documentary through exposure to existing films and contact with professional filmmakers. The course is designed for the upper-level student.

Prerequisite: DRAM 236

Tazewell

DRAM 397. Junior Honors

Credit: .5 unit

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Instructor: Staff

DRAM 398. Junior Honors

Credit: .5 unit

See course description for DRAM 397. Prerequisite: permission of department chair.

Instructor: Staff

DRAM 493. Individual Study

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Instructor: Staff

DRAM 497. Senior Honors

Credit: .5 unit

Prerequisite: permission of department chair and successful completion of junior honors.

Instructor: Staff

DRAM 498. Senior Honors

Credit: .5 unit

Prerequisite: permission of department chair and successful completion of junior honors.

Instructor: Staff