DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE
http://www.uvm.edu/~theatre/

The Department of Theatre provides a breadth and depth of experience so students gain skills to understand the various facets of theatre, while at the same time learning the vital and transferable attributes of critical analysis, problem solving, and belief in one’s own contributions, creativity, and ideas.

The Department of Theatre provides students with a combination of theory and practice in understanding theatre as an art form that reflects the human condition. Students who major or minor in theatre are required to take core courses that provide an historical and critical foundation as well as fundamentals courses in areas of acting and design. A wide offering of additional courses are available that reflect theatre as social practice, personal expression, and creative collaboration.

The faculty in the department is comprised of working professionals as well as scholars who contribute to the field of theatre in the areas of acting, directing, playwriting, theatre design, and criticism. Students who study theatre have access to faculty through small workshop classes, independent study projects, honor’s thesis, coaching for performance assignments, and production work.

MAJORS
THEATRE MAJOR
Theatre B.A.

MINORS
THEATRE MINORS
Speech and Debate
Theatre

SPCH Courses
SPCH 011. Effective Speaking. 3 Credits.
Fundamentals course in effective, informative, and persuasive public speaking and critical listening. Includes theory and practice.

SPCH 031. Argument & Decision. 3 Credits.
Inductive, deductive, causal, and analogical reasoning as applied to the speaking situation.

SPCH 051. Persuasion. 3 Credits.
Human motivation, attitudes, emotion, stereotypes, attention and audience psychology as applied in the speaking situation.

SPCH 071. Fundamentals of Debate. 3 Credits.
An introduction to intercollegiate debate, students learn basics of argumentation & national debate tournament/cross examination debate. Students travel to tournaments. Prerequisite: SPCH 011.

SPCH 072. Citizen Advocacy & Debate. 3 Credits.
This course explores citizen advocacy through the vehicle of debating. Students will engage in: preparatory research, in-class debating and discussion, debate adjudication, and public debate.

SPCH 082. African American Rhetoric. 3 Credits.
Through "Great Speakers" approach, this course utilizes rhetoric criticism to examine, attempt to understand & analyze the advocacy & discourse of African Americans throughout history.

SPCH 083. Rhetoric of Reggae Music. 3 Credits.
Course examines origins, characteristics, social phenomena, and messages found in African-Caribbean musical form: Reggae. Reggae music is examined as rhetorical and social movement.

SPCH 095. Introductory Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles.

SPCH 096. Introductory Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles. Spring only.

SPCH 171. Advanced Debate. 3 Credits.
For students interested in competitive academic debate in the WUDC format. Course offers opportunities to advance debating skills by competing against other college debaters. Prerequisites: SPCH 071 or SPCH 072.

SPCH 181. Presidential Campaign Rhetoric. 3 Credits.
Students learn about theories, style, construction, strategies, and the criticism and evaluation of rhetoric as applied to the presidential campaign. Prerequisites: SPCH 011, SPCH 031, SPCH 051, SPCH 082, or SPCH 083.

SPCH 184. Rhetoric of Ivan Illich. 3 Credits.
Course focuses on the non-fiction works of Ivan Illich (1926-2002), who was an influential social critic and questioned the assumptions of our daily lives. Prerequisites: SPCH 011, SPCH 031, or SPCH 051.

SPCH 185. Rhetoric of Terrorism. 3 Credits.
Examines terrorism through the lens of rhetorical criticism. Students survey approaches to rhetorical criticism, using acquired skills to investigate the rhetoric of terrorism. Prerequisites: SPCH 011, SPCH 031, or SPCH 051.

SPCH 195. Intermediate Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles.

SPCH 196. Intermediate Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles.

SPCH 197. Readings and Research. 1-6 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles.

SPCH 198. Readings and Research. 1-6 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles.
SPCH 283. Seminar. 3 Credits.
Seminar topics include: Nonverbal Communication, Rhetorical Criticism, Advanced Argumentation, Advanced Persuasion, Debate, Interpersonal Communication in Group Interaction, Communication in Conflict Management. Prerequisites: Six hours of Speech, of which at least three hours must be at the 100 level. Fall only.

SPCH 284. Seminar. 3 Credits.
Seminar topics include: Nonverbal Communication, Rhetorical Criticism, Advanced Argumentation, Advanced Persuasion, Debate, Interpersonal Communication in Group Interaction, Communication in Conflict Management. Prerequisites: Six hours of Speech, of which at least three hours must be at the 100 level. Spring only.

SPCH 295. Advanced Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles.

SPCH 296. Advanced Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles.

SPCH 297. Readings and Research. 1-6 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles.

SPCH 298. Readings and Research. 1-6 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles.

THE Courses

THE 001. Introduction to Theatre. 3 Credits.
Overview of general theatre practices and theories, emphasizing history, script analysis, character development, and communicative skills directed toward a modern audience.

THE 010. Acting I: Intro to Acting. 3 Credits.
Exercises to increase self-awareness and heighten perceptions of human behavior. Basics of script analysis and development of vocal and physical skills through practice and performance.

THE 020. Fundamentals of Lighting. 4 Credits.
Primary course in the area of stage lighting design and execution. Includes Lab.

THE 030. Fundamentals of Scenery. 4 Credits.
A hands-on introduction to the theory and practical application of the scenic elements involved in play production (drawing, building, and painting techniques). Includes Lab.

THE 040. Fundamentals of Costuming. 0 or 4 Credits.
Primary course in area of costume design and construction. Includes Lab. Fall.

THE 041. History of Costume. 3 Credits.
Overview of period costume and its adaptation for the stage. Cross-listed with: GSWS 035. Alternating Falls with THE 042.

THE 042. Fund Theatrical Make-up. 3 Credits.
Focus on the development of drawing, painting, and sculpture skills as they relate to the creation of a dramatic character for the stage. Alternating Falls w/ THE 041. Pre/co-requisite: THE 040 or Instructor permission.

THE 050. Dramatic Analysis. 3 Credits.
Examination of structural characteristics of the basic forms and styles of drama and the manner in which they affect theatrical representation. Fall. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing and Instructor permission.

THE 075. D1:Diversity:Cont US Theatre. 3 Credits.
Course focuses on plays and playwrights in contemporary theatre exploring themes pertaining to race, sexuality, gender and the physically challenged. Pre/co-requisite: Sophomore standing.

THE 076. D1:Contemp US Latina/o Theatre. 3 Credits.

THE 095. Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles. Fall. Prerequisite: Instructor permission.

THE 096. Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles. Spring. Prerequisite: Instructor permission.

THE 110. Acting II:Cntmp Scene Study. 3 Credits.
Continuation of Acting I. Development of acting techniques through intensive scene work: refining script analysis and performance skills using contemporary scenes. Prerequisite: THE 010 and Instructor permission.

THE 111. Acting III:Voice & Speech. 3 Credits.
Study of the basics of voice production and Standard American Speech; exercises and practice focusing on freeing the voice and developing good vocal habits. Spring. Prerequisite: THE 010 and Instructor permission.

THE 112. Acting IV: Movement. 3 Credits.
Development of physical freedom and articulate physical expression through techniques promoting relaxation, flexibility, strength, creative spontaneity, and purposeful movement. Techniques applied to short movement performances. Fall. Prerequisite: THE 010 and Instructor permission.

THE 119. Performing Musical Theatre. 3 Credits.
Provides students with a sound foundation in the craft of musical theatre performance. Instruction guides students to connect vocally, emotionally, and physically to musical materials that reflect various historical periods and styles of musical theatre. Prerequisite: THE 010.

THE 120. Lighting Design. 3 Credits.
Explores, through classroom instruction and projects, the development of lighting designs for a variety of live performance situations. Prerequisite: THE 020. Fall only.

THE 130. Scene Design. 3 Credits.
A practical application of the elements, principles, and styles of theatrical stage design through research, sketching, and rendering techniques. Prerequisite: THE 030. Spring only.
THE 131. Scene Painting Concepts & Appl. 3 Credits. Lab course to study practical application of painting techniques used in theatre, trompe l’oeil. Develops skills introduced in THE 030. Alternating Falls with THE 230. Prerequisites: THE 030; and either THE 020 or THE 040 or Instructor permission.

THE 140. Costume Design. 3 Credits. Elements, principles, and styles of design applied to the visual creation of a dramatic character. Prerequisites: THE 040, with THE 041 highly recommended. Spring only.

THE 141. Adv Costume: Draping & Flat Pattn. 3 Credits. Explores the methods of creating period shapes. Students develop a sloper, fit it to a human body, create a researched and completed period costume. Prerequisite: THE 040. Alternating Springs w/ THE 142, THE 143, & THE 144.

THE 142. Adv Cost Const: Per Undrgarmnts. 3 Credits. Focuses on techniques for creating artificial understructures that support period silhouettes. Corsets, hoop skirts, petticoats, etc., are researched, fit on the human body, and constructed. Prerequisite: THE 040. Alternating Springs w/ THE 141, THE 143, THE 144.

THE 143. Adv Costume Constr: Millinery. 3 Credits. Explores methods of hat construction, including work in various media. Methods of shaping, covering, and trimming are researched, leading to the completion of hats. Prerequisite: THE 040. Alternating Springs with THE 141, THE 142, THE 143.


THE 170. Playwriting and Dramatic Forms. 3 Credits. Students study models of dramatic structure and contemporary concepts of writing for the stage and apply principles to the creation of original works. Prerequisites: THE 050, ENGS 053, Instructor permission.

THE 180. Eurotheatre. 1-6 Credits. Spring research and preparation for 2-week intensive study of theatre in Europe. Trip: May/June culminating in submission of journal and research paper. Prerequisite: Interview with the professor required. Alternating Spring.

THE 190. Theatre Practicum. 0.5-3 Credits. Students actively involved in current department productions may earn credit for work on stage or backstage. Project proposals must be approved by department faculty and be of significant scope to qualify for credit. Prerequisite: Permission. Repeatable up to three hours.

THE 195. Intermediate Special Topics. 1-18 Credits. See Schedule of Courses for specific titles. Fall. Prerequisite: Instructor permission.

THE 196. Intermediate Special Topics. 1-18 Credits. See Schedule of Courses for specific titles. Spring. Prerequisite: Instructor permission.

THE 197. Readings & Research. 0.5–9 Credits. Prerequisite: Instructor Permission. Fall.

THE 198. Readings & Research. 0.5–9 Credits. Prerequisite: Instructor Permission. Spring.

THE 200. Professional Preparation. 1-3 Credits. Topics include preparing for auditions, portfolio reviews, interviews, and research papers for entrance into graduate schools or professional theatre venues. Prerequisite: Junior/Senior standing and by Instructor permission only.

THE 210. Acting V: Shakespeare Scene Study. 3 Credits. Refining and developing script analysis and performance skills using Shakespeare, ancient Greek, Moliere, or other stylized texts. Prerequisites: THE 010, THE 110 & THE 111 or Instructor permission. Fall.

THE 212. Mask: Transformational Acting. 3 Credits. Mask is used to provoke actor’s imagination through improvisation, physical gesture, creation of original works, and storytelling. Prerequisites: THE 010, THE 110, or Instructor permission.


THE 251. Directing II. 3 Credits. Development of skills and aesthetic values through the direction of a complete one act play. Not offered as performance opportunity. Enrolled students may not act in their own projects. Prerequisites: THE 250; Instructor permission; Senior standing. Spring.

THE 252. History II: 17th - 21st Century. 3 Credits. A study of historical context, theatrical conventions, and dramas representative of the restoration, sentimental neo classicism, romanticism, realism, and anti-realism to the contemporary. Prerequisite: THE 150.
THE 255. Playing with Femininity. 3 Credits.
Finding new femininities. Investigating how contemporary American artists use femininity to question and invert cultures and explore new femininities challenging gender, race and sexual preferences. Prerequisites: THE 150 or Instructor permission.

THE 283. Seminar. 3 Credits.
Fall only. Credits: 3.

THE 284. Seminar. 3 Credits.
Spring only. Credits: 3.

THE 295. Advanced Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles. Pre/co-requisite: Instructor permission only.

THE 296. Advanced Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles. Pre/co-requisite: Instructor permission only.

THE 297. Senior Readings and Research. 1-3 Credits.
Fall only. Credits: 3.

THE 298. Senior Readings & Research. 1-3 Credits.
Spring only. Credits: 1-3.