

## THEATRE ARTS

The Theatre major at Saint Joseph's College is designed to be a hands-on, production-oriented major. We believe the key to learning to be an actor, a director, a designer, or a technician is in the application of the theories and skills learned in the classroom. While text books, lectures, and theories are vital to the intellectual growth of a theatre artist, it is in production where a student's true worth is made manifest. This opportunity to develop and hone specific talents is combined with Saint Joseph's nationally-recognized, interdisciplinary Core education program to offer the budding artist access to a precious commodity; a world of ideas to draw from in the development as an artist.

Theatre at Saint Joseph's College is truly a liberal and liberating art. Although a theatre major is offered, students from all disciplines are welcome to participate in theatre productions, and we encourage students to minor or double major in Theatre.

### MAJOR IN THEATRE ARTS (36 credits)

REQUIRED: 7 courses (21 hours)

ENG 122 Intro to Drama

THR 116 Acting

THR 223 Theatre History I: Beginnings to 1875

THR 225 Play Production

THR 226 Theatre History II: 1875 to Contemporary

THR 336 Play Direction

THR 463 Senior Seminar

Choose 9 hours from:

THR 105 Theatre Lab (*may be taken three times*)

THR 255 Independent Study

THR 334 Improvisation

THR 335 Advanced Acting

THR 260 or 360 Topics in Theatre

THR 461 Practicum in Theatre

THR 490 Internship in Theatre

Choose 6 hours from courses in the fine arts outside of Theatre. Choices may include any courses in Art and Music, Scriptwriting, MC 339/ENG339; Shakespeare, ENG 350, or other specific courses approved by the Communication Department.

### MINOR IN THEATRE ARTS (18 credits)

REQUIRED: 3 courses (9 credits)

115 Intro to Theatre

116 Acting

225 Play Production

Choose 9 credits from any Theatre courses, ENG 122 Intro to Drama or ENG 350 Shakespeare.

**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS****105. Theatre Laboratory** **1 credit**

Applied practice in theatre. Participation in all phases of theatre activity and performance. This course may be taken up to three times. **Prerequisite: consent of instructor.**

**115. Introduction to Theatre** **3 credits**

This course is designed to help students achieve a better appreciation of the theatre arts and to help them to understand better the role of the arts in society. Topics include the nature of art, the role of the playwright, director, actor, designers, and audience, major movements in theatre history and philosophy, and types and forms of drama. This course is required for the minor, but not required for the major.

**116. Acting** **3 credits**

A basic course for the beginning actor. Emphasis placed on body movement, use of the voice, stage directions, characterization, dramatization, emotional recall and vocal interpretation of the play script. The student will present scenes and short acts in class for critical purposes. Opportunity for participation in College productions.

**223. Theatre History I: Beginnings to 1875** **3 credits**

A survey of the forms and conventions of all phases of theatre (writing, performance, design, etc.) from Classical Greek to the Modern era.

**225. Play Production** **3 credits**

A study and application of the technical aspects of play production as they relate to the theatre. Practice in making a prompt book, stage lighting, scene design, set construction, and costuming. Participation in student productions is required. **Prerequisite: Core 1.**

**226. Theatre History II: 1875 to Contemporary** **3 credits**

A survey of the forms and conventions of all phases of theatre (writing, performance, design, etc.) from Modern to the contemporary era.

**255. Independent Study** **1-3 credits****260. Topics in Theatre** **3 credits**

This course is flexible in content with its focus determined by student and faculty interest and current trends in theatre. Examples of possible topics include stage lighting, specific eras, and design styles such as romantic theatre, Greek and Roman theatre, or non-western theatre practices.

**334. Improvisation** **3 credits**

A course in the fundamentals of the art of improvisation with emphasis on skill development in the areas of performance (both games and long form) and use as a rehearsal tool for actors. Emphasis will also be placed on freeing and developing the creative imagination.

**335. Advanced Acting****3 credits**

Advanced acting styles and techniques pertinent to the significant periods of the drama. Special attention is given to classical, medieval and Elizabethan modes of acting. **Prerequisite: THR 116 and Core 3.**

**336. Play Direction****3 credits**

Student apprenticeship in the direction of drama under staff supervision. **Prerequisite: THR 116 or 225 and Core 3.**

**360. Topics in Theatre****3 credits**

This course is flexible in content with its focus determined by student and faculty interest and current trends in theatre. Examples of possible topics include stage lighting, specific eras, and design styles such as romantic theatre, Greek and Roman theatre, or non-western theatre practices.

**461. Practicum in Theatre****3 credits**

Applied practice in theatre. Students working in theatre participate in stagecraft, production, or direction of theatre productions. **Prerequisite: Core 8 and consent of instructor.**

**463. Senior Seminar****3 credits**

A seminar for seniors who will graduate in the area of theatre. Each senior will be required to undertake a project recommended and approved by a professor in theatre. The project, which may take many forms, must demonstrate the student's mastery and expertise in the area of theatre. **Prerequisite: Senior status, consent of instructor and Core 8.**

**490. Internship in Theatre Arts****3-9 credits**

Available to qualified students. Participants will work in College-approved off-campus internship programs at theatres or theatre-related businesses. **Prerequisite: Core 4 and consent of instructor.**



*Students participate in the Puma Olympics at Freshman Orientation*