Theatre

Our Mission

Whitworth Theatre is a collaborative training ground for storytellers, performers and theatre-makers. We believe theatre is rooted in the investigation of the diversity of the human experience and can only be successful when it is actively anti-racist and disavows all forms of oppression. Through rigorous personalized study, students learn to amplify their voices and articulate meaningful connections between the art they create and the beliefs they hold.

Learning Outcomes

- Apply basic production and performance skills.
- Use reflection on artistic choices and impact as well as external feedback as tools for improving both process and products.
- Respond critically and empathetically to performance and texts, with consideration of historical, cultural and sociological contexts.
- Effectively employ communication skills and habits appropriate to the profession, including oral presentation and writing.
- Articulate meaningful connections between worldview and identity as theatre makers.

Requirements for a Theatre Major, B.A. Theatre, B.A. (36)

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TA 145	Introduction to Theatre Production	1	
Take 1 credit from t	the following:	1	
TA 245	Theatre Production		
TA 345	Theatre Production		
TA 445	Theatre Production		
TA 231	Storytelling: Forms, History and Practice	3	
TA 250	Production Management	3	
TA 273	Acting: Fundamentals	3	
TA 275	Stagecraft I	3	
TA 280	World Theatre History I	3	
TA 361	Fundamentals of Directing	3	
TA 377	Design & Production: Lighting & Sound	3	
or TA 378	Design & Production: Scenic & Costume		
TA 478W	Critical Play Analysis	3	
TA 430	Private Lessons	1	
TA 498	Senior Project	3	
Six credits of Theatre electives (excluding dance courses)			

Requirements for a Theatre Minor (15)

All endorsements subject requirements.	to change; see School of Education for updated	
TA 273	Acting: Fundamentals	3
TA 275	Stagecraft I	3
TA 361	Fundamentals of Directing	3
Six credits of Theatre electives		6
TA 100	Introduction to Theatre	
TA 231	Storytelling: Forms, History and Practice	
TA 116	Theatre in Community	
TA 145	Introduction to Theatre Production	
TA 215	Film Performance & Production	
TA 216	Modern Drama	

	TA 219	Multicultural American Theatre
	TA 217	Mask-Making
	TA 220	Art At Large
	TA 245	Theatre Production
	TA 250	Production Management
	TA 276	Improvisational Acting
	TA 277	Design & Production: Lighting & Sound
	TA 278	Costume, Puppet and Prop Creation
	TA 279	Voice for the Performer
	TA 301H	New York City: Behind the Curtain
	TA 303	Entertainment Rigging
	TA 305	Applied Stagecraft
	TA 311	Playwriting
	TA 314H	Church Drama
	TA 345	Theatre Production
	TA 377	Design & Production: Lighting & Sound
	TA 378	Design & Production: Scenic & Costume
	TA 435	Leadership in the Arts
	TA 445	Theatre Production
Tl	ne following courses are	e required for teaching endorsement:
	TA 344	Theatre Across the Curriculum (1 cred)
	TA 231	Storytelling: Forms, History and Practice

Requirements for a Theatre-Dance Minor (19)

TA 137/PE 137	Modern Dance I	2
TA 143/PE 143	Ballet I	2
TA 183/PE 183	Jazz Dance I	2
TA 342	Principles of Movement	2
TA 381	Choreography	2
TA 382	Dance History	2
Two of the following:		4
TA 337/PE 337	Modern Dance II	
TA 236	Нір Нор	
TA 237	Тар	
TA 283	Musical Theatre Dance	
TA 343/PE 343	Ballet II	
TA 383/PE 383	Jazz Dance II	
One of the following:		3
TA 231	Storytelling: Forms, History and Practice	
TA 250	Production Management	
TA 275	Stagecraft I	

FA Courses

FA 101 Introduction to the Fine Arts

Integrates the disciplines of art, music, theatre, and dance into an examination of the finearts, experience. Examines elements, media,, expressiveness. Periodic.

FA 300 British Culture through the Arts

Experience various aspects of English theatre and,British culture through three weeks in London.,Students are required to visit museums, art,galleries, cathedrals, universities and other,places of historical and cultural significance,,as,well as multiple chosen theatre and music events.,Priority will be given to junior/senior students.,Periodic.

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FA 301 Power and Politics of Art: Italy/Germany

Exploration of the arts (primarily visual arts, and, music) in Rome, Florence, and Berlin, with, emphasis on the arts in relation to history,, culture, and political systems. Jan Term,, odd years.

FA 304 The Arts in Christian Worship

Explore the ways that the arts have shaped and, been shaped by Christian worship practice from the,early church to the present, through study in,Rome, Taize, and London. Students will visit, cathedrals, museums, and other places of, historical and cultural significance. Jan Term,, even vears.

FA 305 Christianity and the Arts in Italy

This course will lead students to the following,Italian cities: Milan, Venice, Florence, Siena,,Assisi and Rome. The goals of this program are to, study and analyze historical and religious, developments of Christianity in Italy with an, additional emphasis on Christian fine arts., Students will face important political, religious, and artistic issues that have shaped Italian, Christianity and culture in the past and present., Periodic.

FA 309 Power and Politics of Art Prep Course

A survey of European art, history, and culture, for students enrolled in the Jan Term Power and, Politics of Art study program. Fall semester, ,even years. Must be accepted for Jan Term Power, and Politics of Art study program.

FA 365 Fine Arts Culture in Britain

Taught when a faculty member from the Whitworth, Theatre, Music or Art & Design Department is part, of the study program to the British Isles., Periodic offering.

TA Courses

TA 100 Introduction to Theatre

An introduction to theatre history, literature, criticism, and the practicalities of creating, theatre, with particular emphasis upon its, cultural and social influences on society. Spring, and Fall. Fulfills-Fine Arts.

TA 110 Introduction to Dance

Basic concepts and principles of jazz, modern, and ballet. This course is designed for the, non-dancer student seeking to explore dance in a,safe learning environment. Also listed as PE 110.,Fulfills-Physical Wellness; Emotional Wellness, Tag.

TA 116 Theatre in Community

An introduction to theatre in a community, context., Includes study of at-risk student populations,,urban poverty, and playwriting as a tool for,social change. Practical application of skills, and, knowledge in Spokane public school. Jan Term,, even, years.

TA 130 Private Lessons

Individual instruction arranged with members of, the theatre faculty. All theatre majors must, enroll for private lessons concurrently with TA,498, Senior Project. Arrangements by non-majors, must be made with the department before, registering for private lessons. Fall and, spring semesters. Fee.

TA 137 Modern Dance I

Analysis and theory of modern dance with an, emphasis on basic technique and movement, exploration. Includes a study of the evolution of, modern dance and its past and present pioneers., May be repeated. Fall semester. May count as ONE, PE activity course. Also listed as PE 137., Fulfills-Fine Arts & Physical Wellness; Emotional, Wellness Tag.

TA 143 Ballet I

Beginning instruction in classical ballet, focusing on vocabulary and technique. Includes, barre and center exercises designed to develop, coordination, balance, flexibility and strength., Fall semester. May count as ONE PE activity, course. Also listed as PE 143. Fulfills-Fine Arts,, Physical Wellness; Emotional Wellness Tag.

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TA 145 Theatre Production

Instruction and performance on stage or backstage, in a major theatre production. TA 145 is, specifically for students completing their first, mainstage production of their Whitworth career., Registration for credit in TA 145 is contingent, upon a successful audition or permission granted, for backstage work. Graded S/NS.

TA 152 Cross Training With Dance Conditioning

This course uses the fundamental practices of,dance to educate, inspire and transform the body,for optimal physical health. Students will engage,with dance practices to strengthen and lengthen,the body; improving muscle tone, flexibility, and,physical performance. Dancers, athletes, and,anyone wanting to improve the overall health and,performance of their body, will benefit from this,course. Fulfills-Physical Wellness. Also listed as,PE 152.

TA 156 Physical Theatre

An applied, movement-based class exploring contact, improvisation, self-expression, the body in space, and the body in relationship to others. Students, will be introduced to various practitioner's, training methodologies and learn to develop their, own movement practice. Also listed as PE 156., Fulfills-Physical Wellness.

TA 183 Jazz Dance I

This course is a first level study of jazz dance., Students will explore this art form through, monthly lectures on the history of jazz, physical, exploration of the unique aspects of jazz, and, strengthen individual understanding of, fundamental jazz dance vocabulary, technique and, choreography. Fall semester. May count as ONE PE, activity course. Also listed as PE 183. Fulfills -, Fine Arts, Physical Wellness; Emotional Wellness, Tag.

TA 184 Physicality and Spiritual Formation

The course seeks to offer students opportunities,to explore the biblical, historical and,experiential connection of prayer, posturing and,movement. An overview of embodied prayers and,movement meditations will be presented. Periodic,Jan Term. Also listed as PE 184 and TH 184.,Fulfills - Physical Wellness; Emotional Wellness,Tag.

TA 215 Film Performance & Production

The purpose of this course is to give students an, in depth understanding of how to translate their, stage acting experience into skills that can be, used on both sides of the camera. Students will, develop a vocabulary for communication within the, craft of screen acting and will gain an, understanding of how the camera affects and, guides their performance. Working on both sides, of the camera as film directors and screen, actors, camera/shot design basics, on-set, terminology and protocol, and reading a, screenplay will all be covered. Practicum in, auditioning, rehearsing, on-set performance and, directing techniques will be emphasized. Also, listed as FVNS 215. Periodic.

TA 216 Modern Drama

A survey of modern drama including major, movements, playwrights, and representative plays, from 1900 to the present. International in scope, with attention to the ways that plays emerge from, reflect, contend with, and contribute to culture. Also listed as EL 216.

TA 217 Mask-Making

Hands-on application of the design and production, concepts and techniques of the atrical mask making, including experimentation with a variety of, artistic mediums. Jan Term, periodic. Fee.

TA 219 Multicultural American Theatre

A multicultural exploration of underrepresented, theatre artists in the US. Through play reading,,performance viewing, and creating original work,,students will engage with and analyze artistic,expression from at least two (and often more),perspectives from within the US cultural context.,African American, Asian American, Latinx, LGBTQ+,,and/or Native American plays are often featured.

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TA 220 Art At Large

Introductory exploration of the production,techniques and painting skills utilized in the,creation of large-scale two-dimensional artwork,combining creative expression and collaboration.,Jan Term, Periodic. Fee.

TA 230 Private Lessons

See TA 130.

TA 231 Performance Theory and Practice

Students create solo and group performances in,non-traditional styles. Emphasis on both,practical skill-building and theoretical,understanding of performance. Periodic. Fulfills,-Fine Arts, Oral Communications.

TA 236 Hip Hop

An intermediate level course focused on,challenging students to explore multiple styles,and levels of hip hop dance. Students will learn,the following styles of dance including: hip hop,,breaking, popping, locking, and contemporary hip,hop through classroom warm-ups, choreography and,instructional videos. As this course is,performance based, students are required to,perform and the majority of class-time will be,spent on learning and polishing choreography.,Spring semester, even years. Also listed as PE,236. Fee. Fulfils - Physical Wellness; Emotional,Wellness Tag.

TA 237 Tap

Instruction in tap dancing focusing on vocabulary, and technique. All levels of experience welcome., Spring semester, periodic offering. Also listed as, PE 237. Fulfills Fine Arts and Physical Wellness., Emotional Wellness Tag.

TA 243 Accelerated Ballet

Continuing instruction in classical ballet, focusing on vocabulary and techniques. Includes, intermediate barre and center combinations, designed to develop coordination, balance, flexibility and strength. Prerequisite: PE/TA 143., Fall and Spring semesters, periodic offering. Also, listed as PE 243.

TA 245 Theatre Production

See TA 145.

TA 250 Production Management

Introduction to the principles and practices of,stage and production management for theatre and,the related performing arts. Emphasis on,management style, facilitating communication and,conflict management. Fall semester, even years.

TA 270 Stage Makeup

An introduction to the art of stage makeup. Lab, experience includes brief explanations and, demonstrations followed by student applications, Enrollment is limited. Spring semester. Fee.

TA 273 Acting: Fundamentals

Learn to live truthfully under the imaginary,circumstances of a play. The objective is for the,student to become an intelligent actor, able to,analyze and critique a script, develop a,character, and respond to a directors coaching,,Enrollment is limited. Also listed as FVNS 273,,Fall and spring semesters.

TA 274 Environment and Performance

Explore our relationships with the land we inhabit, through engagement with art, science, and the land, itself. Learning will culminate in performance, pieces, crafted or performed in response to and in, dialogue with the natural world.

TA 275 Stagecraft I

This course will provide an introduction to,terms,tools and equipment utilized in technical,theatre including, but not limited to, scenic,construction, basic lighting, and sound. Fee.

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TA 276 Improvisational Acting

Learn exercises and techniques leading to,self-discovery in the releasing of creative,potential. Experience problem-solving games and,activities and perform before various audiences.,Spring semester. (Also listed as FVNS 276) Fee.

TA 277 Design & Production: Lighting & Sound

A project-based course introducing the principles,,methods, historical development, and evolution of,lighting and sound design. Includes exploration of,the design process, script analysis, visual,research skills, and the application of design,principles. The format of the course includes,demonstrations of design tools & techniques,,project lab sessions, discussion of design theory, and practices, and peer critiques of the process, and projects. Fall semester, odd years. Fee.

TA 278 Design & Production: Scenic & Costume

A project-based course introducing the principles,,methods, and development of scenic and costume,design and production. Includes exploration of the,design process, script analysis, research skills,,and application of design principles. The format, includes tool and technique demonstration, project,lab sessions, theory and practice discussion, and,peer critiques. Fall semester, even years. Also,listed as FVNS 278. Fee.

TA 279 Voice for the Performer

Training in the effective use of the speaking, voice for public performance. Limited to theatre, majors; others by permission. Spring semester., Also listed as FVNS 279.

TA 280 Theatre History

The history of theatre's relationship to society, from antiquity to contemporary times. Using plays, from a global canon as primary sources, students, interrogate theatrical heritage, evaluate various, works of dramatic literature within the cultural, context of their creation, and by develop and, apply the skills of historical and dramaturgical, inquiry to the creative process. Fall semester, even years.

TA 283 Musical Theatre Dance

Examination of the unique history of musical, theatre. Students study the techniques and, choreographic styles required for performance in, musicals. The culminating project is a public, performance. Spring semester, odd years. Also, listed as PE 283. Fee.

TA 301 Shakespeare in Performance: the,Stratford Festival Experience

This course will explore theatre in Stratford ON,,with practical experience in theatre making. It,will expose students to a variety of ways to,approach text, character, and movement. It focuses,on both theatre appreciation and practical skill,building. Students will work with Stratford,Festival staff to learn theatre skills, and will,have the opportunity to meet and interact with,industry professionals. Priority will be given to,junior/senior students. Periodic.

TA 301H New York City: Behind the Curtain

Explore culture, history and arts in New York, City, from the artist's point of view. Students, are exposed to a variety of art forms, including, music, visual art, film, dance and theatre. It, also includes a participatory, skill-building, experience, in which students work with NYC arts, professionals to learn theatre skills. Jan, Term study tour, periodic.

TA 302 Healthcare Theatre

This course is an introduction to the use of, theatre in healthcare. Simulated patients, portrayed by healthcare students or trained, actors, are frequently utilized in healthcare, education to improve both clinical skills and, interpersonal communication. Students will engage, in simulation and activities designed to enhance, empathy, patient-provider communication skills, and development/portrayal of characters with, medical conditions. Also listed as HS 302. Spring, periodic.

TA 303 Entertainment Rigging

An exploratory course focused on both mathematical, and hands-on understanding of rigging practices., Introducing theatrical rigging practices and, technologies in the entertainment industry., Emphases are on the development of basic rigging, knowledge, rigging math, and an awareness of safe, rigging techniques. Spring semester even years.

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TA 305 Applied Stagecraft

Applied Stagecraft is an advanced course that will,provide training in professional Stagecraft skills,including: computer aided drafting for scenic and,lighting production, advanced scenic and,properties construction techniques. Through,demonstration and hands-on experience, students,will further develop understanding of the,different crafts and language utilized by a,technical theatre artist.

TA 311 Playwriting

Fundamentals of playwriting. Students will learn, playwriting by analyzing scripts, writing scenes, and short plays, and workshopping with peers., Prerequisite: Writing I. Periodic offering.

TA 314H Church Drama

This course involves study of classic and, contemporary drama used in Christian worship., Students will engage in biblical text study,, critical writing, playwriting, and performance of, original theatre on campus and in area churches., Periodic.

TA 316 Devising

A practical study of devising concepts and,practices. As a group, students will devise and,perform an original piece of theatre. Periodic. ,Fulfills - Fine Arts, Culture & Diversity, United,States Diversity Tag.

TA 330 Private Lessons

See TA 130.

TA 335 American College Dance Festival, Intensive

Development of dance fundamentals and performance,strategies. Exposure to a collection of diverse,dance techniques, warm-up and cool-down exercise,,locomotor development and innovative choreography.,Required for ACDF participants. Open to other,students with instructor permission only.,Prerequisite: TA/PE-137, TA/PE-143 or TA/PE-183.

TA 337 Modern Dance II

This course will provide instruction and,performance experiences in advanced principles,and techniques of Modern Dance. This is a,performance-based course. Spring semester, even,years. Also listed as PE 337. Fee. Fulfills -,Fine Arts, Physical Wellness.

TA 342 Principles of Movement

Students will be given tools to understand then, connect the anatomy and physiology of the body to, theatre and dance. The performance of practical, exercises will allow application of the knowledge, earned. Spring, Even Years.

TA 343 Ballet II

Ballet II - An intermediate level course in,classical ballet focusing on technique,,choreography and the dancer's individual artistry.,Includes barre and center exercises designed to,further develop coordination, balance, flexibility,and strength. Prerequisite: TA/PE-143, TA 243 or,instructor permission. Spring semester odd years.,Also listed as PE 343. Fee. Fulfills - Fine Arts,,Physical Wellness. Fee.

TA 344 Theatre Across the Curriculum

Theatre techniques can be applied across the, curriculum in any elementary classroom. Students, will study creative drama, story theatre, reader's, theatre and improvisation. Students will learn the, techniques and perform them, as well as apply them, to their own teaching situations. Priority to, elementary-education majors. Fall and spring, semesters. Junior or Senior status required.

TA 345 Theatre Production

See TA 145.

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TA 361 Fundamentals of Directing

An introductory directing course in which students,will interrogate theatre texts and experiences,,evaluate various directing practices, and by,experiment with their individual artistry through,regular directing showcases. Prerequisites: TA 231,and TA 273. Fall semester. Junior level or above.

TA 373 Acting: Styles

A practical exploration of theories and methods of,contemporary acting practice. Students will build,their individual acting technique through rigorous,analysis, rehearsal, and performance of selected,scenes and monologues. The course will culminate,in an audition showcase with an invited panel of,adjudicators. Prerequisites: TA 231 and TA 273,,Spring semester, even years.

TA 375 Stagecraft II

Project based course providing training in,professional Stagecraft skills including:,computer aided drafting for scenic and lighting,production, technical direction including,materials handling, advanced scenic construction,techniques, basic rigging, equipment maintenance,,production supervision, scheduling, and,budgeting. Prerequisite: TA 275. Periodic. Fee.

TA 377 Design & Production: Lighting & Sound

A project-based course introducing the principles, methods, historical development, and evolution of, lighting and sound design. Includes exploration of, the design process, script analysis, visual, research skills, and the application of design, principles. The format of the course includes, demonstrations of design tools & techniques, project lab sessions, discussion of design theory, and practices, and peer critiques of the process, and projects. Fall semester, odd years. Fee.

TA 378 Design & Production: Scenic & Costume

A project-based course introducing the principles,,methods, and development of scenic and costume,design and production. Includes exploration of the,design process, script analysis, research skills,,and application of design principles. The format, includes tool and technique demonstration, project,lab sessions, theory and practice discussion, and,peer critiques. Fall semester, even years. Also,listed as FVNS 378. Fee. Fulfills-Fine Arts.

TA 379 Advanced Voice for the Performer

Advanced training in the skills of vocal sound,production and vocal communication with an,emphasis on dialect acquisition. Through intensive,linguistic study, students will develop an,essential repertoire of dialects by interrogating,texts, evaluating native speakers, and staging a,series of dialect-driven monologues. Prerequisite:,TA 279. Spring semester, odd years.

TA 381 Choreography

Learn basic principles and concepts for, constructing dance choreography. Students will, create, cast, and produce an original dance, composition. Spring semester, odd years. Fee.

TA 382 Dance History

A comprehensive study of dance from early,recorded,history to the present. Explores and examines,dance practices in a historical and cultural,context. Periodic.

TA 383 Jazz Dance II

In this second level course, students continue to,learn to express themselves creatively through,the artistic medium of jazz dance. This course,prepares students for performance while developing,further understanding of positions, anatomy,,exercises and jazz dance principles. Students,will practice technique, stretching and,strengthening in the daily warm-up and across the,floor combinations. Fulfills - Fine Arts, Physical,Wellness.

TA 430 Private Lessons

See TA 130.

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TA 435 Leadership in the Arts

An in-depth study of the administration of, community art projects. Topics covered will, include grant-writing, business plans,,safety/liability, marketing and public relations.,An emphasis will be placed on laying the, groundwork for successful community art projects, within the disciplines of fine arts, music and,theater. No prerequisites however, some,background,in art is recommended. Also listed as AR 435., Periodic.

TA 445 Theatre Production

See TA 145.

TA 473 Acting: Scene Study

Advanced training in acting with special, attention to contemporary theatre, Shakespeare,, and monologue work. Priority will be given to, junior and senior Acting track theatre majors., Signature required. Fee. Prerequisites: TA 231, and TA 273. Spring semester, odd years.

TA 476W History of Theatre I

The history of theatre's relationship to society, from antiquity to 1800. Using plays from a global, canon as primary sources, students interrogate, theatrical heritage, evaluate various works of, dramatic literature within the cultural context of, their creation, and by develop and apply the, skills of historical and dramaturgical inquiry to, the creative process. Also listed as EMS 476W., Fall semester, odd years.

TA 477W History of Theatre II

The history of theatre's relationship to society, from 1800 to the present. Using plays from a, global canon as primary sources, students, interrogate theatrical heritage, evaluate various, works of dramatic literature within the cultural, context of their creation, and by develop and, apply the skills of historical and dramaturgical, inquiry to the creative process. Prerequisite:, TA476W. Spring semester, even years.

TA 478W Critical Play Analysis

Seminar, Using plays from a global canon as primary, sources, students interrogate theatrical heritage,,evaluate various works of dramatic literature, within the cultural context of their creation, and,by develop and apply the skills of historical and,dramaturgical inquiry to the creative process.

TA 481 Projects in Theatre

Projects in performance or research in some aspect, of theatre that is not available in regularly, scheduled courses but has particular significance, in that student's program. The project is proposed, by the student and refined in consultation with, the professor. Feasibility and appropriateness, must be approved by the department faculty., Prerequisites: completion of a minimum of four, courses in Theatre, two of which must be upper, division. Fall and spring semesters.

TA 482 Projects in Theatre

See TA 481.

TA 498 Senior Project

The Senior Project is the capstone experience for, the theatre major and allows the student to,demonstrate expertise and artistry by completing,one of the following: performance (solo or group, original or interpretive), project (directing, playwriting, arts administration, internship, etc.), or research paper. All majors must apply by, submitting a proposal in their chosen area during, the spring semester of their junior year., Proposals are subject to faculty approval., Prerequisites: faculty approval, senior status and, concurrent registration for TA 430 (private, lessons).

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