University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire

Theatre Arts

Introductory Advising Guide 2014 - 2015

About the major:

The arts of theatre- acting, directing, playwriting, design, literature, and costuming- enable us to explore experiences of humans and the universe. Theatre Arts studies human ideas, values, relationships, obsessions, and accomplishments. Practical experimentation and practice of the arts of the theatre increase our ability to present human experiences to audiences for both entertainment and enlightenment.

Theatre Arts programs offer students training in various aspects of theatre including technical theatre, acting, directing, dance dramatic literature, playwriting, and arts management.

Majors:

- BA/BS Theatre Arts – Comprehensive
- BA/BS Theatre Arts – Liberal Arts
- BA Theater Arts - Teaching

Minors:

- Theatre Arts – Teaching
- Theatre Arts – Liberal Arts

Required GE or University courses:

Liberal Arts Theatre majors choose a Bachelor of Arts (foreign language required) or a Bachelor of Science degree within the College of Arts and Science. The General Education requirements differ depending on the degree, so the student should consult the Catalog.

Teaching majors have more specific G.E. requirements, including:

GE IA: CJ 201, 202 or 205
GE IB: General Education IB Math course with a C or higher
GE II: One Biology course and one non-Biology course is required.
GE III: Pols 110; Psyc 261
GE IV: Art 105, Engl 181
GE V: ES 385

Essential Courses:

Majors and minors should elect first year courses from the following: **Thea 121, Introduction to Technical Theatre (3)**; **Thea 125, Introduction to Theatre History (3)**; and **Thea 130, Beginning Acting (3)**.

Thea 101 – Theatre Appreciation does **not** count toward the Theatre major.

Admission to the teacher education program:

Theatre Teaching majors must be admitted into the College of Education and Human Sciences. See the Early Adolescence to Adolescence First Year Advising sheet or the *University Catalog* for requirements. To be eligible for the pre-program, in which a student should be enrolled their sophomore year, (ES 212 – Initial Teaching Experiences in Elementary, Middle, and High School Settings) a student must pass a standardized test—the Praxis Core-- preferably in their first year of study. The Praxis core may be waived if a student has a composite ACT score of 23 with a minimum score of 20 on the English, math, and reading subject tests from a single ACT taken within the past 5 years. If a student does not meet all of these ACT criteria, they must take the entire Praxis Core. In addition, the student must have completed the university writing requirement, have at least a 2.75 resident and total GPA and have earned 14 credits by the time they register for the courses.

Helpful Tips:

- Theatre courses can be used to partially satisfy G.E. IV (Humanities) requirements.
- Students should have a love for theatre, a fascination with human behavior and a sense of imagination. Emphasis is placed on group project preparation and group interdependencies.
- Students should have a sense of commitment and be interested in working on all aspects of theatrical production (performing, scene construction, lighting, makeup, costuming, and publicity).
- It is not necessary to have experience or background in theatre.
- Participation in main stage theatrical productions, as an actor or in a technical capacity, is open to all university students. To receive information about the season and auditions, interested students should attend the annual Theatre and Dance Open House, held during the first week of classes.

Contact information:

Alan Rieck, chair
www.uwec.edu/mus-the/
Haas Fine Arts 156
(715) 836-4954

For instructions about how to declare this major:
www.uwec.edu/Registrar/student/chgofmajor/index.htm

UW-Eau Claire respects individual differences. This guide complements rather than substitutes for individual advising.

An example of a 4year plan in theatre can be found at: www.uwec.edu/AcadAff/degreeplans/index.htm

.