

Department of Theatre and Drama Undergraduate Program
University of Wisconsin-Madison
School of Education
Plan for 10-Year Program Review, 2015-2016

I. Program Introduction, Mission, and Objectives

The Department of Theatre and Drama holds a mission to educate through and for the world of theatre. The department strives to do this by offering vibrant and varied course offerings, mounting productions, and creating communities of artists, scholars, teachers, and mentors. It is through rigorous, hands-on training that students explore intellectual and creative challenges, critical thinking, problem-solving, and collaboration.

The department embodies a model of creative excellence that leads students, the campus, and wider communities to produce work that embraces the social, intellectual, and artistic potential of theatre. They strive to bring insight, imagination, and discipline to the artistic and scholarly life of the campus and community.

The undergraduate theatre program strives to encapsulate this department mission in course offerings and production experiences for all undergraduates. Undergraduate students in the B.S. in Theatre and Drama not only learn about theatre as a craft, but experience theatre first hand through productions and train to become entry-level theatre professionals. To guide this process, the program has identified the following undergraduate student learning outcomes:

1. Demonstrate the ability to evaluate the art and craft of theatre both critically and conceptually.
2. Demonstrate the ability to analyze a script for the basic elements of plot, character, theme, language, rhythm, mood and elements of production.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of theatrical history and literature from ancient Greek to present.
4. Demonstrate competence in one or more areas of theatre specialization.
5. Demonstrate the practical knowledge and the professional skills required to pursue entry-level professional work and/or advanced studies in theatre.
6. Demonstrate the ability to creatively and generously collaborate as theatre artists.

The undergraduate BS in Theatre and Drama seeks to create well-rounded, entry-level theatre artists who will seek to further their artistic and creative growth through further exploration in a variety of theatre careers both onstage and backstage.

II. Context

The Department of Theatre and Drama recently moved from the College of Letters and Science to the School of Education (summer 2015). This move also changed the undergraduate degree offering from a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Theatre and Drama to a Bachelor of Science degree in Theatre and Drama with a major in Theatre and Drama. With the change of academic home and degree program, the department has the opportunity to critically examine and ultimately revise the current program. The department especially seeks feedback from the proposed review team to evaluate the current undergraduate opportunities in UW-Madison theatre productions and to give advice regarding a new undergraduate curriculum for the BS in Theatre and Drama. The department seeks advice on the interaction of these two critical components in undergraduate education and how the new curriculum will fit with the proposed learning outcomes.

The department of Theatre and Drama also acknowledges its graduate MFA program and aims to distinguish the reviews for the undergraduate and graduate programs as they each hold different foci. The undergraduate program review scope is such that thoughtful and focused feedback on the proposed curriculum is sought without dividing the attention of the review team between the two programs.

III. Questions for the External Review

The department began a self-study for this review by examining curricula from accredited theatre programs from across the country. The Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee in Theatre and Drama has been synthesizing this information with the documents redefining the department created during the change in academic home to formulate a self-study and develop the following questions:

1. Are the mission and the student learning outcomes clear and focused?
2. Do our current curriculum/requirements and faculty/staff configurations set up our students for success in meeting our learning outcomes? If not, what changes should we consider?
3. Do the department's facilities and performance spaces support the curriculum and student learning outcomes?
4. Are we offering a balanced opportunity for undergraduates to participate in productions while maintaining a robust graduate program?
5. What recommendations do you have for increasing undergraduate enrollment?
6. What methods do you suggest the Department use to facilitate communication with alumni?
7. Do current program offerings (BS in Theatre and Drama) fulfill the students' demand for undergraduate theatre education at UW-Madison? Should other degree offerings be considered at the undergraduate level?

Materials to be Provided to the Review Team

1. Senior Exit Surveys from the last 3 years
2. Current Curriculum

3. Curriculum Proposal for major requirements and course descriptions
4. Data on courses offered and enrollments in the past 5 years
5. Data/trend on number of majors over the last 10 years
6. Application and Admission data
7. Theatre and Drama Undergraduate Student Learning Outcomes
8. Comparative school curriculums/requirements
9. Vitas for all current faculty
10. School of Education Strategic Plan
11. NAST standards
13. Health and Safety concerns

IV. Review Team Candidates

The Theatre and Drama undergraduate program review would receive the most comprehensive feedback if structured to include participation of higher education professionals and industry professionals, as the program aims to prepare students for entry-level careers. It is proposed that, in addition to higher education professionals, one reviewer from a technical theatre industry background, and one reviewer from an artistic director background (acting/directing) be selected to participate in this review.

Higher Ed (pick 3)

1. Sherry Wagner-Henry (Director of the Bolz Center for Arts Administration)
2. Priscilla Lindsey (Chair of Theatre, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor)
3. Dan Carter (Director of Theatre, Pennsylvania State University)
4. Alan McVay (Chair of the Theatre Arts Department, University of Iowa)
5. Sarah Marty (Arts Program Area Director and coordinator of UW Continuing Studies theatre, arts management, and dance programs)

Industry (pick 1)

1. Tom Littrell (Outreach and Training Specialist, Electronic Theatre Controls)
2. Tracy Fitch (Technical Support Engineer, Electronic Theatre Controls)
3. Denies Martel (Chair of Performance Production, Cornish College of the Arts)
4. GW Mercier (Set, Costume, Puppet Designer)
5. Mark Turner (Production and Facilities Director, Skylight Opera, Milwaukee)

Regional Theatre (pick 1)

1. Joe Dowling (former Artistic Director of the Guthrie Theatre-MN)
2. Michael Wright (Artistic Director—Milwaukee Chamber)
3. Janet Allen (Artistic Director--Indiana Repertory Theatre)
4. Martha Lavey (Artistic Director—Steppenwolf, Chicago)
5. Robert Falls (Artistic Director—Goodman Theatre, Chicago)

V. Program Review Budget

Chair of Review Team

Honorarium	\$1000
Round Trip air fare & ground transportation	\$ 760
Hotel (2 nights @ \$100/night)	\$ 200
Meals (\$35/day x 2 days)	\$ 70

Review Team Member #2

Honorarium	\$ 400
Round Trip air fare & ground transportation	\$ 760
Hotel (2 nights @ \$100/night)	\$ 200
Meals (\$35/day x 2 days)	\$ 70

Review Team Member #3

Honorarium	\$ 400
Round Trip air fare & ground transportation	\$ 760
Hotel (2 nights @ \$100/night)	\$ 200
Meals (\$35/day x 2 days)	\$ 70

Local Madison Review Team Members (2)

2 Lunches @ \$10	\$ 20
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Grand Total \$4910