

PROPOSAL TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY TO ESTABLISH OR MODIFY AN UNDERGRADUATE MINOR

Title of proposed minor: Establish a **Minor in Theatre**, offered by the Department of Theatre, College of Fine and Applied Arts

Sponsoring unit(s): Department of Theatre, College of Fine and Applied Arts, Professor Peter A. Davis, 3-2371, padavis@illinois.edu.

Brief description of the program of study: The Minor in Theatre offers students a comprehensive overview of the study of theatre, including both academic (history and criticism) and production (acting, design and technology) courses. The purpose is to expose undergraduate students to the field by reinforcing the integrated nature of theatre as a scholarly and aesthetic pursuit. Students are required to take a core of required courses, totaling eleven hours, that prepare them academically to understand the theoretic and historical basis of the art. They then take a minimum of nine hours of electives in two general areas (History/Criticism and Production/Performance) with at least one course from each area. This ensures that every theatre minor has not only some choice of specialization, but also a breadth of knowledge required of all theatre professionals.

Justification—Budgetary and Staff Implications: No additional staff or dollars are needed to institute the minor program. The required courses are already available to all U of I students. We anticipate some increased demand due to the minor but can increase section sizes to accommodate demand without the need to add additional sections. Thus we anticipate no reallocation of resources will be needed. Courses in the minor that are currently restricted to theatre majors generally have one to four slots open every term, allowing for theatre minors to fill those open slots. Additionally, the Division of Design, Technology and Management (DDTM) have agreed to open and increase course offerings for minors and non-majors.

There should also be no difference on library, computer or equipment use as a result of the minor program.

Requirements: See attached sheet.

Prerequisites for the minor: There are no prerequisites for the Minor in Theatre apart from the core courses (THEAT 208 and 262) as prerequisites for THEAT 360/361.

Expected enrollment in the minor: Based on our experience with Discovery classes over the last decade, we anticipate a high desirability for this minor. We will place no formal limit on minor enrollment apart from the classroom space limitations for each course. We anticipate about a new dozen minors per year.

Admission to the minor: Admission will be by formal letter of intent submitted to the minor advisor (Professor Peter A. Davis). Students must be in good standing at the University of Illinois and demonstrate a clear interest in the study of theatre as both an art and an academic discipline.

Minor advisor: All minors will be advised by Professor Peter A. Davis according to the Minor Requirement sheet (see attached).

Certification of successful completion: The Records Officer in the College of Fine and Applied Arts will enter the requirements for the Minor in Theatre into the Degree Audit Record System (DARS). The Records Officer in the student's college of enrollment is responsible for certifying successful completion of all requirements for the Minor in Theatre.

CLEARANCES:

Head/chair of the sponsoring department or unit

Dean of the college of the sponsoring department or unit

Council of Teacher Education (for minors that affect teacher education)

Chair, Senate Educational Policy Committee

Proposed Effective Date: Fall Term 2009

Statement for the Programs of Study Catalog: The Minor in Theatre offers students a comprehensive overview of the study of theatre, including both academic (history and criticism) and production (acting, design and technology) courses. The purpose is to expose undergraduate students to the field by reinforcing the integrated nature of theatre as a scholarly and aesthetic pursuit. Students are required to take a core of required courses, totaling eleven hours, which prepares them academically to understand the theoretic and historical basis of the art. They then take a minimum of nine hours of electives in two general areas (History/Criticism and Production/Performance) with at least one course from each area. This ensures that every theatre minor has not only some choice of specialization, but also a breadth of knowledge required of all theatre professionals.

Hours	Requirements
1	THEAT 100 – Practicum
3	THEAT 208 – Dramatic Analysis
3	THEAT 262 – Literature of Modern Theatre
4	Select at least one of the following courses:
	THEAT 360 – Theatre History I
	THEAT 361 – Theatre History II
9	Select at least three courses from the list of electives with a minimum of one course from History/Criticism and one from Production/Performance. At least one course must be 300 level or higher. For a listing of electives see the "Minor in Theatre" handout available in Department of Theatre office.
20	TOTAL