

REQUIREMENTS FOR A MAJOR IN THEATRE ARTS

Monthly Major Meetings

The Theatre Arts Department holds required monthly informational meetings in the Walsh Studio Theatre on the first Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m. When falling on a holiday, meetings will normally be rescheduled for Thursday (a notice will be posted on the callboard and on the Theatre Listserv). Because discussions of important issues and due dates for major paper work usually occur at these sessions, majors are required to attend. Minors and interested parties are also strongly encouraged to attend all meetings. A reminder of all meetings will be posted on the callboard, to the departmental listserv, and in the student lounge.

The student liaison for the 2007-2008 year is Ryan Andrus. The student representative works as the liaison between students and faculty. While you are always welcome to express concerns to any faculty member, you are encouraged to speak to Ryan regarding agenda items for the monthly meeting and/or items for faculty consideration at their regular meetings.

We will also have a “Suggestion Box” near or in the student lounge where students can put concerns and suggestions for the well-being of our department signed with his/her name (note: you will remain anonymous). The student liaison will sift through these concerns/suggestions each week and address the most pressing concerns with the theatre students at the next Major’s meeting. Those identified by the students as the most pressing issues will then be brought to the attention of the Theatre Arts Faculty/Staff.

Departmental Participation Requirement (THEA 101)

All theater majors* are required to enroll in THEA 101 “Departmental Participation” (0 credits) each semester. A Pass/Fail course, THEA 101 ensures the participation of Theatre Arts Majors in important departmental activities including Major’s Meetings, Auditions (BFA only), Review of Majors, Required Work-Weekends and Strikes, and Proof of 201-204 Registration. For more details and a syllabus for THEA 101 – Departmental Participation refer to Addendum IX, page 67 of this Handbook.

Theatre Practicum (THEA 201, 202, 203, 204)

All theater majors* are required to work on university productions by enrolling in one Theatre Practicum course section (other than Section 1) each semester. Minors are required to enroll in one THEA 201 Theatre Practicum course (other than Section 1) each academic year. Course numbers correspond with individual LCT productions (201 for the first production, 202 for the second, and so on.) *Students who are employed in the shops should register for 201 credit as well but these credits do not fulfill the major’s requirements.*

Section 1 (Acting) is open only to those students who are cast in an LCT production. All students who are cast in a show must add Theatre Practicum Section 1 (Acting) to be eligible to be a cast member. All other sections of Theatre Practicum are open to any student. Most THEA 201-204 assignments are made following casting. Once THEA 201 Practicum assignments are made, an e-permit will not be generated through the Division office (allowing the student to register for the assigned section) until the student has signed his/her THEA 201-204 contract and met with his/her supervisor. Do not put this off as the e-permit will expire! Also, please note that the student is still responsible to register for the class on-line after the e-permit has been entered. **The creation of an e-permit does not automatically enroll the student(s) in the class.** Again, *Students should report immediately at the beginning of the semester to the supervisor of the THEA 201-204 section for which they are assigned (a list of Supervisors follows).* Note:

Students must have prior permission from Dr. Pamela Chabora to sign up for Sec. 9 - Publicity for any semester.

THEA 201-204 (1) 6 Credits Required

(At least four different sections must be selected)

Sec 2 Stage Management (Supervisor: Lori Horvik)

Sec 3 Set Construction/Crew (Supervisor: Mark Spitzer)

Sec 4 Cost Construction/Crew (Supervisor: Rooth Varland)

Sec 5 Makeup Design (Supervisor: Rooth Varland)

Sec 6 Properties (Supervisor: Don Larew)

Sec 7 Lighting Crew (Supervisor: Mark Spitzer)

Sec 8 Sound Crew (Supervisor: Mark Spitzer)

Sec 9 Publicity/House Management (Publicity Supervisor: Pamela Chabora,
& House Management Supervisor: Lori Horvik)

(See Addendum IV, pg. 36 of this handbook for Descriptions of Design and Technical positions and Addendum III, pg. 35 for examples of the THEA 201-204 Contract and Student Evaluation.)

*Freshmen and transfer students are required to take THEA 273, Stagecraft, during their first semester in place of Theatre Practicum. Students may replace THEA 201-204 requirement with an approved THEA 370. *Students completing their THEA 450, Capstone Experience, are not required to complete a THEA 201-204: Theatre Practicum in the semester in which they are enrolled in the Capstone course.*

Work Weekends

Every LCT production is the product of a large student effort. To better facilitate student scheduling, work weekends are held for each production. All cast members and a schedule of selected theatre arts majors are required to attend and contribute to the technical production of each show. Minors are required to attend one work weekend per year. In the case of a scheduling conflict, the student must contact the technical director, Mark Spitzer (231-7706) prior to the work weekend to schedule alternative hours.

Work Weekend dates for the 2007-2008 season are as follows:

THREE DAYS OF RAIN

Saturday and Sunday, September 22 & 23

(Sat. 9:30-12:30 & 1:30-4:30, Sun. 1-5)

THE CHERRY ORCHARD

Saturday and Sunday, October 27 & 28

(Sat. 9:30-12:30 & 1:30-4:30, Sun. 1-5)

PTERODACTYLS

Saturday and Sunday, February 9 & 10

(Sat. 9:30-12:30 & 1:30-4:30, Sun. 1-5)

FLOYD COLLINS

Saturday and Sunday, March 29 & 30

(Sat. 9:30-12:30 & 1:30-4:30, Sun. 1-5)

Strikes

Running crew and cast members are required to attend all strikes. Additionally, students assigned to the work weekend for a production are also required to attend the strike for that production, unless otherwise notified. Strike is normally held immediately following the final performance (See “Dates & Deadlines” page 4-7). The technical director supervises strike and determines the work that needs to be accomplished.

Review of Majors

Dates for Review of Majors for 2007-2008 are available on pg. 4-7 of this Handbook.

The Department of Theatre Arts conducts a Review of Theatre Arts Majors each year. This review consists of an audition/interview and feedback session. All theatre arts majors are required to participate in this process. The review is an opportunity for the faculty to review each major’s progress and to acquaint themselves with what the student is doing. This review also provides the faculty with information for making scholarship, hiring, and future reference decisions. The faculty offer guidance designed to assist the student in securing theatre work and/or graduate positions. It is also an opportunity for students to discuss their artistic and academic progress with the entire theatre arts faculty as well as share their goals for the future. Students should take this process seriously; your success at NDSU is measured by the effort you put forward. Remember, however, that this is a review, not a test. You can only succeed!

The following are general guidelines for the annual Review of Majors. There are several new aspects to the review process this year. Please ask a faculty member if you have any questions regarding this process.

***All Cover Sheets, Questionnaires, Resumes, and Transcript are due to Dr. Lifton.**

Students who fail to submit all required paperwork by the stated deadline (normally one month prior to the Review--See “Dates & Deadlines” page 4-7) will not be allowed to participate in the Review of Majors. Failure to participate in the Review of Majors carries the following consequences:

1. Removal of a student from the BFA track, or
2. Probationary status as a theatre major (i.e. not eligible for casting or design assignments for the following semester).

*Treat this review as you would a professional audition or interview. Students are asked to dress appropriately and to regard the faculty panel as professionals; we will do the same for you. Faculty regard this annual review as both an opportunity to meet one on one with each student and as preparation for the types of audition/interview situations you will encounter in “real life.” You are encouraged to take full advantage of this opportunity to refine your audition/interview skills.

*Reviews will be held in the Walsh Studio Theatre. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the callboard approximately one month before the review; please sign up for a 15-20 minute slot. Students are asked to indicate if special equipment will be needed.

*Prepare a professional resume and a separate list of your NDSU coursework and grades; **a recent transcript is also required.**

*If you are at the sophomore level or higher and wish to be admitted to the BFA program, after meeting with your Faculty Advisor, prepare a letter to the faculty stating why you are seeking

admission into that track. One copy of this letter must be submitted to Dr. Paul Lifton by the stated deadline (See “Dates & Deadlines” page 4-7). for all paperwork.

* Plan to arrive at Askanase Hall at least 15 minutes before your review time.

Overview of Requirements for the Review of Majors

	Performance Emphasis	Design/Tech Emphasis	General Emphasis
Majors Review #1 Freshman Year	Prior to review: *Cover Sheet *Questionnaire *Transcript <i>At time of review:</i> *Optional Monologue (prerequisite Acting I)	Prior to review: *Cover Sheet *Questionnaire *Transcript <i>At time of review:</i> *Optional presentation of prior work	Prior to review: *Cover Sheet *Questionnaire *Transcript <i>At time of review:</i> *Optional presentation (monologue/portfolio)
Majors Review #2 Sophomore Year	Prior to review: *Cover Sheet *Questionnaire *Resume/Transcript <i>At time of review:</i> *1 Monologue *Makeup Designs	Prior to review: *Cover Sheet *Questionnaire *Resume/Transcript <i>At time of review:</i> *Makeup Designs	Prior to review: *Cover Sheet *Questionnaire *Resume/Transcript <i>At time of review:</i> *1 Monologue *Makeup Designs
Majors Review #3 Junior Year	Prior to review: *Cover Sheet *Questionnaire *Resume/Transcript <i>At time of review:</i> * 2 Monologues (contrasting)	Prior to review: * Cover Sheet *Questionnaire *Resume/Transcript <i>At time of review:</i> *Exemplary Class Designs *Prompt Books/Cue Sheets	Prior to review: *Cover Sheet *Questionnaire *Resume/Transcript <i>At time of review:</i> *Exemplary Class Designs *1 Monologue
Majors Review #4 Senior Year	Prior to review: *Cover Sheet *Questionnaire * Resume/Transcript <i>At time of review:</i> * 2 Monologues: (contemporary /period)	Prior to review: *Cover Sheet *Questionnaire *Resume/Transcript <i>At time of review:</i> *Exemplary Class Designs *Realized Designs	Prior to review: *Cover Sheet *Questionnaire *Resume/Transcript *Sample of best writing <i>At time of review:</i> *Portfolio of work *Prompt Book *2Monologues (contrasting in style)
Majors Review #5 5th Year (BFA)	Prior to review: *Cover Sheet *Questionnaire *Resume/Transcript <i>At time of review:</i> * 3 Monologues Variety of styles/periods	Prior to review: *Cover Sheet *Questionnaire *Resume/Transcript <i>At time of review:</i> *Exemplary Class Designs *Realized Designs 440 or 450 Realized Work	