

Theater, Dance and Performance Studies Academic Learning Compact

Expected Outcomes of a Theater, Dance and Performance Studies Area of Concentration

1. Student demonstrates understanding of multiple forms and genres of performance.
2. Student demonstrates understanding of the relationship between performances and their social, historical, and cultural contexts.
3. Student develops ethical collaborative relationships with others in academic, community, and performance settings.
4. Student develops expressive self-awareness through physical and verbal practice appropriate to various performance contexts.
5. Student develops practical skills in performance production.
6. Students will display an understanding of creative artistic practice, including conceptualization, development of skills, constructive critique, revision, and public dissemination.
7. Student develops an understanding of connections between theoretical knowledge, embodied practice, and critical reflection.
8. Student demonstrates effective skills in a diversity of communication styles, including oral, written, and embodied.
9. Student demonstrates the ability to develop a substantial project focused on performance issues and bring it to completion.

Measures to Track Student Progress:

Beginning and continuing students in Practicum courses are evaluated on the basis of research, preparation, formal and informal oral, written, or embodied presentations, small and large group work, self-reflection, critique, participation in discussions, creative projects, portfolios, and rehearsal and performance work.

Beginning and continuing students in Theory courses are evaluated on the basis of homework assignments, essay exams, short written responses to assigned texts, short papers, term papers, oral presentations, small and large group work, participation in class discussions, and performance projects. This combination of evaluative tools allows each student to gain a picture of his or her progress in acquiring both the vocabulary of Theater, Dance, and Performance Studies and the scholarly approaches used by the field.

For all courses, evaluative comments are summarized at the end of each semester in a narrative course evaluation.

- 5th semester students declare a provisional area of concentration in Theater, Dance and Performance Studies and list remaining academic work.
- 6th semester students complete a thesis prospectus form describing their senior thesis research/project and listing remaining academic work.

Specific Measures to Demonstrate Each Graduate's Competencies:

All students with a concentration in Theater, Dance, and Performance Studies prepare a senior thesis/project under the direct supervision of a member of the faculty, and defend that thesis in a public oral baccalaureate exam. A baccalaureate committee of at least three faculty members evaluates the senior thesis/project and the oral exam and determines whether the student has demonstrated competency in Theater, Dance, and Performance Studies at the expected level for graduation.