DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE

College of Arts and Humanities
119 E.O. Bull Center for the Arts
610-436-3463
Department of Theatre and Dance (http://www.wcupa.edu/theatreDance)
Harvey Rovine (hrovine@wcupa.edu), Chairperson

The Department of Theatre and Dance offers a bachelor of arts program in theatre, as well as minors in theatre and dance, which combines the foundation of a liberal arts education with the creative skills needed by the developing artist.

Students with an academic major or minor in the department are required to meet with a departmental faculty advisor to develop their curricular plans, select courses prior to scheduling, discuss career options, and to be aware of co-curricular opportunities. Handbooks are provided to entering students for their use as a guide to the development of their academic programs. Students must achieve a scholastic index of at least 2.0 in their major before they will be recommended for graduation. Grades of C- or lower in major subjects must be raised to C or better.

Department Student Activities
University Theatre; University Dance Company; United States Institute for Theatre Technology; The American College Dance Association; Alpha Psi Omega; and the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival are organizations that involve theatre and dance majors and non-majors in theatre- and dance-related activities. For more information see the "Student Affairs (http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/student-affairs/student-activities)" section of the catalog.

Department Apprenticeships
Although not required, professional apprenticeship experiences are available to qualified majors and minors respectively. Students and their placements are screened by the department to assure mutual satisfaction for all parties involved. For details, students should see the department chairperson.

Programs

Major in Theatre and Dance
• B.A. in Theatre (http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/theatre-dance/theatre-ba)

Minors in Theatre and Dance
• Theatre Arts (http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/theatre-dance/theatre-arts-minor)
• Dance (http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/theatre-dance/dance-minor)

Graduate Opportunities
See the graduate catalog for more information on the Theatre and Dance program. (http://catalog.wcupa.edu/graduate/arts-humanities/theatre-dance)

Policies
• See undergraduate admissions information. (http://catalog.wcupa.edu/general-information/admissions-enrollment/undergraduate-admissions)
• See academic policies. (http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures)

All undergraduate students are held to the academic policies and procedures outlined in the undergraduate catalog. Students are encouraged to review departmental handbooks for program tips, suggested course sequences, and explanations of procedures. When applicable, additional policies for specific department programs may be listed below.

Faculty
Professor
Harvey Rovine (hrovine@wcupa.edu) (1992)
Chairperson, Theatre and Dance
B.S., Towson University; M.A., University of Central Florida; Ph.D., University of Illinois

Associate Professors
Leonard Kelly (lkelly@wcupa.edu) (2005)
B.A., West Chester University; M.F.A., University of Texas
Elizabeth Staruch (estaruch@wcupa.edu) (2007)
B.A., College of Wooster; M.F.A., University of North Carolina-Greensboro
Gretchen Studlien-Webb (gstudlien-webb@wcupa.edu) (1999)
B.F.A., Ohio State University; M.F.A., Temple University
Juliet Wunsch (jwunsch@wcupa.edu) (2000)
B.A., Wesleyan University; M.F.A., Carnegie Mellon University

Assistant Professors
John Bellomo (jbellomo@wcupa.edu) (2014)
B.F.A., The University of the Arts; M.F.A., Temple University
Constance Case (ccase@wcupa.edu) (2013)
B.A., Shippensburg University; M.F.A., Wayne State University
Martin Alan Dallago (mdallago@wcupa.edu) (2014)
B.S., Dickinson College; M.F.A., Temple University
Charles Delmarcelle (cdelmarcelle@wcupa.edu) (2016)
B.S.E., Millersville University; M.A., Villanova University; M.F.A., Temple University
Rebecca A. Field (rfield@wcupa.edu) (1998)
B.Mus., West Chester University; M.Mus., D.Mus., Indiana University
Thomas Haughey (thaughey@wcupa.edu) (2006)
B.S., Elizabethown College; M.F.A., University of Connecticut
Maria Urrutia (murrutia@wcupa.edu) (2012)
B.F.A., The University of the Arts; M.F.A., Goddard College; M.Ed., Temple University

Courses

DAN

DAN 130. Movement for Performance. 3 Credits.
The purpose of this course is to improve body intelligence, providing a strong foundation for acting and dance performance. Yoga and Pilate based exercises are incorporated to build strength and flexibility. Laban’s system or analyzing movement using space/time/effort is examined in this course along with movement sequencing improvisation, visualization and relaxation techniques. No previous dance or acting training necessary. Typically offered in Spring.

DAN 132. Modern Dance I. 3 Credits.
This course is an introduction to modern dance as a 20th century art form which makes use of the integration of “mind” and “body” into an expressive and communicative whole. The work in this class has many layers, including ongoing development of physical skills as well as explorations into improvisation, choreography and the historical contexts that have shaped modern dance.
Gen Ed Attribute: Arts Distributive Requirement.
Typically offered in Fall & Spring.
DAN 133. Jazz Dance I. 3 Credits.
An introduction to the styles, technique, and rhythmic structures of jazz dance with emphasis on increasing movement capabilities and personal expression.
Gen Ed Attribute: Arts Distributive Requirement.
Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

DAN 134. Beginner's Ballet. 3 Credits.
This course is designed to teach fundamental ballet technique and vocabulary at the beginning level. The emphasis will be on using anatomically sound principles to promote efficient use of the body and develop kinesthetic awareness. The course also includes an overview of the history of ballet from its origins until present day.
Gen Ed Attribute: Arts Distributive Requirement.
Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

DAN 135. Tap Dancing I. 3 Credits.
The primary purpose of this course is to introduce the fundamentals of tap dance technique, form and function. Emphasis will be given to basic steps, building combinations, musicality, performance of movement, and understanding the historical background of tap dance as an art form.
Gen Ed Attribute: Arts Distributive Requirement.
Typically offered in Fall.

DAN 136. Introduction to Ballroom Dance. 3 Credits.
The purpose of this course is to teach students the basic steps for Ballroom Dance, both standard and Latin. Emphasis will be placed on lead and follow techniques, proper footwork and positions, and how to recognize and dance to different types of music. This course will enable the student to participate in social occasions requiring ballroom dancing skills, such as weddings, formal social and business parties, as well as informal occasions requiring the display of social graces.
Gen Ed Attribute: Arts Distributive Requirement.
Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

DAN 137. African Dance. 3 Credits.
Through readings, discussion, videos, movement, essays, and other intensive projects, this course will explore dance and music from West Africa and the African Diaspora.
Gen Ed Attribute: Arts Distributive Requirement.
Typically offered in Spring.

DAN 138. Hip Hop Dance I. 3 Credits.
The primary purpose of this course is to introduce the fundamentals of hip hop dance technique, form and function. Emphasis will be given to basic steps; building combinations, musicality, and understanding the cultural influences through a theoretical and historical investigation of hip hop dance styles as an art form.
Gen Ed Attribute: Arts Distributive Requirement.
Typically offered in Spring.

DAN 150. Introduction to the Art of Dance. 3 Credits.
The purpose of this course is to provide the student with an introduction to dance as an art form as well as relate information regarding various aspects of dance. Topics include a brief history of dance, dance styles, dance in education, and dance production.
Gen Ed Attribute: Arts Distributive Requirement.
Typically offered in Fall & Summer.

DAN 199. Transfer Credit. 1-10 Credits.
Transfer Credit.
Typically offered in Fall & Spring.
Repeatable for Credit.

DAN 205. Improvisation. 2 Credits.
This course examines the nature of improvisation in terms of movement and explores the process of discovering, creating and performing movement spontaneously.
Pre / Co requisites: DAN 205 requires a prerequisite of DAN 130 or DAN 132 or DAN 232 or DAN 332.
Typically offered in Spring.

DAN 210. The Dancer's Body. 3 Credits.
An exploration of the body systems, along with injury prevention and care, especially as it applies to the dancer. This course incorporates the physical practice of yoga, Pilates and other mind and body techniques as they apply to the preparation for the physical demands of dance technique.
Gen Ed Attribute: Arts Distributive Requirement.
Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

DAN 232. Modern Dance II. 2 Credits.
Modern Dance II is a continuation and expansion of Modern Dance I. It will focus on Modern Dance as a performing art with emphasis placed on longer combinations and more complex problem-solving themes.
Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

DAN 233. Jazz Dance II. 2 Credits.
This course is a continuing development of jazz dance form and function (introduced in Jazz I) with emphasis on proper jazz technique, introduction of intermediate level rhythms and combinations, expanding movement capabilities, and exploring individual expression and artistry.
Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

DAN 234. Ballet II. 2 Credits.
Ballet II is an intermediate-level course designed to expand on the ballet fundamentals and basic vocabulary learned in Ballet I.
Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

DAN 235. Tap Dancing II. 2 Credits.
The primary focus of this course is to introduce the fundamentals of tap dance at an intermediate level. Emphasis will be given to focus and presentation of steps and combinations, musicality, and individual expression through movement.
Typically offered in Fall.

DAN 236. Ballroom Dance II. 3 Credits.
The purpose of this course is to teach students intermediate steps for Ballroom Dance, both Standard and Latin. Emphasis will be placed on lead and follow techniques, proper footwork and positions. This course will enable the student to improve their ballroom dancing skills, building on the material learned in the introductory course.
Typically offered in Fall.

DAN 300. Controversial Bodies: Visions of Beauty. 3 Credits.
Controversial Bodies: Visions of Beauty will foster a discussion of bodily beauty across the multiples fields of theater, dance, history and sociology. In creating a course that holds these two physical markers, the body and beauty, at its core, a space can be filled within the university’s curriculum where central to the course is the notion that the body is a social and cultural entity and that, markers of bodily beauty are constructed differently across various cultures and time periods. In particular, Controversial Bodies: Visions of Beauty, examines how figures in the performing arts have pulled the make-up of beauty in opposite directions, reinforcing or subverting the norms of what is socially and politically acceptable, playing with nudity, androgyny and ugliness, and rewriting the markers of beauty in terms of race, gender, age and bodily type.
Gen Ed Attribute: Interdisciplinary Requirement.
Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

DAN 315. Dance Pedagogy. 3 Credits.
Basic course offering methods and materials for teaching dance technique.

DAN 332. Modern Dance III. 2 Credits.
Modern Dance III is a continuation and expansion on Modern Dance II. This course will focus on exploring various teaching techniques and styles that have been developed by prominent figures in Modern Dance.

DAN 333. Jazz III. 2 Credits.
Continuing development of jazz dance technique with emphasis on varying styles of jazz techniques, advanced rhythms and combination, expanding movement capabilities, and exploring individual expression and artistry.

DAN 334. Ballet III. 2 Credits.
Ballet III is an advanced level ballet course, expanding the student’s repertoire and proficiency of ballet steps, including advanced steps and the basics of ballet choreography. Substantial previous ballet training is recommended.

DAN 335. Advanced Tap. 2 Credits.
This course is a continuing development of tap dance technique (introduced in TAP 1 and TAP 2) with emphasis on proper tap technique, more advanced rhythms and combinations, musicality, improvisational skills, individual expression and artistry.
DAN 344. History of Dance. 3 Credits.
The purpose of this course is to provide the student with a thorough background of dance as a fundamental form of human expression. Topics shall include the historical roots and recent status of theatrical dance forms, dance education, and recent trends. Evaluation of dance as an art form in relation to man and society. Physiological, sociological, and psychological implications; dance forms and types. Film and other materials focus on parallel developments in related arts.
Gen Ed Attribute: Writing Emphasis.
Typically offered in Fall.

DAN 346. Repertory Development. 2 Credits.
This course is designed to give the students experience learning new and/or existing choreography in a professional rehearsal setting. Admission to the course is by audition or permission of the instructor. Auditions take place the first week of fall semester; email the instructor for audition details.
Typically offered in Fall.
Repeatable for Credit.

DAN 380. Cuban Rumba: Cultural Identity. 3 Credits.
This course is a theory and practice course, designed for students interested in exploring the layered social and cultural history of Cuba, through the lens of its national dance, the rumba. Cuban rumba is made up of three different dances: guaguanco, yambú, and cuba; which this course will focus on embodying, while simultaneously examining its history and place within society. Inside the theoretical conversations, the focus will shift and build from its African and Spanish lineage to social repression on the island, architecture as a container for community and performance, gender agency, and cultural identity appropriation.
Gen Ed Attribute: Foreign Language Culture Cluster, Spanish Culture Cluster.

DAN 399. Directed Studies in Dance. 1-3 Credits.
Research, creative projects, reports, readings in dance. Students must submit applications to advisors one semester in advance of registration.
Repeatable for Credit.

DAN 441. Dance Composition & Choreograp Techniques. 3 Credits.
The art of dance composition. Basic elements of space, rhythm, and motion dynamics. Students design original movement, progressing from simple to complex solo and group forms.
Pre / Co requisites: DAN 441 requires a prerequisite of one of the following courses: DAN 232, DAN 233, DAN 234, DAN 332, DAN 333, or DAN 334.
Typically offered in Fall.

DAN 442. Musical Theatre Dance and Choreography. 3 Credits.
This course covers the appropriate methods, materials, and skills needed for preparing and staging dance in a musical production. Special emphasis will be given to the choreographic process as well as the role of the choreographer.
Pre / Co requisites: DAN 442 requires a prerequisite of one of the following courses: DAN 232, DAN 233, DAN 234, DAN 332, DAN 333, or 334.
Typically offered in Spring.

DAN 446. Repertory Performance. 2 Credits.
The purpose of this course shall be the study of various elements of performance and dance production. All are integrated into a final performance given in the spring semester. Admission is by audition during the fall semester.
Typically offered in Spring.
Repeatable for Credit.

DAN 499. Dance Seminar. 3 Credits.
Intensive examination of a selected area of study in dance. Topics will be announced in advance.
Repeatable for Credit.

THA

THA 100. Theatre Survey. 1 Credit.
This class is a survey course designed to introduce students to the full range of the Theatre process including directing, performance, design, dramaturgy and management.
Typically offered in Fall.

THA 101. Introduction to Theatre. 3 Credits.
A survey of theatre as a humanity by exploring how theatre reflects and comments on its time and place. This course teaches the student what to listen for, and what to look for, when attending a live theatre performance.
Gen Ed Attribute: Arts Distributive Requirement.
Typically offered in Fall, Spring & Summer.
THA 208. Scene Construction and Rigging. 3 Credits.
This course develops a familiarity with scenic construction techniques and materials. Practical solutions to technical problems are discussed. Other topics include theatre safety, technical drawing, and budgeting. This course is a requirement for technical majors but an elective for all other theatre majors.
Pre / Co requisites: THA 208 requires prerequisite of THA 104.
Typically offered in Spring.

THA 210. Stage Makeup I. 3 Credits.
Theory and practice in design and application of various types of makeup for the stage.
Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

THA 212. Creative Drama. 3 Credits.
Theory and practice in creative techniques of expression and dramatic forms to be used as a teaching and recreational device for children and adults. Fulfills general education requirement.
Gen Ed Attribute: Arts Distributive Requirement.
Typically offered in Spring.

THA 213. Script Analysis II. 3 Credits.
To introduce students to the unique problems of interpreting dramatic texts from the classical periods of theatre history for contemporary stage production.
Typically offered in Spring.

THA 214. Stage Properties. 3 Credits.
Explores the research, design, craft, skills, and solutions involved in providing theatrical properties, defined generally as the smaller objects that complete the costume and visual setting for a given show production. Students will learn the basic vocabulary for communication and collaboration with all production staff during the production process. Students will learn how to create source and scrapbook files, property plots, maintenance and security during and after, organizing and storage of stage properties.
Pre / Co requisites: THA 214 requires prerequisites of THA 104 and THA 116. Typically offered in Fall.

THA 216. Fundamentals of Design. 3 Credits.
The exploration of multiple elements of production design to create a foundation of communication for future designers, technicians, actors, directors and stage managers. Students will learn how to manipulate design principles to support and enhance theatrical productions.
Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

THA 218. Virtual Production Techniques. 3 Credits.
This course explores several software programs used to generate and communicate elements of production design.
Typically offered in Fall.

THA 221. Musical Theatre Fundamentals. 1 Credit.
Beginning study of musical notation to provide skills to read and interpret musical theatre vocal lines. Apply basic piano skills necessary to "hear" the musical notation and transfer it to the voice.
Pre / Co requisites: THA 221 requires prerequisite VOI 181. Typically offered in Fall.

THA 250. Race and Gender in American Theatre. 3 Credits.
This course will focus on how some traditionally marginalized groups have been examined and portrayed in American theatre.
Gen Ed Attribute: Diversity Requirement.

THA 300. Career Preparation. 2 Credits.
Designed to educate second semester juniors or first semester seniors on career path options in the field immediately following college.
Typically offered in Fall.

THA 301. Directing I. 3 Credits.
An introduction of the theories and techniques of stage direction with emphasis on pre-rehearsal planning, play selection, script analysis and promptbooks, casting and blocking.
Pre / Co requisites: THA 301 requires prerequisites of THA 103, THA 113 and THA 216. Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

THA 303. Acting Shakespeare. 3 Credits.
A course for the advanced student actor focusing on techniques essential for developing roles from classical texts with a particular emphasis on the plays of Shakespeare. Characterization, text analysis and scenography will all be covered. It is recommended that the student take THA 118 and DAN 130 prior to enrollment in this course.

THA 304. Scene Design. 3 Credits.
This course identifies and explores the processes involved in creating a scenic space that is both practical and expressive. Skills in set design, representational painting, scenic drafting, and script interpretation are developed.
Pre / Co requisites: THA 304 requires prerequisites of THA 113 or permission of instructor. Typically offered in Spring.

THA 305. Lighting Design for the Stage. 3 Credits.
Exploration of lighting as a means of artistic communication in the theatre. The course covers the aesthetics, tools, technology, and the graphic methods used to light a play. Special topics in lighting for other performing arts will be discussed.
Pre / Co requisites: THA 305 requires prerequisites of THA 113 or permission of instructor.

THA 306. History of Theatre/Drama I. 3 Credits.
Examination of plays, players and methods of theatrical production from English Renaissance to 1875.
Pre / Co requisites: THA 306 requires prerequisite of THA 113 or THA 213. Gen Ed Attribute: Writing Emphasis.
Typically offered in Fall.

THA 307. History of Theatre/Drama II. 3 Credits.
Examination of plays, players, and methods of theatrical production from Modern Theatre 1875 to 1900 through contemporary Theatre 1975-Prent Present.
Typically offered in Spring.

THA 312. Children's Theatre. 3 Credits.
Production of children's theatre for stage and television. Course elements will include script analysis and production values, publicity, and tour preparation. Students enrolled in the course will create a complete production. Fulfills general education requirement.
Typically offered in Spring.

THA 315. Sound Design. 3 Credits.
An in-depth study of sound and how it relates to theatrical production.
Typically offered in Fall.

THA 316. Costume History/Design. 3 Credits.
The history of European and American costume and its application to the period production. The process of designing costumes in various styles will be explored. Students are required to design costumes for periods studied.
Pre / Co requisites: THA 316 requires prerequisites of THA 113 or permission of instructor. Distance education offering may be available. Typically offered in Fall.

THA 318. Dialects for the Performer. 3 Credits.
Dialects and regionalisms for the stage.
Pre / Co requisites: THA 318 prerequisite requires THA 118. Typically offered in Spring.

THA 319. Musical Theatre Repertoire. 3 Credits.
This course will acquaint students with styles of composition and vocal presentation through various genres of musical theatre.
Pre / Co requisites: THA 319 requires prerequisite THA 103, THA 203, VOI 181, THA 221 and DAN 130. Typically offered in Fall.
THA 320. Staging Architecture and the Decorative Arts. 3 Credits.
This course aims to enhance the design students knowledge of architectural and decorative arts time periods culminating in their ability to adapt and modify them for the various types of historically-known theatre staging. Focus is on the European, early American worlds 1500-1900’s, the architecture, decorative arts, and the economic and social conditions out of which they sprang.
Pre / Co requisites: THA 320 requires prerequisite of THA 113 or permission of instructor.
Typically offered in Spring.

THA 323. Physical Traditions in Performance. 3 Credits.
This course examines multicultural and historical non-storytelling traditions of performance that stem from actor-driven creation. Throughout theatrical history significant innovations and practices grew from creative work established by playwrights and directors, but rather from actors themselves. This is non-text driven work relying on improvisational characterization within the structure of a historical tradition. This class studies these traditions in order to empower the actor as a part of the creative process and generate a sizeable skill set for use in all theatrical settings.
Pre / Co requisites: THA 323 requires prerequisite DAN 130, THA 118, THA 203.
Typically offered in Spring.

THA 325. Scene Into Song. 3 Credits.
This course is designed to develop within the student actor a technique for approaching a total performance in musical theatre, integrating the spoken word with song toward a seamless presentation alongside a partner.
Pre / Co requisites: THA 325 requires prerequisite: THA 103, THA 203 and THA 319.
Typically offered in Spring.

THA 342. History of Musical Theatre. 3 Credits.
In this course students will study the historical background of the true American art form, Musical Theatre. There will be an emphasis placed on the development of the genre throughout its time. In addition to studying the history of the genre’s development, this course also studies the influential shows, artists and music that have provided major contributions to the growth of the art form.
Typically offered in Spring.

THA 350. Audition Techniques. 3 Credits.
Auditioning is an integral part of performance and musical theatre course of study. As a professional, semiprofessional, and amateur one must audition to participate onstage. This course will move beyond foundation acting courses and translate onstage/onscreen work into an auditioning environment. Guest industry professionals, audition simulations, and critiques from the instructor will build and strengthen an audition portfolio that is carefully and uniquely crafted to each student’s individual needs, strengths and type. Upon completing this course a performer will have multiple tools and a comprehensive understanding of this vital component of professional theatrical practice.
Pre / Co requisites: THA 350 requires prerequisite THA 203.
Typically offered in Fall.

THA 399. Directed Studies in Theatre. 1-6 Credits.
Research, creative projects, reports, and readings in theatre. Students must apply to advisers one semester in advance of registration.
Consent: Permission of the Department required to add.
Repeatable for Credit.

THA 400. Professional Apprenticeship. 3-15 Credits.
This course provides a structured and supervised work experience in theatre. Students must submit an application to the department chairperson for permission.
Repeatable for Credit.

THA 401. Directing II. 3 Credits.
Play direction as a creative aspect of stage production with emphasis on exploration of concept, techniques of rehearsing a play and working with actors, and the role and function of the stage manager.
Pre / Co requisites: THA 401 requires prerequisite of THA 301.
Typically offered in Spring.

THA 403. Advanced Theatre Practicum. 3 Credits.
A production seminar for advanced arts students that will culminate in a public performance. Under the mentorship of a faculty professional, the class will work as an ensemble that takes the production process form the determinants of a production’s performance potential to its final public presentation.
Consent: Permission of the Department required to add.
Repeatable for Credit.

THA 404. CAD for the Stage. 3 Credits.
To develop the student’s ability in utilizing the AutoCAD Release 14 environment to draft and plot scenic designs and technical drawings for the theatre.
Pre / Co requisites: THA 404 requires prerequisite of THA 218 or permission of instructor.
Typically offered in Spring.

THA 406. Advanced Scene Study. 3 Credits.
A special topics class for the advanced student actor with study and scene work in a variety of period, modern, and contemporary styles. Students will focus on the physical, intellectual, and emotional demands inherent in the text as they move from textual analysis to performance.
Pre / Co requisites: THA 406 requires prerequisite THA 303, THA 118 and DAN 130.
Typically offered in Fall.

THA 414. Stage Management. 3 Credits.
Duties and responsibilities of the theatrical stage manager throughout the production process.
Pre / Co requisites: THA 414 requires prerequisite THA 104, THA 116, and THA 216 or permission of instructor.

THA 419. Music Theatre Repertoire. 3 Credits.
Research, preparation and performance of a variety of music theatre genres.
Typically offered in Spring.

THA 499. Theatre Seminar. 3 Credits.
Intensive examination of a selected area of study in theatre. Topics will be announced in advance.
Repeatable for Credit.