



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN WHITEWATER

ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT

## THEATRE BA

### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the UW-Whitewater Theatre/Dance Department is to provide high quality undergraduate education for students of theatre and dance. This is achieved through extensive programs that emphasize learning both theory and practice of the craft through classroom and laboratory experiences, as well as productions. The Department serves the University's select missions of offering "undergraduate programs and degrees in the arts", producing "research, scholarship, and creative endeavor", and serving "as a regional cultural and resource center". In addition, the Department's mission is to serve the mission of the College of Arts and Communication "to cultivate and inspire creativity, expressions, inquiry and integrity through embodied education in the fine and communicative arts and professions".

The Bachelor of Arts Major in Theatre is a liberal arts degree which offers the opportunity for broad-based exposure to all areas of theatre. The accredited curriculum, which strongly complies with the National Association of Schools of Theatre standards, includes studies in acting, directing, technology, design, and history/criticism. Theatre BA Majors have a wide variety of practical "hands-on" experiences that enable them to work successfully in theatre or theatre-related fields, or to prepare for graduate study.

The mission of the Bachelor of Arts Major in Theatre is to provide students with sound basic training in dramatic theory, history and a variety of theatre skills, as part of a solid liberal arts education. To accomplish this mission, all Theatre BA students take the Theatre Core Courses which include; Introduction to Theatre, Introduction to Acting, Script Analysis, Introduction to Technical Theatre, and Directing I. They also take four Theatre History courses from a selection of five, four credits of practical "hands-on" experiences, and nine credits of electives. Graduates will be prepared for wide variety of theatre or theatre-related careers, often mixing their Theatre BA with their required additional major or minor in selecting their career path.

### STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

*Student learning outcomes (SLOs) are statements of what a student will know or be able to do when they have completed a program. They represent the knowledge and skills a program has determined are most important for students to gain from that program. The most useful SLOs are specific and measurable so the program can accurately assess the degree to which students have achieved each outcome, and they align with college and institution mission and values. Data on achievement of SLOs is used to make improvements in the program and increase student success.*

Upon completion of the THEATRE BA Major, students will be able to successfully:

- **[Critical Thinking]** Summarize the role of Theatre and theatre practitioners in society;
- **[Information Literacy; Problem Solving; and Foundations & Skills for Lifelong Learning]** Implement the fundamentals of Acting, including the areas of body, voice and characterization;
- **[Inquiry & Analysis]** Execute the fundamentals of Directing, including play analysis and blocking;
- **[Critical Thinking and Inquiry & Analysis]** Analyze and Assess the fundamentals of Theatre History, Dramatic Literature, and Theory and Criticism;
- **[Information Literacy; Problem Solving and Foundations & Skills for Lifelong Learning]** Demonstrate the fundamentals of Stage Design and Technology, including the areas of scenery, costumes and lighting; and
- **[Oral and Written Communication]** Demonstrate the ability to communicate critically and effectively, whether orally or in writing.