PERFORMING ARTS

Minor in Performing Arts

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Program Director

The Minor in Performing Arts is designed to offer Sacred Heart University students the opportunity to explore the fields of music and theater in focused programs of study. Students who participate in the minor will develop their interests, talents and skills through various theoretical and practical course offerings. The minor is further intended to provide a framework and give experiences that will encourage life-long learning and participation in the arts. Within the Minor in Performing Arts concentrations are offered in Music Performance (Vocal or Instrumental), Music Literature and Theory, and Theatre (Production or Acting/Performance).

REQUIREMENTS

Students are required to select an area of concentration and take a minimum of 18 credits to complete the Minor in Performing Arts. The 18 credits must include PA101 (Philosophy of Performing Arts), the foundation course for all of the Performing Arts concentrations.

Concentration in Music Performance – Vocal

PA 101  Philosophy of Performing Arts (3 Cr)
MU 121  Musicianship I (3 Cr)
Music Elective (3 Cr)
Music Ensemble (Choir) (5 Cr; offered in ensembles of 1 credit each)
Music Private Lessons (4 Cr; offered at 1-2 credits each)

Concentration in Music Performance – Instrumental

PA 101  Philosophy of Performing Arts (3 Cr)
MU 121  Musicianship I (3 Cr)
Music Elective (3 Cr)
Music Ensemble (Instrumental) (5 Cr)
Music Private Lessons (4 Cr; offered at 1-2 credits each)

Concentration in Music Literature and Theory

PA 101  Philosophy of Performing Arts (3 Cr)
MU 121  Musicianship I (3 Cr)
Music Electives (12 Cr; does not include ensemble or private lessons)

Concentration in Theatre – Production and Acting/Performance

PA 101  Philosophy of Performing Arts (3 Cr)
THR 101  Introduction to Theatre (3 Cr)
THR 102  Blackbox Stage Production (3 Cr; offered in ensemble productions of 1 credit each)
THR 103  Mainstage Production (3 Cr; offered in ensemble productions of 1 credit each)
Theatre Electives (12 Cr)

Course Descriptions

†Elective Core Courses

PA 101 - Philosophy of Performing Arts | 3 CR

This course examines the creation, expression, and meaning of performance art. Through drama, music, and voice, students will critically analyzes the perennial elements and structure of story and its place in uncovering and creating meaning.
THR 101 - Introduction to Theatre | 3 CR
The purpose of Introduction to Theatre is to increase students’ understanding, appreciation, and critical perceptions of the theatrical art-form. Readings and lectures will focus on the elements of theatrical practice; artists and innovators of theatre throughout history; and on the theatre’s development as an art form and a social phenomenon; participation in class forum discussions and sharing of critiques and short reports will offer avenues to explore students’ individual theatrical interests; and attendance at theatrical events will offer first-hand experience in theatre arts.

THR 102 - Blackbox Stage Production | 1 CR
Participation in TheatreFest, Improve and other approved student-driven theatrical activities. All events are overseen by the Director of Theatre.

THR 103 - Mainstage Production | 1 CR
Participation in Spring mainstage musical in one of the areas of theatrical discipline. All events are overseen by the Director of Theatre.

THR 110 - Acting I | 3 CR
Focuses on basic acting skills, including the development of imaginary circumstances, improvisation and creative development. Students are introduced to skills in script analysis, character identity, emotional reality and objective-driven structure through monologues and scene study.

THR 111 - Acting II | 3 CR
Focuses on acting skills, including the advance development of imaginary circumstances, improvisation and creative development. Students will develop skills in script analysis, character identity, emotional reality and objective-driven structure through monologues and scene study.

THR 120 - Voice for Musical Theatre I | 3 CR
Voice for Musical Theatre I introduces to skills on speech, diction, pitch, analysis and interpretation through various styles of period and contemporary musical theatre works. Solo and ensemble application of singing techniques, preparation and presentation.

THR 121 - Voice for Musical Theatre II | 3 CR
Voice for Musical Theatre II develops students’ skills on speech, diction, pitch, analysis and interpretation through various styles of period and contemporary musical theatre works. Solo and ensemble application of singing techniques, preparation and presentation.

THR 130 - Stagecraft | 3 CR
An introduction to the basic materials and techniques used in scene, painting, costume, and lighting production. Intended to equip the student with the skills required to work on productions. This course will also hold discussions of basic terminology, shop organization, job descriptions, maintenance procedures, and safety. Other jobs such as Run Crew, Wardrobe, Front of House, Board Operator or other duties will be discussed.

THR 140 - Directing | 3 CR
This course will cover an overview of both the responsibilities of a director and the various relationships a director has with designers, playwrights, stage manager, tech staff, actors and dramaturges. This course will also explore various directional strategies and identify the different styles of theatre, stage types, floor plans, script interpretation, directional research and resources, concepts, conceptualization of a play and interpretation. Finally, this course will introduce elements of directing and strategies for working with actors, staging short scenes, and using a minimum
of technical elements in a final scene.

**THR 299 - Special Topics in Theatre | 3 CR**

Designates new or occasional courses that may or may not become part of the program’s permanent offerings. Courses capitalize on timely topics, a faculty member’s particular interest, an experimental alternative to existing courses, etc. Prerequisites are established by the program as appropriate for the specific course. Course title is shown on the student's transcript. Consult the current course schedule for available topics and prerequisites.

**THR 392 - Theatre Internship | 1-6 CR**

An opportunity for qualified students in the Theatre Concentration of the Performing Arts minor to gain practical experience in theatre production and management. Prerequisite: Permission of instructor and program director.