

WSU DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE & DANCE



STUDENT HANDBOOK

2024 - 2025

General Information

THAD Department Goals

The THAD faculty intends that the courses you take with us and the productions we work on together be directed toward helping you achieve the following educational goals:

1. explore, expand, and celebrate the human condition;
2. learn to respond as artists to informed self-assessment by actively working toward improvement;
3. learn to apply artistic skills to situations both within and outside the theatrical art form;
4. learn to think critically and communicate clearly and effectively; and
5. develop abilities and readiness to participate effectively in learning groups and collaborative processes.

THAD Mission Statement

We prepare our students to be active artists and scholars in community, drawing from the distinctive forms of theatre and dance, within a liberal arts context.

AS ARTISTS/SCHOLARS, OUR STUDENTS:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of historical and cross-cultural foundations in theatre and dance as well as current practice and critical thought.
2. Apply and practice skills that require collaboration, analysis, physical expression, and self-awareness.
3. Analyze, synthesize, integrate, and evaluate process and production of self and others, within the context of class, stage, and studio – the laboratories of our work.
4. Participate in productions and artistic endeavors that enrich self and community.

THAD Degrees

THAD offers or cooperates in the offering of the following degrees (see the “THAD Curricula” section of this handbook for a detailed description of each degree program):

- Bachelor of Arts Theatre major
- Bachelor of Arts Theatre minor
- Bachelor of Arts Dance minor

WSU's Expectations for Students

WSU regards the relationship between students and faculty as a two-way street: both parties have obligations in the learning process. For more about WSU's expectations for students please consult the WSU Undergraduate Catalogue.

Balancing Academic and Production Work

Between part-time jobs and work on productions, students sometimes find that they have become very busy. If this happens, you may feel tempted to let your classroom responsibilities slide.

Be aware that classes come first and that you will be expected to keep up with your course assignments, even in the middle of a production.

Furthermore, it is your responsibility to let your instructors know *immediately*—not at the last minute—about possible conflicts between classroom work and production responsibilities. In these situations, be prepared for your instructors to expect you to have the work completed *earlier*, not later, than other students in the class.

Academic Eligibility

Theatre majors who are full-time students (that is, enrolled for 12 or more credits at the beginning of a Fall or Spring semester) are required:

- (a) to complete a minimum of 12 SH of coursework during the semester with a grade of D or better;
- (b) to maintain a minimum GPA of 2.00 overall; and
- (c) to maintain a minimum GPA of 2.50 in their major.

Part-time theatre majors are subject to requirements (b) and (c).

A THAD major who does not meet these requirements is academically ineligible. During the period of ineligibility, the student will not be permitted to enroll in R&P or any other course requiring leadership-level participation in a Main Season show. Nor will the student be permitted to hold a Main Season cast or crew position that would have satisfied R&P's production requirement, had the student been enrolled in R&P.

Exception: *A THAD major who becomes academically ineligible at the end of Fall semester and who during the Fall semester had been given a cast or crew assignment on a Main Season production scheduled to open during the Spring semester to fulfill requirements for THAD 291-R&P or THAD 499-Independent Study will be allowed to fulfill that assignment.*

In addition, an academically ineligible student may not attend ACTF, ACDA, or USITT until the reason for the ineligibility has been removed.

A THAD major who is academically ineligible is nevertheless required to put in a minimum of ten Service Hours on a Main Season production during each semester of ineligibility; in such a case, their name will be included in the production's program.

Communication between THAD Faculty and Students

The THAD faculty and staff are here to assist and guide you as you study and practice the arts of theatre and dance. We invite you to discuss with us matters pertaining to course content, grades, performance, and anything else related to your education. Don't hesitate to make appointments with faculty or staff members to discuss any problems . . . or successes!

In addition to scheduling appointments with THAD faculty also be aware of these other communication links we often use:

- ***Bulletin Boards*** Located outside the THAD Department Office in PAC 215 on the second floor, as well as across from the Design Studio (also on the second floor) and on the first floor across from the call board, are a series of large bulletin boards with information about theatre and dance-related topics, such as contests, internships, summer theatre jobs, productions and seasons offered by producing organizations in the area, and graduate schools.
- ***The Callboard*** Bulletin boards containing information about a producing organization's productions are traditionally known as "Call Boards" (a "call" is a notification of the date, time, and place that performers or crews are to show up for rehearsal or crew work).
 - THAD's Call Board is located outside the Scenic Studio on the first floor of the PAC (PAC 132). Check it daily before noon if you are working on a production.
- ***Email*** THAD faculty and staff will send emails to the official WSU email addresses of students enrolled in THAD classes or who have declared a theatre major or theatre/dance minor. Such emails will constitute official notification of important issues such as class assignments and department policies. It is imperative that you make it a habit to check your WSU email account daily.

THAD Scholarships and Part-Time Jobs

WSU has a number of scholarships for new and continuing students, most of which are based partly or entirely on your ACT scores, high school class rank, or college-level GPA. The Warrior Hub, located in Maxwell Hall is the best place to inquire about these scholarships. This office is also the source of information about part-time jobs available through the Work-Study program, which requires that your and your parents' or guardians' income be below a certain level. The Warrior Hub's webpage is an excellent source of information: <https://www.winona.edu/student-life/support/warrior-hub/>

However, as a THAD student, you are eligible for several other scholarships and work opportunities, administered separately from those available through the Warrior Hub. These include:

1. **Student Scholarships** THAD offers several scholarships for students who have declared a theatre major/minor or dance minor.

Criteria include:

- the quality and quantity of your participation in department activities (including productions, Showcase, Wenonah Players, and the WSU Dance Society); and
- the quality of your academic work.

A master list of all WSU scholarships and the criteria for qualification can be found online:
<https://winona.academicworks.com/>

2. **Work-Study Jobs.** Students who qualify for Work-Study may apply to work in the THAD Department Office or the Scenic or Costume Studios at the prevailing university wage. See the THAD Department Office Manager for details about office work, or the Technical Director/Production Manager, or Staff Costumer about work in one of the studios.

Note

None of the work opportunities described in this section are a substitute for the Production Crew Requirements for some THAD major and minor courses, or for the THAD 291-Rehearsal and Performance requirement built into the theatre major and minor curriculum. During the hours that you are working as a Studio Assistant or paid crew head, you are still expected to work on projects assigned by your production supervisor, not on other course or production projects.

3. **Student Help Jobs** You do *not* have to be eligible for work-study in order to be hired by the THAD Department to work on productions. These “student help” jobs are generally in the following positions:
 - a. ***Scenic Studio Assistants*** report to the Technical Director. They construct, paint, rig, shift, and strike scenery for productions, may supervise THAD 100-Theatre Activities students and volunteer workers, and may be assigned to work Saturday workdays and strikes. Basic carpentry skills and experience are required.
 - b. ***Costume Studio Assistants*** report to the Costumer. They are assigned a variety of jobs connected with the construction of costumes for productions and may be assigned to keep an inventory of make-up supplies and oversee the condition of the Make-Up Room. Sewing skills are required; experience in drafting and altering patterns would be helpful.

- c. ***Props Studio Assistant*** reports to the Production Manager. This student helps construct props for the shows, maintains the props collection, and checks out props items for class work or other uses.
- d. ***Production Assistant*** reports to the Production Manager and assists with production related duties as assigned.
- e. ***Publicity Coordinator*** reports to the Chair of the department and designs production posters and programs, manages social media, arranges for production headshots, and promotes the department and productions.

Theatre and Dance Curricula

Declaring a THAD Major or Minor

If you are even 50% certain that you want to major or minor in THAD, it is important to officially declare that intention for a number of reasons:

- As a declared major/minor, you will appear on a THAD faculty member's advising list, and will be contacted by that advisor when it is time to register for classes and to answer any questions you may have regarding classes and/or productions.
- You may have better access to certain THAD courses: if a THAD course fills before you have a chance to register for it, the instructor will most likely submit a registration override if you are a declared a THAD major or minor. If you have not, you will probably have to wait to take the course later, which will put you off the schedule you should maintain to graduate in four years. Also, most 300- and 400-level THAD courses are open only to declared majors and minors.
- THAD faculty and staff may give some preference to declared majors and minors when we make decisions about departmental student hiring.
- Declaring a major early can help you finish college, even if you later change your mind about your major. One of the differences between students who drop out of college and those who graduate is that the graduates tend to become more active in a group and get to know more people on campus well, while those who drop out tend to stay unattached and don't make as many acquaintances.
- Because of their work together on productions and the small size of many of their classes, THAD students certainly get to know one another well, and this fact can go a long way toward making you feel comfortable and supported as a new student at WSU.

To declare your THAD major or minor, see a THAD faculty member who can assist you in filling out the online Declaration of Major/Minor form.

Transfer Students

If you hope to major or minor in THAD at WSU by transferring credits you have earned (or plan to earn in the future) in courses from another university, college, community college, or vocational/technical school, you can make the transfer process smoother by communicating (early and often!) both with WSU Admissions and with the chairperson of the THAD Department.

The earlier you do this, the sooner you will learn how many of your credits will transfer to WSU and in which categories (General Education, major, minor, electives) they will apply.

To help us evaluate courses you hope to transfer to WSU, please contact the WSU Admissions: <https://www.winona.edu/admissions/apply/transfer/>

The THAD faculty has adopted the following rules for transfer students who plan to major or minor in THAD:

- If you are a theatre major or minor transferring to WSU with an AA degree, you will be exempted from 50% of the THAD 291-Rehearsal and Production requirements listed for the B.A. Theatre major and minor. If you believe you should be excused from more of this requirement, you must petition the department faculty for an exemption. This petition must be filed in the semester during which you first declare the THAD major or minor.
- In order to graduate with a theatre major from WSU, you must normally complete at least 15 SH of WSU THAD Department coursework numbered 300 or above.

Prerequisite Requirements

Before taking a course in the theatre major, theatre minor, or dance minor, you must complete, with a grade of C or better, all prerequisites for that course.

Winona State University - Theatre Major Worksheet

10.25.17

Name _____ (Last, First)				Tech ID # _____				Email _____			
Degree _____				Credits _____				Mailing Address _____			
Major (s) _____				Phone (____) ____ - _____							
Minor(s) _____				Date Major Declared _____							

THEATRE MAJOR (45 S.H.)	Date	Cr	Gr	GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM (MN Transfer Curriculum)	Sem.	Cr	Gr
Required Courses (42 S.H.)							
THAD 090 Showcase		0		GOAL 1 (Communication) 7 Cr.			
THAD 090 Showcase		0		ENG 111			
THAD 090 Showcase		0		CMST 191 or CMST 192			
THAD 090 Showcase		0		GOAL 2 (Critical Thinking)			
THAD 090 Showcase		0		<i>Filled when other goals are complete</i>			
THAD 090 Showcase		0		GOAL 3 (Natural Sciences) 7 Cr.			
THAD 107 Introduction to Technical Theatre		3		GOAL 4 (Mathematics/Logical Reasoning) 3-4 Cr.			
THAD 119 Play Analysis		3		GOAL 5 (History & the Social and Behavioral Sciences): 3-4 Cr.			
THAD 131 Performance I		3		GOAL 6 (Humanities & Fine Arts): 9 Cr. (3 each)			
THAD 132 Beginning Acting		3		THAD 107 - Introduction to Technical Theatre			
\mathcal{W} THAD 210 Theatre History/Dramatic Lit. I		3		THAD 111 - Theatre Appreciation			
THAD 231 Acting II		3		THAD 115 - Dance Appreciation			
THAD 291 Rehearsal and Performance		1		THAD 119 - Play Analysis			
THAD 291 Rehearsal and Performance		1		THAD 131 - Performance I			
THAD 291 Rehearsal and Performance		1		THAD 132 - Beginning Acting			
THAD 291 Rehearsal and Performance		1		THAD 141 - Oral Interpretation			
THAD 291 Rehearsal and Performance		1		THAD 151 - Tap Dance			
THAD 291 Rehearsal and Performance		1		THAD 153 - Jazz Dance I			
\mathcal{O} THAD 307 Design II (Scenery and Costumes)		3		THAD 155 - Modern Dance I			
OR				THAD 157 - Ballet I			
\mathcal{O} THAD 309 Design II (Lighting and Sound)		3		THAD 205 - Make Up for the Performer			
\mathcal{W} THAD 310 Theatre History/Dramatic Lit. II		3		THAD 215 - Introduction to Laban Movement			
\mathcal{M} THAD 321 Play Directing		3		THAD 222 - Dancescape			
THAD 331 Acting III		3		THAD 253 - Jazz Dance II			
THAD 395 Topics (2 S.H. Required)		1-3		THAD 255 - Ballet II			
THAD 490 Capstone Production Project		3		THAD 295 - Making Interdisciplinary Connections			
THAD 495 Theatre Senior Seminar		1		GOAL 7 (Human Diversity): 3 Cr.			
SUBTOTAL: _____ S.H.				GOAL 8 (Global Perspectives): 3 Cr.			
<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 100px; width: 100%;"></div> <p>\mathcal{W} = Writing Intensive; \mathcal{O} = Oral Intensive; \mathcal{M} = Math/Critical Analysis Intensive</p>				GOAL 9 (Ethical & Civic Responsibility): 3 Cr.			
				GOAL 10 (People & the Environment): 3 Cr.			
				SUBTOTAL: _____			
MINOR (required) (____ S.H.)				TOTAL CREDITS: _____			
SUBTOTAL: _____ S.H.							

Winona State University - Theatre Minor Worksheet

10.25.17

Name _____ (Last, First)		Tech ID # _____		Email _____	
Degree _____		Credits _____	Mailing Address _____		
Major (s) _____		Phone (____) ____-____			
Minor(s) _____		Date Major Declared _____			

THEATRE MINOR (20 S.H.)	Date	Cr	Gr	GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM (MN Tra	Sem.	Cr	Gr
Required Courses (17 S.H.)				Curriculum)			
THAD 090 Showcase		0		GOAL 1 (Communication) 7 Cr.			
THAD 090 Showcase		0		ENG 111			
THAD 090 Showcase		0		CMST 191 or CMST 192			
THAD 090 Showcase		0		GOAL 2 (Critical Thinking)			
				<i>Filled when other goals are complete</i>			
THAD 107 Introduction to Technical Theatre		3		GOAL 3 (Natural Sciences) 7 Cr.			
THAD 119 Play Analysis		3		GOAL 4 (Mathematics/Logical Reasoning) 3-4 C			
THAD 132 Beginning Acting		3		GOAL 5 (History & the Social and Behavioral			
THAD 207 Design Communication		3		Sciences): 3-4 Cr.			
OR				GOAL 6 (Humanities & Fine Arts): 9 Cr. (3 each)			
THAD 231 Acting II		3		THAD 107 - Introduction to Technical Theatre			
W THAD 210 Theatre History/Dramatic Lit. I		3		THAD 111 - Theatre Appreciation			
THAD 291 Rehearsal and Performance		1		THAD 115 - Dance Appreciation			
THAD 291 Rehearsal and Performance		1		THAD 119 - Play Analysis			
ELECTIVES (3 S.H.) 300-or 400-level THAD course				THAD 131 - Performance I			
				THAD 132 - Beginning Acting			
				THAD 141 - Oral Interpretation			
				THAD 151 - Tap Dance			
				THAD 153 - Jazz Dance I			
				THAD 155 - Modern Dance I			
				THAD 157 - Ballet I			
				THAD 205 - Make Up for the Performer			
				THAD 215 - Introduction to Laban Movement			
				THAD 222 - Dancescape			
THAD 253 - Jazz Dance II							
THAD 255 - Ballet II							
W = Writing Intensive; O = Oral Intensive; M = Math/Critical Analysis Inter				THAD 295 - Making Interdisciplinary Connections			
				GOAL 7 (Human Diversity): 3 Cr.			
				GOAL 8 (Global Perspectives): 3 Cr.			
				GOAL 9 (Ethical & Civic Responsibility): 3 Cr.			
				GOAL 10 (People & the Environment): 3 Cr.			
				SUBTOTAL: _____			

Winona State University - Dance Minor Worksheet

Name _____ (Last, First)		Tech ID # _____		Email _____	
Degree _____		College Specialty _____		Credits _____	
Major (s) _____		Phone (____) _____		Mailing Address _____	
Minor(s) _____		Date Minor Declared _____			

DANCE MINOR (24 S.H.)	Date	Cr	Gr	Electives (8 S.H.)	Date	Cr	Gr
Required Courses (17 S.H.)				Biology (BIOL)			
Theory: 9 S.H.				*117 Human Biology			
† THAD 090 Showcase (4 enrollments)		0		*211 Anatomy and Physiology		3	
*THAD 115 Dance Appreciation		3		Health, Exercise and Rehabilitation Sciences (HERS)			
*THAD 131 Performance I		3		205 Nutrition for Lifetime Wellness		3	
THAD 322 Dance Composition		3		291 Prevention and Care of Athletic Injuries		2	
† Four enrollments in THAD 090 THAD Showcase (0 S.H.) with a grade of "P" are required. One of these enrollments must be in the student's final semester, when the student will assemble the required portfolio (see "Portfolio Requirement" section).				370 Mechanical Kinesiology		4	
Technique: 7 S.H.				Theatre and Dance (THAD)			
► Each technique class may be repeated one time for credit				*125 Meditation Practice		1	
**151 Tap Dance*		1		*215 Introduction to Laban Movement Analysis		3	
190 Dance Workshop (Street Dance, Yoga, etc.)		var.		222 Dance Performance Ensemble		1-4	
**157 Ballet I		1		132, 231, 331 Beg. Acting, Acting II and/or Acting III		3	
*257 Ballet II		2		*295 Making Interdisciplinary Connections		3	
357 Ballet III		2		◊ 137, 237, 337, 437 Dance Repertory I, II, III, IV		1-2	
457 Ballet IV		2		315 Dancing Through History		3	
**155 Contemporary Dance Practice I		1		195, 395 Topics		1-4	
*255 Contemporary Dance Practice II		2		399 Internship		1-4	
355 Contemporary Dance Practice III		2		499 Independent Studies in THAD		1-4	
455 Contemporary Dance Practice IV		2		Ethnic Studies (ETHN)			
**153 Jazz Dance Continuum		1		*168 Introduction to Ethnic Studies		3	
**253 Jazz Dance Continuum II		2		*268 Race, Ethnicity and Representation in the United States		3	
SUBTOTAL: _____ S.H.				Physical Education & Sport Science (PESS)			
PORTFOLIO REQUIREMENT: Upon declaring a dance minor, students are advised to schedule a portfolio appointment with Dance Program Director. The completed portfolio must be submitted for faculty review by April 1 in the year of graduation or by November 1 for mid-year graduates. 1 credit of IS is optional for portfolio work. ** Courses satisfy Physical Development and Wellness *Courses satisfy General Education Program Requirements 'Note: Each Dance Repertory class (THAD 137, THAD 237, THAD 337) may be repeated twice for a total of 4 credits. THAD 222 - Dancescape may be repeated four times. In addition, dance technique courses may be used as electives if not taken to fulfill requirements in the required Technique category. THAD 437: Advanced Choreography Lab may be taken three times for a total of 6 credits.				*120 Ballroom Dance		1	
				144 Contemporary Activities		1-2	
				*199 Lifetime Fitness/Wellness		2	
				Music (MUS)			
				*114 World Music		3	
				Philosophy (PHIL)			
				*280 Philosophy of Art		3	
				Womens, Gender, Sexuality Studies (WGSS)			
				*148 Introduction to Womens, Gender, and Sexuality Studies		3	
				*220 Intersections of Privilege and Power		3	
				*233 Introduction to LGBTQIA+ Studies		3	
				SUBTOTAL: _____ S.H. TOTAL CREDITS: _____ S.H.			

Service Hours

All theatre majors and theatre/dance minors are required to complete 10 “Service Hours” each semester. This requirement obligates you to devote time to work on a Main Season production. Service hours can be completed in a variety of different ways, including but not limited to: assisting in the costume and scene shops, hanging and focusing lights, serving as an usher, hanging production posters, and attending paint calls for the set.

Note the following about the Service Hours Requirement:

- These Service Hours crew responsibilities will normally be *in addition to* any production work you are doing as a *paid* shop assistant. They are also in addition to production work you are doing to fulfill the requirements of THAD 291-R&P.
- THAD majors/minors who do not fulfill their Service Hours crew responsibility will not be eligible for casting in another Main Season production and/or may forfeit choice crew assignments. Additionally, they will not be eligible to attend ACTF, ACDA, USITT or other department sponsored events.
- The THAD faculty Production Manager and the department chairperson will administer this policy.

Credit Opportunities for THAD Productions

The chart below describes who is eligible to take which THAD courses in order to earn credit for production work. Note that this chart is not a complete description of the requirements for successful completion of these courses: you should consult the WSU Catalog and the course instructor for more detailed information.

<u>Course Number and Name</u>	<u>Type of Student Eligible</u>	<u>Type of Production Eligible</u>
100-Theatre Activities	Non-THAD	Main Season theatre or dance
	Theatre or dance minors	Main Season theatre or dance
222-Dance Performance Ensemble	Dance minor	Dance (Main Season or other)
209-Stage Management	Any	Main Season theatre or dance
291-R&P	Theatre major or minor	Main Season theatre or dance
399-Internship	All THAD majors or minors	Non-WSU
490-Capstone Production Project	Theatre major	a. Main Season theatre or b. Studio Season

499-Independent Studies	THAD major or minor	Theatre or dance other than Main Season
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THAD 090-THAD Showcase

This course meets at various times throughout the semester – usually on a Friday at the noon hour.

Course meetings are devoted to

- presentations and critiques of creative work from theatre and dance courses
- critiques of THAD-sponsored productions and evaluations of production processes
- discussions of professional, educational, and employment opportunities
- presentations from Guest Artists working in the related fields

Because THAD 090-THAD Showcase carries no academic credit, you are not charged tuition or fees for taking the course. However, to graduate with a THAD major or minor, you must achieve a grade of P in the course according to the following chart:

Students in these THAD-sponsored programs:

Will normally be required to achieve a grade of P in THAD 090:

BA Theatre major	6 times
BA Theatre minor	4 times
BA Dance minor	4 times

THAD 291-Rehearsal and Performance

Through THAD 291-Rehearsal and Performance, you earn 1 S.H. of credit when you have completed an approved project associated with one of the Main Season productions sponsored by the THAD Department during a semester.

Eligible project categories include:

- performance
- stage management
- design or design assistance
- work as the head of a preparation crew in a technical theatre area
- work as the head of a crew in a business management or promotion area
- work as a member of the running crew
- other projects approved in advance by the THAD Department faculty and staff

(Of the 6 S.H. of THAD 291 which are required of theatre majors, a maximum of 4 may be earned for work in any one of the above categories. The other 2 S.H. of required THAD 291 credit must be earned in two of the other project categories.)

Not eligible for THAD 291 credit is work done:

- in high school, community, or summer theatres
- on productions at other colleges or universities
- on WSU Studio Season productions
- as a *paid* Scenic or Costume Studio Assistant

- as a *paid* Crew Head, Stage Manager, or Assistant Stage Manager
- as part of the lab requirement of a THAD Department course

Who Takes THAD 291?

Theatre majors are required to enroll in THAD 291 six semesters and to earn a grade of C or better each time. Theatre minors are required to do so twice. Refer to Syllabus for THAD 291 Course Requirements

THAD 395-Topics in Theatre

This course is open only to declared BA theatre majors and minors. The “topic” content changes each time it is offered and will be taught by a variety of THAD instructors. Topics classes are typically offered at least once an academic year. The course may carry variable semester credits (e.g. 1-3 credits).

You can have a voice in determining what topics are offered: let your THAD instructors know what you would like to learn more about, or talk with your fellow THAD students to choose a topic you are interested in, and then let the faculty know your wishes.

BA Theatre majors are required to earn at least 2 semester credits in THAD 395-Topics in Theatre; any additional credits you earn through the course may be applied to the elective category in your curriculum plan. BA Theatre minors are not required to take the course but may do so to fulfill some or all of the 3 elective semester credits they are required to take in 300- or 400-level THAD courses.

THAD 399-Internship

An internship gives you a chance to earn academic credit while gaining on-the-job experience. Through an internship, you can integrate theories and skills you have learned in the classroom or studio with actual work environments, investigate possible careers, and gain practical work experience that will make you more attractive to employers after you graduate. There are no academic requirements for a THAD major/minor to pursue an internship, but many THAD alumni have found them to be very valuable in helping them find their first job after graduation.

Some internships will pay you a salary, while others will not, and some will fit nicely into your summer vacation period, while others will not . . . so *begin your internship search at least a semester before you plan to take it.*

Generally, you take an internship through the department you are majoring in (although if you are a dance or theatre minor you can certainly try to find an internship that will combine your major and minor interests). To be eligible for an internship through the THAD Department, you must:

- have the permission of the department faculty and your THAD Faculty Internship Supervisor;

- have completed at least 64 SH of college-level coursework and at least 50% of the courses in your THAD major or minor;
- have earned at least a 2.5 GPA in your THAD major or minor courses;
- return to WSU after the internship to take at least two courses required in your THAD major or minor; and
- have demonstrated to the satisfaction of the THAD Department that you have the motivation and ability to benefit from an internship.

You are responsible for finding your own internship site, although your THAD instructors can help you.

THAD 490-Capstone Production Project

BA Theatre majors enroll in 490-Capstone Production Project during one of their final two semesters before graduation. *It is the responsibility of the student, not the faculty, to take the necessary steps to ensure that you can complete this course in a timely manner.*

In order to do this, you should submit the Capstone Application Form *at least two semesters before* the semester in which you anticipate enrolling in 490-Capstone Production Project. Failure to meet this deadline may jeopardize your plans to graduate on schedule.

The requirements for 490-Capstone Production Project are:

- successful work on a Main Season production as an actor in a major role; or
- successful work on a Main Season production as a designer/stage manager; or
- successful work as a director in a Studio Season production under the direct and immediate supervision or tutelage of a THAD faculty member; or
- successful work as a performer in a Studio Season production.

In addition, all the above options require that you keep a journal and discuss its entries with your faculty supervisor at least twice during the semester.

Bear in mind that options a and b are not solely your choice: the first requires that the faculty director cast you in a suitable role, while option b requires that the faculty designer and director be convinced of your ability as a designer.

For this reason, you should have in mind alternative options for completing this requirement in the event that your acting or design plans do not materialize.

THAD 495-Senior Seminar

This is a 1-credit capstone course required of BA Theatre majors in their final year. Its purpose is to focus your attention simultaneously backwards (to assess how you have developed during your college career, both as a theatre artist and as a liberally educated person) and forwards (to assess the skills and knowledge you have attained in college and to think about which of them may be attractive to employers).

To help you develop these insights, the course requires you to develop your THAD website featuring your theatrical resume and creative work to send to future employees.

What materials should you collect for your website?

Your website should include a *variety* of materials that help paint a picture of you as a theatrical artist.

Here are *some* of the kinds of materials you should collect.

Written:

- resume
- references
- quotes from reviews

Visual materials

- headshot
- design work
- production photographs
- audition reels
- performance reels

Annotations on materials:

- Explaining what, when, where, and your role/position in the production

The THAD Production Season and Other Opportunities

Principles of Main Season Script Selection

The THAD Department uses the following criteria and procedures to select scripts for its Main Season:

1. Productions as laboratories:

THAD productions will serve as laboratories in which WSU students may apply their knowledge and exercise and refine the skills learned in department courses.

- Course work and production selection need not follow a strict 'one-to-one' rule: classroom training in theatre for young audiences, for instance, does not obligate the department to offer a theatre for young audiences production. Nevertheless, some department courses may be structured in such a way that the knowledge and skills developed in the class do culminate in the production of a theatrical work, either as part of the mainstage season or as a studio season presentation.

2. Productions as theatrical, cultural, and artistic enrichment:

THAD productions will introduce WSU students to the theatrical heritage of this and other societies, past and present.

3. Production values:

The productions that THAD brings to the stage will be of the highest possible caliber. Toward this end, process and product are equally important.

- THAD productions will achieve a balance between providing artistic 'stretches' which foster growth and working within the pragmatic limits of time, budget, labor and talent.
- Rehearsal and building periods for mainstage, studio, and student-directed productions will be of sufficient length to provide time for experimentation, character development and polishing.
- Among the criteria by which plays are selected for a season will be the quality and quantity of the talent pool of actors, designers, technicians, and stage managers and the ability of company members to attend rehearsals consistently.
- Also, among the criteria by which plays are selected for a season will be time available accomplish design and technical requirements (e.g., one show might emphasize scenery, another costumes).
- Deadlines by which decisions for productions in the academic year must be made and stages in work completed will be established by all department faculty. These deadlines will be publicized and adhered to.

4. **Production reputation:**

THAD productions will enhance the cultural and social life of the WSU community and the region as well as the reputation of the THAD department as an educational theatre program of high quality.

- One of the criteria by which plays will be selected and productions mounted will be their potential to maintain and increase the size of the audience base.
- THAD will seek ways of linking its productions to other departments' courses and activities and publicizing those links.
- The department will encourage effective publicity about its and other organizations' artistic and cultural events on campus.

5. **Timelines for season selection:**

- January: In coordination with the Music Department, the technical director will create a rough draft of a calendar listing options for possible performance dates.
- February: In faculty department meetings, the faculty and staff will propose possible titles and provide scripts for reading.
- April: In faculty department meetings, the faculty and staff, with input from students, will decide on the scripts for the upcoming season.

Auditions

- auditions are open to campus and community

- theatre majors and minors are expected to prepare a brief monologue for auditions
- other requirements (cold readings, movement combo, song preparation, etc.) will be listed on the audition “call.”
- auditions are usually held the first or second week of each semester.

Studio Season Productions

A Studio Season production is a public presentation of projects of

- dance choreographed and performed by students or
- written dramatic material.

Permission to mount a Studio Season production is an opportunity for students to assume creative leadership of a carefully selected, prepared, and executed project performed for the campus community.

To qualify as a Studio Season production:

- the director/actor has successfully completed Play Analysis, Play Directing, and Intro to Technical Theatre or the relevant dance courses, if the studio is a dance concert
- all or virtually all performance, design, and production crew roles must be filled by students
- those students who fill primary leadership roles must be declared THAD majors or minors
- the director/actor must have an overall GPA of 2.50 and a GPA within her/his THAD major or minor of 2.75.

The procedure for obtaining “Studio Season” designation for a production is as follows:

1. During early Spring semester each year, in conjunction with Music Department faculty, THAD faculty and staff will set the dates and names of Main Season productions for the following year.
2. Following this determination of the next year's Main Season, THAD students will have the opportunity to apply for studio slots that do not interfere with the main season schedule.
3. A student or group of students will then notify the department Chair and THAD Production Manager of their wish to produce a Studio Season production during one of these blocks of time.

At this time, the student(s) will submit:

- a proposal outlining the scope of two production choices
- a rationale for each choice (including the challenges the productions will provide, potential difficulties and solutions, and the staffing needs for each choice)

- a copy of the student leader's academic transcript, with a computation of his/her THAD major or minor GPA; and
- the name of a THAD faculty member who has agreed to serve as the advisor for the project.

Forms for this purpose are located on the Theatre and Dance webpage under “Theatre and Dance Student Resources.”

4. The THAD Department faculty will then approve or disapprove such productions according to the faculty's perception of the students' ability to carry through with the project. This judgment may be influenced by a number of factors, including the students' reputation for reliability in previous productions and coursework and the completeness of the production proposal. Proposals that show evidence of being particularly well thought out may be given a higher priority than others that are higher on the 'Priorities for Studio Season selection' list (see the following section) but which give evidence of less forethought.
5. Following determination of the Studio Season schedule, the Main Theatre and DBM may be made available for other purposes. Such uses may eliminate some of the time slots previously open for Studio Season productions. Thus, while students are free to propose Studio Season productions later in the year, in doing so they run the risk that no blocks of time will be available.

Priorities for Studio Season selection are as follows:

- Capstone Acting projects
- Capstone Directing projects (produced with other projects, if time allows; shared running crew)
- Dance minor concerts (may be produced with other similar projects; shared running crew)
- Non-Capstone productions directed by senior theatre majors
- Productions directed by senior theatre minors
- Acting showcases, dance concerts, etc., featuring the work of or directed by THAD majors or minors
- Other productions by non-THAD majors or minors who are active in the THAD production program

Studio Season production limitations:

The purpose of the Studio Season is to give students a chance to explore their creative and managerial abilities on their own, using a minimal amount of equipment, supplies, money, crews, and facilities. These productions are not intended to be fully funded, fully staged works. Accordingly, Studio Season productions will make minimal demands on the THAD Department production budgets or on the time of the Technical Director, Costume Studio Manager, and the paid student workers in the Scenic and Costume Studios. Therefore:

- Directing Capstone productions may be one-act or full-length.

- The THAD faculty may require that two or more Studio Season proposals be presented together in a single production or bill (e.g., an 'evening of one-act plays' format). The faculty may also require that all the elements in such a bill share the running crew.
- \$300 (plus script costs and royalties for two performances) will be provided for each approved Studio Season Production, up to a maximum of five productions per year, from the THAD Department's production budget. Additional money may be available through the Wenonah Players and WSU Dance Society clubs.
- Studio Season productions will be open to the public and free of charge (good will donations can be accepted). Each production will receive two performances.
- When more than one student wishes to present a Studio Season dance concert during an academic year, a single concert will feature the work of a number of student choreographers and dancers.
- Designers of Studio Season productions should plan on using only stock scenery, furniture, costumes, and props; lighting and sound should use only readily available equipment. Any purchased materials or equipment will be charged to the production's budget.
- The student who serves as director or actor of a Studio Season production will meet regularly with the THAD Department faculty member who has agreed to serve as advisor to the production.
- Students in charge of technical or design aspects of Studio Season productions should discuss with the Technical Director and Costume Studio Manager the demands of time, materials, and equipment placed upon these studios. They will be expected to adapt their work schedules and use of equipment to the priorities established by the Technical Director and Costume Studio Supervisor. (Furthermore, liability and safety considerations may require that Studio Season production work be done only when the Technical Director or Costume Studio Manager is present.)
- Technicians and crew members working on Studio Season productions should plan to build things themselves. When the help of the Technical Director, Costume Studio Manager, or paid studio assistants is needed, it should be scheduled seven days in advance. Time for such assistance may not always be available; when it is, it will total no more than ten work-hours per week for three weeks.
- Unless otherwise approved by THAD faculty and staff, work on a Studio Season production does not satisfy THAD 291-R&P requirements or the lab hour requirements attached to various THAD courses.

- Priority for use of rehearsal space will be Main Season productions first; class projects second; Studio Season productions third.
- Studio production faculty advisors are required to see a minimum of two rehearsals, and a “run-thru” of the production at least one-week prior to opening.

Student Clubs

Your college years will be busy with class work, THAD-sponsored productions, part-time jobs, and other responsibilities, but it is important that you also take advantage of the many extra-curricular opportunities that WSU offers.

Many THAD alumni say that never since they left WSU have they had the chance to see so much theatre and dance at so little cost. And becoming active in student organizations is excellent training in leadership, decision-making, problem-solving, and other skills that employers value.

Wenonah Players

The oldest student club on campus, and open to any student interested in theatre (generally as many as half of its members are not declared THAD majors or minors). The group is often active in WSU Homecoming, Freshman Orientation, and other campus events. In addition, Wenonah Players’ members have produced 24 Hour Theatre productions and “Players Got Talent.”

Wenonah Players meets in the Green Room in the PAC: the day and time are posted on the Call Board.

WSU Dance Society

Is a student club open to any student interested in dance. The group’s meeting times are posted on the Dance bulletin board outside the THAD Department Office in PAC 215, and on the Call Board.

Alpha Psi Omega (APO)

APO is the national theatre honor society. THAD has its own chapter. Membership is obtained through invitation and an induction ceremony. APO is a service driven group.

Professional Organizations

Consider becoming a student member (at a reduced rate) of one or more of these professional organizations. THAD, the Wenonah Players, and the WSU Dance Society work together to provide financial support for qualified students to attend one of these groups’ annual meetings each year.

ACDA and KC/ACTF

(American College Dance Association and Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival)
Regional and national festivals in dance and theatre. THAD participates in both, attending KC/ACTF in mid-January and an ACDA conference in the winter or early spring. The KC/ACTF event consists of student competitions in acting and design, featured college or university productions from the region, professional auditions/interviews for summer theatre work, and numerous workshops in various aspects of theatre production. The ACDA conference includes many of the same features, and WSU dance minors regularly bring work for critique.

ATHE

(Association for Theatre in Higher Education)

National organization of college and university teachers and students (most of them in graduate school) in the field of theatre. ATHE publishes *Theatre Journal* (formerly *Educational Theatre Journal*) and *Theatre Topics*.

NASD and NAST

(National Association of Schools of Dance and National Association of Schools of Theatre)

National organizations responsible for accrediting undergraduate and graduate major programs in dance and theatre. Accreditation by one of these organizations is evidence that the department and university take seriously their responsibilities for educating students and have met certain minimum standards of equipment, faculty, and facilities.

In 1999 WSU received NAST accreditation of the THAD theatre major program.

USITT

(US Institute for Theatre Technology)

National organization of professionals in technical theatre and the various design fields throughout the entertainment industry (not only educational theatre). USITT publishes *Theatre Technology* and holds its annual conference in March.

THAD Student Attendance at Festivals and Conventions

Subject to the adequacy of its Drama Activities budget, THAD will attempt to allocate some funds each year toward meeting the expenses for students to attend a regional Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival, a regional American College Dance Association Conference, and the national convention of the U.S. Institute for Theatre Technology. This support is subject to the following conditions:

1. THAD faculty must approve the participation of all students and be satisfied with the quality of their preparations for competitions and other activities
2. A student may receive THAD support to attend a maximum of one festival or convention per year
3. If in the opinion of THAD faculty funds are not sufficient to fund all students who wish to attend, preference will be given as follows:

- KC/ACTF: participants in Irene Ryan and other competitions; their partners and accompanists; and declared theatre majors
 - ACDA: performers in a piece presented at the conference; and declared dance minors
 - USITT: THAD Design emphasis majors; THAD majors with junior or senior standing
4. Students receiving THAD support to attend **KC/ACTF** must
- Submit a reason statement detailing the event/s they would like to participate in (Tech Expo, Musical Theatre Intensive, Professional Audition/Interviews, etc.) prior to the festival
 - attend a minimum of two productions during the festival
 - participate in a minimum of two workshops or classes each day of the festival
 - submit a written report describing the productions, workshops, events, and classes and assessing their value to the department Chairperson no later than two weeks after the conference, or a date that the Chairperson has designated.
5. Students receiving THAD support to attend **ACDA** must
- participate in a minimum of three workshops or classes each day of the Festival
 - submit a written report describing these workshops or classes and assessing their value
6. Students receiving THAD support to attend the **USITT** Convention must
- attend a minimum of three workshops, classes, or presentation sessions per day
 - submit a written report describing these presentations, workshops, or classes and assessing their value no later than two weeks after the convention, or a date the Production Manager has designated.

Production Adjudications and Responses

Many Main Season theatre productions are entered as Associate or Participating productions in KC/ACTF. Two actors from each production are nominated to take part in the regional Irene Ryan Acting competition. The department, however, is not obligated to nominate two Ryan nominees. The department may decide to only nominate one nominee or none at all.

ACDA does not adjudicate dance productions. However, student choreographers' work performed in *Dancescape* is eligible to be taken to the regional American College Dance Association festival, where it may or may not be adjudicated, depending on the policies of the regional festival and the decisions of the THAD faculty.

Some Studio Season productions may be adjudicated by ACTF if the production is a capstone production and student produced. THAD will arrange and pay for an outside adjudicator to give an oral response to the production.

When a Studio Season production is directed or choreographed by a student not doing the work as his/her Capstone Production Project (required in the theatre major), the student director/choreographer is free to arrange for an outside adjudicator to respond to the production. If asked, THAD faculty will help make the arrangements for this process.

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