



TO: Administrative Boards of the College of Arts and Sciences

CC: Nick Siedentop, Curriculum Director

FROM: Adam Versényi, Chair, Dramatic Art

SUBJECT: Revision to the Dramatic Art Major

DATE: October 5, 2015

Because of the way the major in dramatic art has been structured, a student could graduate without necessarily having studied classical Greek drama, Shakespeare, Moliere or even Ibsen. Additionally, a student could graduate without ever having studied all foundational courses in acting, directing and design (as courses in only 2 of those 3 areas was required). Philosophically and practically, these are gaps that need to be filled for our students to be more meaningfully educated in dramatic art and more effective partners in production.

The department proposes a revision to the drama major to require DRAM 281-Theatre History I (to 1700) and DRAM 282-Theatre History II (1700-1920). A third contemporary theatre history course will be required from a great variety of offerings, including DRAM 283-Theatre History III (to the present), DRAM 294-Arts Criticism (included for the first time), as well as non-western courses.

Additionally, foundational courses in the areas of acting, directing and design will be required: DRAM 150-Beginning Acting for the Major, DRAM 300-Directing, and DRAM 277-Introduction to Theatrical Design.

This will effectively make the major nine (9) courses, with six (6) electives possible.

Department faculty have discussed at great length these changes and voted unanimously to approve them going forward.

The department will offer each core course at least twice per year. Students will be advised of these changes through advising sessions during registration, town halls, through student leaders, listservs, on-line publications, as well as hard-copy brochures and postings. Current students may opt to follow the new major requirements, if they wish, but otherwise these requirements will apply to new majors beginning fall of 2016.

We would also like to add DRAM 265-Stage Makeup (approved as a 3-hour course for fall 2016) to the Dramatic Art Minor in theatrical design.

We are also rewording the title of the Writing for the Screen and Stage Minor (formerly, the Writing for the Stage and Screen Minor).

The new department bulletin text will look as follows:

Department of Dramatic Art

drama.unc.edu

Center for Dramatic Art, CB# 3230; (919) 962-1132

ADAM N. VERSÉNYI, *Chair*

Introduction

The study of dramatic art focuses upon the great dramatic texts of the classical and modern periods and introduces the student to the variety of artistic endeavors necessary to realize the text in theatrical performance. Majors concentrate on the literature and history of the theatre while investigating the processes involved in acting, directing, design, costume, and technical production.

Courses focus on the connections between theatre and society, between theatrical performance and the visual arts, and between dramatic literature and philosophy, history, and other literary forms. The study of theatre embraces a range of subjects in the humanities and fine arts, including literature, language, aesthetics, culture, and performance.

Dramatic Art Major, B.A.

Core Requirements

- DRAM 120 Play Analysis
- Three courses in dramatic literature/theatre history/criticism: DRAM 281, 282, and the remaining course to be chosen from DRAM 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 289, 291, 292, 294, 297, 298, 486, 488, and 489.
- Three courses in acting, directing and design: DRAM 150, DRAM 300, and DRAM 277.
- One course in costume production or technical production: DRAM 191 or 192
- Production Practicum: DRAM 193 Production Practicum with PlayMakers Repertory Company (transfer credit not allowed). This course fulfills the General Education experiential education requirement.

Students planning to major in dramatic art should complete DRAM 120 preferably during their first year. The major provides a broad basis for understanding and appreciating theatre as a cultural entity and as an artistic process. The program also provides opportunities for students to learn and develop basic skills in the various areas of theatre practice. All General Education requirements apply.

Because the College of Arts and Sciences allows a total of 45 credit hours (15 three-hour courses) in a student's major to count toward graduation, as many as six electives can be selected from the range of offerings in the department. Students may choose to concentrate on an area (or areas) of special interest within the major: acting, directing, voice, movement, technical production, design (scenic, costume, sound, and lighting), costume history, costume construction, dramatic literature and criticism, dramaturgy, stage management, theatre management, and playwriting.

Students majoring in dramatic art cannot pursue the minor in dramatic art.

Dramatic Art Minor

The minor in dramatic art consists of four courses. Students select four courses from one of the following concentrations:

- Dramaturgy: DRAM 120 Play Analysis, and three courses chosen from DRAM 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 289, 291, 292, 294, 297, 298, 486, 488, 489
- Theatrical design: DRAM 120 Play Analysis, and three courses chosen from DRAM 265, 277, 280, 465, 466, 467, 468, 470, 475, 480, 566, 567
- Theatrical production: DRAM 191 or 192 (related to area of concentration), and three courses chosen from DRAM 193, 277, 460, 465, 466, 467, 468, 473, 474, 567, 650
- Theatre management: DRAM 193 Production Practicum (related to area of concentration), and DRAM 279, 491, and 493

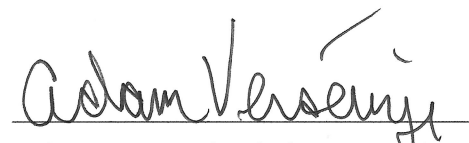
Students pursuing the theatre management concentration are strongly encouraged to complete a fifth elective course chosen from ECON 101, BUSI 101, 405, 406.

Writing for the Screen and Stage Minor

The minor in writing for the screen and stage is an interdisciplinary program drawing upon the faculties and resources of the Department of Dramatic Art, Department of Communication Studies, and the Creative Writing Program of the Department of English and Comparative Literature. For additional information, please see the Department of Communication Studies in this bulletin.

Thank you for your consideration. Please let me know if you need anything further.

Best regards,



Adam Versényi, Chair, Dramatic Art