

Course Outline for: THTR 2550 Directing**A. Course Description**

1. Number of credits: 3
2. Lecture hours per week: 3
3. Prerequisites: None
4. Corequisites: None
5. MnTC Goals: Goal #6 Humanities and Fine Arts

This course focuses on the art of play direction. Students will learn the fundamentals of interpretation, blocking and picturization, collaboration and communication, focus and composition, and pace, rhythm and tempo. The role and process of the director will be examined.

B. Date last reviewed/updated: February 2022**C. Outline of Major Content Areas**

1. Read and analyze various theatrical works.
2. View scenes and productions in order to critically evaluate the strengths and challenges of the direction.
3. Learn various theoretical approaches to directing.
4. Rehearse scenes and/or plays.
5. Work with designers and other production personnel in the pre-production phase of play development.
6. Learn stage geography and effective stage picturization.
7. Work with actors to exhibit effective pacing, rhythm and tempo in a scene or play.
8. Learn the vocabulary of stage direction.

D. Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Fully analyze theatrical text for interpretation and conception. (Goal 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 6a)
2. Evaluate theatrical works in terms of their thematic statements and social & historical context. (Goal 2d, 6b)
3. Demonstrate an awareness of various approaches to directing a play. (Goal 2b, 2d, 6a, 6b)
4. Develop and demonstrate a process of rehearsing scenes or plays. (Goal 2b, 2c, 2d, 6d,)
5. Develop and demonstrate a process for working with designers and other production personnel in the pre-production phase of play development. (Goal 2b, 2c, 2d, 6d)
6. Demonstrate an ability to create pictures and focus on stage. (Goal 2b, 2c, 2d, 6d)
7. Demonstrate an ability to work with actors to achieve the desired theatrical effect in a given scene or play. (Goal 2b, 2c, 2d, 6d)
8. Articulate an informed personal reaction to the direction of a play. (2c, 2b, 6e)

E. Methods for Assessing Student Learning

1. Scene or play analysis & prompt book preparation
2. In class discussion & production meetings
3. Rehearsal process work
4. Scene or play performance projects
5. Play analyses for directing

F. Special Information

Students may incur the minimal expense of attending one to two Normandale or professional productions