



Faculty:

Phil Grayson
David Vogel
Heidi Winters Vogel (chair)

Major:

•Theater

Minor:

•Theater

Teaching Endorsements:

•Theater Arts,
 Grades PreK-12

EMU's department of theater seeks to grant vitality to performance and scholarship through a rigorous exploration of the many disciplines encompassed by theater. Our students therefore find themselves at the vigorous heart of the liberal arts tradition, gaining expertise in fields ranging from literature to performance, psychology to biology, and fine arts to history. As well, we seek to understand and explore our mission as artists through our role as Christians.

Theater students at EMU investigate areas such as acting, directing, history and literature, playwriting, stage management, theater and justice, and design and technical theater. Our curriculum provides the inquisitive student the ability to map out rewarding paths of creativity. Rather than narrowly pursuing a single focus for their many gifts, our artists and scholars are thus encouraged to forge bonds between the various theatrical crafts. Valued as significant critical voices and artistic forces within the university's community, our theater students also aid in selecting the department's season, direct departmental productions, and stage independent works. Perhaps most important, the department provides the opportunity to directly engage our faith lives through its challenging mission courses, classes which explore the theater's possibilities to enrich our relationship with Christ.

EMU's Washington Community Scholars' Center, the university's residential seminar and internship program in the nation's capitol, affords theater students the exciting opportunity to engage in internships and advanced theater study with professional companies in one of the country's premier theater communities. Regardless of one's primary field of study or professional aspirations, studying theater at EMU illuminates exciting paths of scholarship, art and faith.

Careers in Theater include acting (stage, television and film), directing, playwriting, design (scenic, costume, lighting and sound), theater administration, drama ministry, drama therapy, theater for young audiences, technical theater, conflict transformation and community based theater, theater scholarship and theater education.

Major in Theater

The major consists of a minimum of 39 semester hours of coursework and practica culminating in a senior project.

Core Courses (13 SH):

- THR 101 Introduction to the Theater Arts.3
- THR 180 Acting I.3
- *THR 240 Stage Design and Technology3
- *THR 420 Vocations in Theater1
- THR 470 Senior Project Practicum . . .3

Mission (Two courses are required – 2-4 SH):

- *THR 120 Theater and Faith.1
- *THR 320 Theater and Justice3

Theater History (6 SH):

- Choose two of the following courses:
- *THR 201 History and Traditions of Early World Theater3
 - *THR 301 History and Traditions of World Theater: English Restoration to the Rise of European Realism . . .3
 - *THR 401 History and Traditions of World Theater: Twentieth Century to Today.3

Practica (9 SH):

- Choose from two or more of the following areas of practical learning through participation in theater productions.
- THR 281 Performance Practicum . . 1-3
 - THR 340 Theater Design Practicum.1-3
 - THR 350 Technical Theater Practicum.1-3
 - THR 351 Stage Management Practicum.1-3
 - THR 410 Directing Practicum 1-3

Electives (9 SH):

- Choose a minimum of 9 SH of additional electives.
- *LIT 325 Approach 4: Shakespeare. . . .3

- *THR 210 Directing for the Theater. .3
- *THR 220 Topics in Theater.3
- *THR 250 Technical Theater3
- *THR 280 Collective Theater3
- *THR 310 Playwriting and Screenwriting.3
- *THR 380 Advanced Performance. . .3

Minor in Theater

The theater minor is designed to work in partnership with other programs such as education, communication, music, peace-building and development, and ministry. The minor is a minimum of 16 SH consisting of two required core courses, one mission course, a theater history course, an elective, and a 3 SH practicum.

Core Course (6 SH):

- THR 101 Introduction to the Theater Arts3
- THR 180 Acting I OR
- *THR 240 Stage Design and Technology3

Mission (1-3 SH):

- Choose one of the following courses:
- *THR 120 Theater and Faith.1
 - *THR 320 Theater and Justice3

Theater History (3 SH):

- Choose one of the following courses:
- *THR 201 History and Traditions of Early World Theater3
 - *THR 301 History and Traditions of World Theater: English Restoration to the Rise of European Realism . . .3
 - *THR 401 History and Traditions of World Theater: Twentieth Century to Today.3

Practica (3 SH):

- Choose from one of the following areas of practical learning through participation in theater productions.
- THR 281 Performance Practicum.1-3

THR 340 Theater Design Practicum.	1-3
THR 350 Technical Theater Practicum.	1-3
THR 351 Stage Management Practicum.	1-3
THR 410 Directing Practicum	1-3

Electives (3 SH):

Choose one of the following courses:

*LIT 325 Approach 4: Shakespeare . . .	.3
*THR 210 Directing for the Theater . . . . .	.3
*THR 220 Topics in Theater . . . . .	.3
*THR 250 Technical Theater. . . . .	.3
*THR 280 Collective Theater . . . . .	.3
*THR 310 Playwriting and Screenwriting. . . . .	.3
*THR 380 Advanced Performance. . . .	.3

Major in Theater, PreK-12 Teaching Endorsement,

A teaching endorsement or add-on in Theater Arts (PreK-12) is approved by the Virginia Department of Education.

Students pursuing Theater Arts PreK-12 licensure must complete the courses listed in the theater major (page 169), including the following courses:

(All of the following courses must be passed with a grade of C or better.)

ED 101 Exploring Teaching. . . . .	.2
ED 201 Computers and Technology in Education . . . . .	.1
ED 251 Learning, Motivation, and Assessment (6-12) . . . . .	.3
ED 301 Needs of Diverse Learners . . .	.3

ED 351 General Curriculum and Methods. . . . .	.1
ED 381 Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum (6-12). . . . .	.2
ED 391 Middle School Curriculum and Organization . . . . .	.3
ED 401 Examining Foundations of Education . . . . .	.2
ED 411 Reflective Teaching Seminar and Portfolio . . . . .	.1
ED 461 Elementary Student Teaching.7	
ED 462 Middle/High School Student Teaching . . . . .	.7
*THR 210 Directing for the Theater. .3	
*THR 250 Technical Theater. . . . .	.3
THR 340 Theater Design Practicum OR	
THR 350 Technical Theater Production OR	
THR 351 Stage Management Practicum. . . . .	.1
THR 351 State Management Practicum OR	
THR 410 Directing Practicum . . . . .	.1
THR 370 Elementary School Theater Arts Methods. . . . .	.3
THR 371 Secondary School Theater Arts Methods. . . . .	.3

Other licensure requirements:

American History. . . . .	.3
Art Elective	
Music Elective	
PSYC 202 Developmental Psychology .3	

In addition, teacher candidates must comply with all teacher education requirements listed on pages 88-93.

Theater (THR)

101 Introduction to the Theater Arts 3

This course provides an exciting, practical introduction to the building blocks of theatre. Explore dramatic structure and dramatic character by getting in touch with your own creative process, incorporating practical elements of scenery, costumes, etc. Ideal for students who wish to enrich their understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment of theatre, as well as for those considering a major or minor.

***120 Theater and Faith 1**

This course is a weekly seminar on a revolving topic, engaging issues arising from the relationship between theater and faith. We will explore, through dramatic and other related literature, writing, and discussion, the ways in which the topic has been portrayed for the stage, and how such depictions represent or connect to questions of faith. (Fall 2013)

180 Acting I 3

This course serves as an introduction to the craft of acting for the stage. In this beginning study of acting students will learn techniques to enhance creativity, unleash the imagination, free the body, and discover the voice. The course will culminate in a public performance.

***201 History and Traditions of Early World Theater 3**

An examination of the development of theatre in the western world from classical Greece to Elizabethan/Jacobean England, with additional attention to the early theatrical traditions of Indian, China, and Japan. The course surveys stage practices, dramatic texts, theater architecture, and major critical theories and investigates the intersection between the theater and its surrounding cultural and historical contexts. No prerequisite. (Spring 2013)

***210 Directing for the Theater 3**

Students learn and apply various theories of stage direction. Topics include action, character, rehearsal approaches and techniques, and the analysis of dramatic literature with an eye toward enabling performance. This course may culminate in the presentation of student directed works. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. (Fall 2012)

***220 Topics in Theater: Costume Design 3**

This course will focus on designing costumes for theater productions. We will look at the costume designer's responsibilities as an artist and collaborator and explore the relationship between text, concept, and production. We will discuss fabrics and colors and how they relate to light and scenery in performance, using costumes to build character and tell the story. No previous theater or sewing experience necessary. (Fall 2012)

***240 Stage Design and Technology 3**

Students learn the elements and processes of stage production design – scenery, lighting, sound and costuming. Includes hands-on creative experience in rendering, model building, and drafting that will allow students to realize their own creative designs. The course culminates in the student's original production design for a chosen play. (Fall 2012)

***250 Technical Theater 3**

Students learn and gain practical experience in the technical arts and crafts of theater – set and costume construction, scene painting, lighting and sound operation, and props construction. Classroom time alternates with lab/practicum time spent working on productions of the EMU Theater. (Fall 2013)

***280 Collective Theater 3**

Intended for a wide range of artists and scholars—visual and digital media artists, musicians, historians, educators—this course allows students to collaboratively create a piece of original theatre. Under supervision of the instructor students will research possible topics, investigate performance methods through laboratory exercise, generate a script and stage a public performance. (Spring 2013)

281 Performance Practicum 1-3

Performance practicum credits are earned through onstage participation in productions. Credits depend upon the scope, time, and responsibilities associated with the activity. Students seeking practicum credit are required to find an appropriate way to document and reflect upon their experiences. Prerequisite: permission of instructor/supervisor.

- *301 History and Traditions of World Theatre: English Restoration to the Rise of European Realism** **3**
An exploration of the theatre practices and dramatic texts of Europe and the Americas from the Enlightenment through the Industrial Revolution, with an additional emphasis on the rising involvement of women in the theatre and the effect of European colonial practices on indigenous theatrical forms. Research exercises will complement lecture and discussion. No prerequisite. (Spring 2014)
- *310 Playwriting and Screenwriting** **3**
Students begin work with the elements of playwriting: plot, character, language, and theme. These playwrights then build upon these skills in learning to create screenplays for narrative films. This course also includes analysis of great plays and screenplays, as well as attendance at both live theatre and film screenings. (Fall 2013)
- *320 Theater and Justice** **3**
Students examine the ability of theater to engage issues of social, economic, and political justice through an examination of various methods of performance. Special attention is paid to theater of advocacy as it applies to areas of interest within Anabaptist Christian faith and practice. (Spring 2013)
- 340 Theater Design Practicum** **1-3**
Design practicum credits are earned through costume, set, or lighting design of a production. Credits depend upon the scope, time, and responsibilities associated with the role. Students seeking practicum credit are required to find an appropriate way to document and reflect upon their experiences. Prerequisite: permission of instructor/supervisor.
- 350 Technical Theater Practicum** **1-3**
Technical practicum credits are earned through backstage participation in productions. Credits depend upon the scope, time, and responsibilities associated with the role. Students seeking practicum credit are required to find an appropriate way to document and reflect upon their experiences. Prerequisite: permission of instructor/supervisor.
- 351 Stage Management Practicum** **1-3**
Stage management practicum credits are earned through stage managing or assistant stage managing productions. Credits depend upon the scope, time, and responsibilities associated with the production. Students seeking practicum credit are required to find an appropriate way to document and reflect upon their experiences. Prerequisite: permission of instructor/supervisor.
- 370 Elementary School Theater Arts Methods (Theater Arts Education)** **3**
Teacher candidates will be exposed to theatre arts theory and practice in the development of grades PreK-5 theatre arts curriculum. This course will emphasize theatre arts pedagogy, organization of curriculum, and assessment strategies appropriate to the elementary classroom. A reflective approach to theatre arts will be developed that will enable students to develop as teachers. (Offered as needed)

- 371 Secondary School Theater Arts Methods (Theater Arts Education)** **3**
Teacher candidates will be exposed to theatre arts theory and practice in the development of grades 6-12 theatre arts curriculum. This course will emphasize theatre arts pedagogy, organization of curriculum, and assessment strategies appropriate to the middle and secondary classroom. Additional emphasis will include planning a production season, arts management and budgeting, using national and state content and performance standards, assessing student growth, and developing community advocacy plans. A reflective approach to theatre arts will be developed that will enable students to develop as teachers. (Offered as needed)
- *380 Advanced Performance** **3**
A studio course in which actors learn to create and develop characters through text analysis, laboratory exploration, and movement and vocal theory. A variety of techniques is employed to develop a creative, supple, and powerful artist. Students will also discuss professional performance opportunities and prepare audition monologues. This course will culminate in a public performance. (Spring 2014)
- *401 History and Traditions of World Theater: Twentieth Century to Today** **3**
This course engages broadly with the global theatre and drama of the modern era, beginning with the emergence of the avant-garde theatre in turn-of-the-century Europe and encompassing a range of dramatic traditions arising in post-colonial Asia, Africa, and the Americas. As an EMU Writing Intensive (WI) course, students will learn basic research methodologies in pursuit of a piece of original scholarship. No prerequisite. (Fall 2013)
- 410 Directing Practicum** **1-3**
Directing practicum credits are earned through directing or assistant directing productions. Credits depend upon the scope, time, and responsibilities associated with the production. Students seeking practicum credit are required to find an appropriate way to document and reflect upon their experiences. Prerequisite: permission of instructor/supervisor.
- *420 Vocations in Theater** **1**
Students engaging in all theatrical disciplines gather once a week to discuss the sacred calling of the theater practitioner, working as a Christian artist, forging connections and creating a network, and practical considerations for pursuing a career in theater and theater-related fields. (Spring 2013)
- 470 Senior Project Practicum** **3**
Students complete an original project that creates a unique challenge and represents and expresses their knowledge and abilities in theater. The project may be a significant academic research study which culminates in presentation of a paper, or it may be a major creative project that results in a public performance acted, directed or designed by the student. This project may be done independently, or with other students. It may be completed in conjunction with a major role in a scheduled production. It receives essential but minimal faculty oversight and advising. Prerequisite: permission of theater faculty.
- 499 Independent Study** **1-3**

**Indicates courses offered in alternate years.*