Speech Communication

Benedictine College offers to the general student courses in oral communication to provide opportunities to develop skills in voice improvement, delivery, and projecting meaning through visual and vocal communication.

Se 198  
Special Topics  (1–4)  
These are topics not included in the regular catalogue. They may be taken more than once if the subject matter varies sufficiently.

Se 222  
Speech Communication  (3) (B)  
This course focuses on the fundamentals of speech communication, primarily speech composition and vocal and physical delivery especially as it applies to informative, persuasive, and special occasion speaking. (OC)

Se 223  
Oral Interpretation  (3) (F)  
This course deals with oral reading of selected poetry and prose for performance. It involves both a study of interpretations of the author’s meaning and the means of communicating interpretations to an audience. Emphasis is placed on projecting meaning through oral communication techniques. Cross-listed as Ta 223. (OC)

Se 224  
Voice and Diction  (2) (D)  
Theory and practice of mechanics of voice production and diction (articulation, pronunciation, and intonation). Emphasis on use of standard American English as it relates to the goal of self-improvement and as a vocational asset. Prerequisite: Se 222 or permission of instructor. Cross-listed as Ta 224. (OC)

Se 398  
Special Topics  (1–4)  
These are topics not included in the regular catalogue. They may be taken more than once if the subject matter varies sufficiently.

Se 499  
Independent Study  (credit arranged)  
Subject and approach to be worked out between faculty and student. A maximum of eight hours may be earned in Independent Study.

Theatre Arts

The Department of Theatre Arts serves the entire college community by offering curricular and co-curricular programs in the liberal arts tradition. All departmental courses and co-curricular activities are open to the entire student body provided necessary pre-requisites have been met.

The departmental curriculum in theatre arts is designed to meet the needs of students seeking careers in the professional theatre or entrance into graduate study. The pre-professional training is rooted in dramatic classics and coupled with fresh and exciting perspectives and interpretations of those works. The department also focuses on the best works by major contemporary dramatists providing students with a well-rounded production experience. Under the theatre arts major, students may elect to emphasize performance, technical theatre/design, or theatre arts management.

Student participation in the staging of plays, musicals, radio theatre, and dance performances for the public is a required part of the theatre major’s training. Therefore, a production-oriented program provides ample
opportunity for practical application of coursework. Just as the departmental curriculum exposes majors to all aspects of work in the theatre, so, too, are students expected to gain production experience in both performance and technical/design capacities. The combination of course work and intensive practical experience insures the development of the broad range of skills necessary for success in the field. Departmental faculty facilitates students in planning and achieving career goals. To this end, students are encouraged to seek summer employment in theatrical endeavors according to their interests, to participate in professional organizations, to attend conferences and workshops (such as the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival in which the department participates yearly), to work on Discovery projects, and to take on lead assignments in the mounting of departmental productions.

Requirements for a major in Theatre Arts:
Ta 102, Introduction to the Theatre
Ta 125, Fundamentals of Acting B
Ta 155, Stagecraft
Ta 215, Techniques of Acting
Ta 221, Stage Makeup
Ta/Se 224, Voice and Diction
Ta 322, Scene Design
Ta 354, Lighting Design or
Ta 356, Costume Design
Three theatre history courses:
Ta 381, Theatre History and Literature to 1750
Ta 382, Theatre History and Literature from 1750 Through 1918
Ta 383, Modern and Contemporary Theatre
plus
Ta 477, Play Direction
Ta 395, Creative Project Seminar
Ta 495, Senior Creative Project
plus six hours of Production Arts
and nine hours of theatre electives.

In lieu of the senior comprehensive examinations, departmental majors are provided the opportunity and privilege of culminating their undergraduate studies with a senior creative project. Students desiring this option must take Ta 395 in the junior year, then Ta 495 during the semester of the project.

Majors must participate in the college production program in four of the following capacities: assistant director or stage manager, box office and publicity, performance, lighting crew, scene construction crew, costuming crew, and/or properties crew.

Requirements for a minor in Theatre Arts:
Ta 102, Introduction to Theatre
Ta 125, Fundamentals of Acting B
Ta 155, Stagecraft
plus four hours of Production Arts
and two courses selected from
Ta 381, Theatre History and Literature to 1750
Ta 382, Theatre History and Literature from 1750 Through 1918
Ta 383, Modern and Contemporary Theatre
plus six additional hours selected from theatre arts. The minimum total hours for the minor will be twenty-one; nine hours must be in courses numbered 300 or above.

Minors must participate in the college production program in two of the following capacities: assistant director or stage manager, box office and publicity, performance, stage lighting crew, scene construction crew, stage costuming crew, and/or stage property crew.

The requirements for a special double major in English and Theatre Arts:
A full major in both English and Theatre Arts can be earned through applying interdepartmental courses in both fields and thus reducing the total number of hours which might otherwise be required.
En 101, English Composition
En 203, British Literature to 1750
En 204, British Literature After 1750
En 205, American Literature to the Civil War
En 206, American Literature After the Civil War
En 302, Shakespeare
En 411, Literary Criticism
En 431, Introduction to Linguistics

288
Ta 495, Senior creative project
En 488, Senior comprehensive examination

choose one from:
En 201, World Literature I: Ancient to Renaissance
En 202, World Literature II: Enlightenment to the Present

choose two from:
Ta/En 381, Theatre History and Literature to 1750
Ta/En 382, Theatre History and Literature From 1750 Through 1918
Ta/En 383, Modern and Contemporary Theatre

plus
Ta 102, Introduction to the Theatre
Ta 125, Fundamentals of Acting
Ta 155, Stagecraft
Ta 221, Stage Makeup
Ta 215, Techniques of Acting
Ta 322, Scene Design
Ta 477, Play Direction
Se 224, Voice and Diction

choose one from
Ta 354, Lighting Design
Ta 356, Costume Design

Majors must complete six semesters of Production Arts.

Majors **must** participate in the college production program in four of the following capacities: assistant director or stage manager, box office and publicity, performance, stage lighting crew, scene construction crew, stage costuming crew, and/or stage property crew.

Requirements for a major in Theatre Arts Management:

**Business/Management Component**
Ac 209, Principles of Financial Accounting
Ec 210, Principles of Microeconomics
Ba 223, Business Communication
Ba 340, Enterprise Management
Ma 211, Applied Statistics
Ba 371, Legal Environment of Business
Ba 383, Principles of Marketing
Fi 390, Principles of Finance

*plus* one 400-level elective in Business Administration

**Theatre Arts Component**
Se 222, Speech Communication
Ta 102, Introduction to the Theatre
Ta 125, Fundamentals of Acting B
Ta 155, Stagecraft
Ta 221, Stage Makeup
Ta 322, Scene Design
Ta 354, Lighting Design
or Ta 356, Costume Design
Ta 477, Play Direction
and
En/Ta 381, Theatre History and Literature to 1750
En/Ta 382, Theatre History and Literature from 1751 to 1918
En/Ta 383, Modern and Contemporary Theatre

Majors must complete three hours of Production Arts. Majors must also participate in the college production program as assistant director or stage manager, and in box office and publicity, plus two of the following capacities: performance, stage lighting crew, scene construction crew, stage costuming crew, and/or stage property crew.

Transfer students majoring in Theater Arts must take a minimum of 40% of the coursework required for the major at Benedictine College. Transfer students pursuing a minor in Theater Arts must take a minimum of 25% of the coursework required for the minor at Benedictine College.

**Theatre Arts Colloquium:**
All departmental majors are encouraged to register for Ta 490 each semester. Minors must register for Ta 490 each semester of the junior and senior year and are encouraged to register also as freshmen and sophomores. Regular monthly departmental colloquia are scheduled for the benefit of students in the department. Various formats are used, including presentations by visiting artists and scholars, and field trips to see significant theatrical productions.
**Ta 102**  
**Introduction to the Theatre (3) (F)**  
The course takes a broad view of the field of theatre, focusing on elementary principles, vocabulary, and skills involved in analysis, appreciation, and performance of drama. A study of drama produced will include works such as *Oedipus The King*, *Death of a Salesman*, *The Glass Menagerie*, and *A Raisin in the Sun*. (AE)

**Ta 110**  
**Script Analysis (3) (F)**  
This foundational course in the Theatre program will teach the student to read dramatic literature as a blueprint for theatrical production. Students will learn Aristotle’s six elements of drama, the principles of dramatic structure, and begin to develop their own process for taking a script from the page to the stage.

**Ta 111, 112, 211, 212, 311, 312, 411, 412**  
**Production Arts Lab (1) (B)**  
Practical application of principles of theatre arts and crafts in a production setting. Students will receive credit for scenic construction, lighting, costuming, properties, or other technical assignment. All majors are required to take a minimum of six hours of Production Arts toward fulfillment of their degree.

**Ta 115**  
**Fundamentals of Acting A (3) (D)**  
Through conditioning, improvisations, acting exercises, and a host of mental, physical, and psychological workouts, students will come to a better understanding of themselves and their own idiosyncrasies. This class builds a foundation on ensemble work grounded in the Stanislavski method.

**Ta 125**  
**Fundamentals of Acting B (3) (F)**  
A study of fundamentals tailored to serve the beginning actor. Emphasis is placed on the Stanislavski method and focuses on the developing self-awareness, sensory perception, character analysis, and using the body to create the visual imagery needed to communicate the needs of a script. The course will include monologue work, audition techniques, exercises, and light scene work. (OC, VC)

**Ta 155**  
**Stagecraft (3) (D)**  
Elementary theory and practice in scenic construction, scene painting, stage rigging, and the range of scenic tools and materials.

**Ta 215**  
**Techniques of Acting (3) (S)**  
This course offers an advanced study of acting theory and practice in a variety of acting techniques, including classic period styles, and the further development of ensemble acting. 
*Prerequisite: Ta 125 or permission of instructor.* (VC)

**Ta 220**  
**Movement for the Performing Artist (2) (F)**  
The activities in this course are designed to improve the student’s posture, strength, stamina, balance, coordination, vision/imagiation, and personal awareness. Students will encounter and develop skills in the various movement styles addressed. Topics covered may include but are not limited to Laban Theory, Corporal Styles, Agogic Theory, Viewpoints, Meyerhold’s biomechanics, and Mask.

**Ta 221**  
**Stage Makeup (3) (D)**  
Fundamental principles and practice in makeup for the stage, including corrective, character, old age, and fantasy.

**Ta 223**  
**Oral Interpretation (3) (F)**  
This course deals with oral reading of selected poetry and prose for performance. It involves both a study of interpretations of the author’s meaning and the means of communicating
interpretations to an audience. Emphasis is placed on projecting meaning through oral communication techniques. *Cross-listed as Se 223. (OC)*

**Ta 224**
**Voice and Diction (3) (D)**
This course studies the theory and practice of mechanics of voice production and diction (articulation, pronunciation, and intonation). Emphasis is on the use of standard American English as it relates to the goal of self-improvement and as a vocational asset. *Cross-listed as Se 224. (OC)*

**Ta 236**
**Interpreter’s Theatre (3) (D)**
This course involves group performance of all types of literature enhanced by theatrical effects using techniques of oral interpretation. It involves literary study combined with script preparation, directing, and staging.

**Ta 298**
**Special Topics (1–4)**
Topics not included in the regular catalog, treated in a variety of formats. May be taken more than once if subject matter varies sufficiently.

**Ta 302**
**Shakespeare (3) (D)**
Shakespeare as poet and dramatist; most of the plays are examined, and the great tragedies—Macbeth, Hamlet, Othello, King Lear, and Anthony and Cleopatra—are taken in detail. Attention is given to the historical and literary background or setting; some consideration also of secondary works of major Shakespearean critics and scholars. *Cross-listed as En 302.*

**Ta 322**
**Scene Design (3) (F)**
A study of the principles of scenic design and style as an integral part of the production concept. Techniques in mechanical drafting, and model building as basic design skills. *Prerequisites: Ta 155, and Ar 121 or Ar 213. (VC)*

**Ta 325**
**Stage Combat (3) (D)**
A performance-oriented course that examines unarmed and armed combat for the stage. Studies will provide the student with much of the training and discipline one associates with Tae Kwon Do, Judo, Wrestling, Boxing, and Tournament Fencing. The weapon styles addressed may include but are not limited to single rapier, single dagger, rapier and dagger, quarterstaff, broadsword and shield, court sword, knife fighting. The course will also focus on different styles of unarmed combat. May be repeated for credit if content varies sufficiently.

**Ta 354**
**Lighting Design (3) (S)**
A study of the physical properties of electricity, the principles of color in light, the use of stage lighting instruments, and the practical application of lighting designer’s process. *Prerequisite: Ta 155. (VC)*

**Ta 356**
**Costume Design (3) (S)**
This course involves the examination and practical application of the costume design process. It includes dramatic analysis, research methods, design theory, and rendering techniques. *Prerequisites: Ta 110 and Ta 155. (VC)*

**Ta 381**
**Theatre History and Literature to 1750 (3) (D)**
A study of plays and productions from primitive humanity to the Protestant reformation, including Classic Greece, Ancient Rome, Medieval Liturgical Drama, Asian Theatre, Spanish Golden Age, and the Elizabethan Drama. (HP, WC)
Ta 382
Theatre History and Literature From 1750 Through 1918 (3) (D)
A study of plays and productions from 1640 to the start of World War I, including Restoration Comedy, Italian Renaissance, French Neoclassic Drama, Romanticism, Melodrama, Realism, and the development of Modern Theatre. (HP, WC)

Ta 383
Modern and Contemporary Theatre (3) (D)
A study of theatre since World War I. Attention is given to significant plays and playwrights, and to modern theatre artists, such as designers, directors, actors, as well as movements, the experimental-‘Ism’s and theorists. (HP, WC)

Ta 395
Creative Project Seminar (cr) (D)
This course is taken in the junior year as preparation for the Senior Creative Project (Ta 495). As part of a weekly seminar with departmental faculty each student prepares a detailed prospectus for the individual creative project.

Ta 479
Internship (1)
An educational, practical hands-on work experience designed to complement the student’s major field of study. Open to students of at least junior standing who are making satisfactory academic progress. Prerequisite: Permission of instructor.

Ta 477
Play Direction (3) (D)
The study of the director’s work, from casting, script analysis, conceptualizing, staging, and conducting of rehearsals. Practice application of principles of stage direction to production projects. Prerequisite: One course in acting, one in theatre history and literature, and a minimum of twelve hours in Theatre Arts courses, or permission of instructor. (VC)

Ta 490
Theatre Arts Colloquium (cr) (D)
Monthly exchange between departmental faculty and/or guest speakers or artists and departmental majors.

Ta 495
Senior Creative Project (3) (D)
The preparation and presentation of culminating creative experience in acting, directing, stage managing, or a selected area of technical theatre or design or playwriting.

Ta 496
Theatre Practicum (4) (D)
Through advanced planning with the department, students are temporarily placed in an on-the-job training program with professional theatre companies. Candidates must be acceptable to the companies involved and may or may not receive a wage or stipend. Since the program will involve daily work away from Atchison, registrants must make arrangements to return to the campus at least three times for faculty-student seminars. Registration by advanced arrangement only.

Ta 499
Independent Study (credit arranged)
Subject and approach to be worked out between faculty and student. A maximum of eight hours may be earned in Independent Study.
Suggested sequence of courses for a bachelor’s degree in Theatre Arts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Freshman Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ta 111, Production Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta 112, Production Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>En 101, English Composition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta 125, Fundamentals of Acting B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta 155, Stagecraft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gs 150, BC Experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ph 175, Principles of Nature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta 102, Introduction to Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th 101, Introduction to Theology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Hi 105, World Civilization to 1500)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pe 115, Wellness for Life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta 110, Script Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>__</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>__</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sophomore Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ta 211, Production Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta 212, Production Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta 381, Theatre Hist &amp; Lit to 1640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta 298, Special Topics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophical Inquiry Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta 382, Theatre Hist &amp; Lit 1640–1914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta 215, Techniques of Acting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta 221, Stage Makeup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta 220, Movement for the Performing Artist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pe 115, Wellness for Life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Person and Community Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ar 121, Drawing or Ar 213, Figure Drawing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>__</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>__</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Junior Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ta 311, Production Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta 312, Production Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta 383, Modern &amp; Contemp. Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta 354, Lighting Design or Ta 356, Costume Design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta 322, Scene Design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faith Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta 477, Play Direction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural World Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophical Inquiry Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta 325, Stage Combat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural World Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta 395, Creative Project Seminar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pe Activity course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta 395, Creative Project Seminar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>__</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>__</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Senior Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ta 495, Senior Creative Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta 495, Senior Creative Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aesthetic Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faith Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>__</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>__</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>