THEATRE AND DANCE EDUCATION HANDBOOK

Contents

Introduction

Is Theatre or Dance Education for You?
Understand What You Must Do to Become a School Theatre or Dance Teacher
Your Background before UNH
Applying for Admission to UNH as a Secondary Theatre Ed or Dance Education Major

Undergraduate Study in Theatre or Dance Education

Your First Year as a Theatre or Dance Education Major Your Second Year as a Theatre or Dance Education Major Your Third Year as a Theatre or Dance Education Major Your Fourth Year as a Theatre or Dance Education Major Student Teaching or the UNH Graduate Program

Appendices

Appendix A - Required Tests

Appendix B – Junior Standing in Theatre or Dance Education

Appendix C – The Teacher Candidate Assessment of Performance (TCAP)

Appendix D – Course of Study Sheets

Introduction

This handbook is meant to help you understand and eventually meet all the requirements for the recommended degree and for obtaining a license before you can get a job as a school theatre or dance teacher. Theatre or Dance Education degrees can lead to school teaching; student might also pursue teaching artist positions.

Certification to teach theatre or dance at all grade levels is daunting, with high credit requirements. Nonetheless, it is what other arts teachers and educators of the state feel are necessary, so it is important to be as broadly prepared as possible. To that end, your student teaching experience will be spread across two semesters, in both elementary and middle/secondary school levels of classroom teaching. It would be impossible to provide exactly equal amounts of student teaching experience in each, so you can expect to have an area of concentration that you have chosen. You will, however, need to demonstrate your willingness and ability to teach theatre or dance in various ways to quite different groups of students. Use this opportunity to review your own teaching preferences and your current professional strengths and weaknesses.

The degrees discussed are the *Bachelor of Arts in Theatre-Secondary Theatre Education* option and the *Bachelor of Arts in Theatre-Dance Education* option. Students who want to do two options or double major in two different subjects will need to finish the *Bachelor of Arts in Theatre* (either secondary theatre education or dance education) and then do the 5th year *Master of Arts in Teaching* or *Master of Education in Secondary Education*. If you know for sure you only want certification as a dance or theatre teacher, you may choose the undergraduate licensure option. You could major in theatre or dance education; if interested, you could also add a dual major in educational studies. The course requirements for each of the four undergraduate options is at the end of the handbook. Whether you choose the undergraduate or graduate certification options, either of these programs will fully qualify you for licensure as a K-12 theatre arts or dance teacher.

Is Theatre or Dance Education for You?

Theatre Education and Dance Education programs in college are almost singularly focused on preparing you to teach Theatre or Dance in a public school. These programs are typically demanding, and the undergraduate options have less flexibility; they are entirely prescribed – meaning that you have very little choice in what to study. Everything has to meet the requirements of the licensing state's Department of Education. As a result, students who hope to earn a

Theatre education or Dance education degree simply as a career back-up are often frustrated and unhappy. Further, those students run the risk if they take a teaching job of becoming a poor teacher characterized by lack of commitment and energy. There are enough weak teachers in our public schools. Our goal is to develop skillful and fully committed candidates for certification in any state.

Most of our best Theatre or Dance education students share several traits.

- 1. They are excellent performers who derive tremendous satisfaction from performing sophisticated theatre or dance with others.
- 2. They understand how large school theatre or dance programs function because they participated in such programs when they were in school. All dance or theatre education students are expected to perform and to take performance classes in their chosen teaching area.
- 3. They are sympathetic to the lives students lead in and out of school. They work toward the betterment of students in all aspects of their lives extracurricular, academic, social and other.
- 4. They are committed to working as part of a team of concerned faculty members. As a result, they will become engaged members of a school's faculty.
- 5. They can clearly state their goals as teachers and assess their success in accomplishing those goals. Artistry, skill development and content knowledge are among their most important goals. They can make clear what artistic experiences, what skill development and what knowledge goals they have for students.
- 6. They are dedicated to developing the teaching skills that will allow them to accomplish their goals.

Understand What You Must Do to Become a School Theatre or Dance Teacher

There are requirements established by state law that you must meet before you will be eligible for certification (licensure) as a K-12 school teacher. When these are added to the graduation requirements of the Department of Theatre and Dance, the Department of Education, and the College of Liberal Arts, these make for a fully prescribed curriculum and a very challenging four or five years of college preparation.

In summary, to complete a Theatre or Dance education degree you will need to meet the following requirements.

- 1. Learn the material presented in the broad spectrum of academic courses presented in our Discovery Program as required of every UNH student. This is typically a sequence of nine courses in a wide variety of subjects.
- 2. Develop into a sophisticated and skillful performer, director and/or choreographer. You will take a variety of required performance classes.
- 3. Learn Theatre or Dance in an academic sense that includes theory, history, and pedagogy.
- 4. Master the teaching methods presented in Elementary Theatre or Dance Methods and Secondary Theatre or Dance Methods.
- 5. Complete the sequence of courses required by the Department of education –

Exploring Teaching (EDUC 500)

Educational Perspectives in Critical Times (EDUC 605)

Human Development and Learning: Educational Psychology (EDUC 701)

Educating Exceptional Learners (EDUC 751)

- 6. Complete at least 14-weeks of fulltime experience of supervised teaching in an assigned school district during both semesters. (THDA 791 and EDUC 694)
- 7. Complete the tests required by the New Hampshire Department of Education as listed in the Appendices (PRAXIS Core Content)
- 8. Pass the Teacher Candidate Assessment of Performance (TCAP) assignment during your full-time supervised teaching semester (EDUC 694).

Your Background before UNH

As high school age students, most Theatre education majors have backgrounds with these qualities:

 Academics – Your high school record demonstrates the likelihood that you will have success in all of your college studies, not just Theatre or Dance. You should have good reading and writing skills, mathematics, science and some foreign language experience. It is not true that Theatre and Dance majors are allowed to be deficient in these areas. If your high school record is not promising, you may not be admitted.

- 2. Personal Theatre or Dance Skills You must demonstrate that you currently demonstrate some well-developed skill and that you have promise to develop into an accomplished performer, choreographer, director and teacher.
- 3. Experience of Theatrical or Dance accomplishments in extracurricular or private studio participation. Most Theatre or Dance teaching jobs will require you to direct extracurricular activities. Students without sustained high school experience are at a serious disadvantage in understanding how to be a good school Theatre or Dance teacher.

Applying for Admission to UNH as a Theatre Education or Dance Education Major

There are two admission decisions required before you will be admitted to the University of New Hampshire as a declared Theatre Education major.

First, the UNH Office of Admission must approve your admission based upon your academic background. Submit the Common Application to begin the process. After that the Admissions Office will expect to see an official high school transcript with a record of your graduation and a class rank in the upper half of your class. You also now have the option to submit scores from either the SAT Exam or the ACT Exam, but this is no longer a requirement. Have the test company send your scores to UNH.

Second, the Department of Theatre and Dance must approve your admission to the department on the basis of an admission interview. You must interview with the appropriate Department of Theatre faculty member in order to be admitted to the department. You should contact the Program Directors in the Department of Theatre and Dance if you have questions about the admission process or if you would like to schedule an admission audition. Email Raina.Ames@unh.edu for theatre education and email Gay.Nardone@unh.edu for dance education.

Your years as a Theatre or Dance Education Major

As a new student in the UNH Department of Theatre and Dance, several things may surprise you:

- 1. Your life will be busier than most other UNH students. Your ability to make and keep a schedule will be an important key to your success.
- 2. You will have to devote 35-40 hours each semester to practicums in performance, costuming, technical or marketing areas. The practicums are required of all THDA majors but are especially valuable for theatre and dance education options as they prepare you for all aspects of running an extracurricular program.
- 3. You will have to spend time daily on at least two academic Discovery courses.
- 4. You will begin to acquire the knowledge and skills you will need as a Theatre or Dance teacher.
- 5. Schedule some personal recreation time for yourself each day.

Throughout your years at UNH, you will be taking courses specific to either theatre or dance education. In your second year, you will need to enroll in EDUC 500 – *Exploring Teaching*. The instructor will assign you either to fall or spring semester. To continue in the Theatre or Dance Education program at UNH, you will need a recommendation from the *Exploring Teaching* course instructor who will make that decision in consultation with the cooperating teacher in the school where you teach and with the graduate observer involved.

At the end of sophomore year there will be an important assessment of your readiness to continue in Theatre or Dance Education —your submission of scores from the standardized PRAXIS Core Content Exam and the application for a Criminal Background Check. Both of these (the test and the Background Check) must be completed by April 1 of your sophomore year so that you are ready to pre-register in April for your junior year courses. Ask the Theatre or Dance Education Coordinators for details.

Your Fourth Year as a Theatre or Dance Education Major-4 year certification program

Your final undergraduate year includes 2-3 day/week preservice teaching experience in the fall during THDA 791 and 5 day/week preservice teaching in the spring during EDUC 694. You will also complete all your academic and Theatre requirements. In consultation with the student, the Theatre or Dance Education Coordinator will assign you to a local school district or professional theatre for your teaching experiences.

MAT or M Ed in Theatre or Dance Pre-Teaching students will finish course work and possibly begin graduate study early.

An Important Choice: Student Teaching or the UNH Graduate Program

A. 4 year teacher licensure program

If you know that you only want to major in theatre or dance education, you can finish all of your coursework and field experience while an undergraduate, ending your time at UNH with a BA as well as teacher licensure in NH.

If you know you want to double major or minor in one or more things BUT you still really want to get your certification through the undergraduate program, you will have to commit to taking courses during multiple J-Term as well as summer sessions.

If you know you want to teach or major in two different content areas, you will have to complete the masters certification program: https://cola.unh.edu/education/academics/graduate-information. You would follow all student teaching requirements for the masters degree.

For undergraduate certification, it is important for students to visit the cooperating teachers involved and see the program in operation. Students need to assess how compatible they will be with their selected cooperating teacher(s) for the 14 weeks involved. Further, for both semesters, students must complete separate, official Student Teacher Contract with the cooperating teacher(s) and school principal. There will be little sympathy for the student who accepts a student teacher assignment without thoroughly investigating it first.

Student teachers work as though they were fulltime employees of the school district. For the fall, you need to be at the school during all agreed upon days and weeks. For the spring, student teachers must be at school whenever the cooperating teacher is at school, including before-school activities, after-school activities, and weekend activities. Many student teachers enroll in one 4-credit course during the student teaching semester. That makes for a very full load. It will be exhausting and extremely difficult to also hold a job during the student teaching semester. For that reason, you should seriously consider how much you can realistically take on outside of your teaching and coursework.

Appendix A – Required Tests (SAT or ACT – are no longer required for admission to UNH)

<u>PRAXIS: Core Academic Skills for Educators</u>: Combined Test (Test Code 5752) – required for official acceptance into the theatre or dance education undergraduate certification program. (**Take by April 1 of sophomore year and usually after completing EDUC 500** – *Exploring Teaching*.) Alterntively, you could take the tests separately: PRAXIS Core Academic Skills Tests for Educators" codes 5713 (score 156), 5723 (score 162) & 5733 (score 150)

Teacher Certification Assessment of Performance (TCAP) – required for licensure

Appendix B – Junior Standing in Theatre or Dance Education

Junior Standing in Theatre Education Major

Admission Check List

 1. Criminal Background Check - submitted by April 1 of sophomore year to the Theatre Department (in addition to the background check required for EDUC 500)
2. Academic Standing
 A. 2.8 overall grade point average
 B. Passing PRAXIS Core Content Test or waiver
2. Content Area Skills
 A. C- on all THDA courses taken thus far
 B. Accurately models and teaches theatre or dance
3. EDUC 500 – Exploring Teaching assessment predicts success in a school setting
 A. Follows instructions well
 B. Plans professionally for teaching
 C. Meets contemporary practice and embraces innovations

Overall Junior Standing Status

Meets Standards Junior Standing Granted

Progressing towards Meeting Standards Junior Standing Incomplete

Does Not Meet Standards Junior Standing Denied

Appendix C – The Teacher Candidate Assessment of Performance (TCAP) – Required for Licensure (Certification)

- 1. A written compilation of TCAP requirements
- 2. A Video-recorded example of you teaching a series of Theatre or dance classes that demonstrates your
 - *Knowledge of your Students, Their Schools and Community
 - *Ability to Plan and Prepare Your Lessons
 - *Ability to Teach to a Variety of Students
 - *Skill at Assessing Individual Student Learning and Progress
 - *Thoughtful Reflection upon your teaching and Your Students' Learning
 - *Developing Artistry in Your Students

Appendix D – Course of Study Sheets: Use the appropriate sheet to track your progress in meeting degree requirements.

Course Schedule AY20XX Bachelor of Arts - Dance Education

Completed/Grade	Fall	Credits	Completed/Grade	Spring	Credits
completed, crade	DISC 1	4	completed, drade	DISC 3	4
	DISC 2	4		DISC 4	4
	THDA 1	4		THDA 3	4
	THDA 2 (dance technique)	2		THDA 4 (dance technique)	2
	THDA 401	1		THDA 589	1
	THDA 589	1			
	Total	16			15
					•
Completed/Grade	Fall	Credits	Completed/Grade	Spring	Credits
	DISC 5	4		DISC 6	4
	LANG	4		LANG	4
	THDA 5	4		THDA 6 (dance technique)	2
	NUTR 400	4		BMS 507	4
	THDA 589	1		THDA 589	1
				EDUC 500	4
		17			19
Completed/Grade	_ Fall	Credits	Completed/Grade	_ Spring	Credits
	DISC 7	4		DISC 9	4
	DISC 8	4		DISC 10	4
	THDA 7 (dance technique)	2		THDA 9	4
	THDA 8	4		THDA 10 (dance technique)	2
	EDUC 1	4		EDUC 2	4
	THDA 589	1		THDA 589	1
		19			19
Completed/Grade	_ Fall	Credits	Completed/Grade	Spring	Credits
	THDA 11	4		EDUC 751A OR 751 B	4
	THDA 12	4		EDUC 694 (Student Teaching)	8
	THDA 13	4			12
	THDA 14 (dance technique)	2			
	THDA 791 (Internship)	2	"PRAXIS Core Acade	mic Skills Tests for Educators"	

OR 5752, Combined Test, take all 3 at once

You must have a 2.8 GPA to apply for student teaching.

take as a sophomore

codes 5713 (score 156), 5723 (score 162) & 5733 (score 150)

Major requirements must receive grade C- or better. Education courses require a minimum of B- to receive credit.

16

REQUIRED COURSES - DANCE EDUCATION			
THDA 459 or 460	Stagecraft or Elements of Design		
THDA 487	History of Dance		
THDA 589	Practicum (1 CR, repeated every semester)		
THDA 633	Dance Composition		
THDA 732	Choreography		
THDA 786	Dance Pedagogy		
THDA Fine Arts (4)			
THDA Fine Arts (4)			
THDA Technique (2)			
THDA 791 (2)	Internship (senior/first semester teaching)		
THDA 795 (WI)	Independent Study in Performance		
BMS 507	Human Anatomy and Physiology		
NUTR 400	Nutrition in Health and Well Being		
EDUC 500	Exploring Teaching		
EDUC 605	Educational Perspectives in Critical Times		
EDUC 701	Educational Psychology		
EDUC 751 A or B	Educating Exceptional Learners (ELED or Secondary)		
EDUC 694	Student Teaching (senior/second semester teaching)		

Course Schedule AY20XX Bachelor of Arts - Dance Education w/ Dual Major in Educational Studies

	w/ Dual	Major in Edu	cational Studies		
Completed/Grade	Fall	Credits	Completed/Grade	Spring	Credits
	DISC 1	4		DISC 2	4
	EDUC 402	4		DISC 3	4
	THDA 1	4		DISC 4	4
	THDA 2 (dance technique)	2		THDA 3	4
	THDA 401	1		THDA 4 (dance technique)	2
	THDA 589	1		THDA 589	1
	Total	16			19
Completed/Grade	Fall	Credits	Completed/Grade	Spring	Credits
	DISC 5	4		DISC 6	4
	LANG	4		LANG	4
	THDA 5	4		THDA 6 (dance technique)	2
	NUTR 400	4		BMS 507	4
	THDA 589	1		THDA 589	1
	EDUC 500	4		EDUC 605	4
		21			19
Completed/Grade	Fall	Credits	Completed/Grade	Spring	Credits
	DISC 7	4		DISC 9	4
	DISC 8	4		DISC 10	4
	THDA 7 (dance technique)	2		THDA 8	4
	THDA 10 (dance technique)	2		THDA 795 (WI)	4
	EDUC 701	4		EDUC elective 2	4
	THDA 589	1		THDA 589	1
	EDUC elective 1	4			
		21			21
Completed/Grade	Fall	Credits	Completed/Grade	Spring	Credits
	THDA 9	4		EDUC 751A OR 751 B	4
	THDA 11	4		EDUC 694 (Student Teaching)	8
	TUDA 12	1 4			12

4

4

2

2 20

You must have a 2.8 GPA to apply for student teaching; Major requirements must receive grade C- or better.

Education courses require a minimum of B- to receive credit.

THDA 12

THDA 13

Interested students must file an Intent to Dual Major Form, cola.unh.edu/education

"PRAXIS Core Academic Skills Tests for Educators"

codes 5713 (score 156), 5723 (score 162) & 5733 (score 150)

OR 5752, Combined Test, take all 3 at once; take as sophomore

12

THDA 14 (dance technique)

THDA 791 (Internship)

REQUIRED COURSES - DANCE EDUCATION Dual ED Major				
THDA 459 or 460	Stagecraft or Elements of Design			
THDA 487	History of Dance			
THDA 589	Practicum (1 CR, repeated every semester)			
THDA 633	Dance Composition			
THDA 732	Choreography			
THDA 786	Dance Pedagogy			
THDA Fine Arts				
THDA Fine Arts				
THDA Technique				
THDA 791	Internship (senior/first semester teaching)			
THDA 795 (WI)	Independent Study in Performance			
BMS 507	Human Anatomy and Physiology			
NUTR 400	Nutrition in Health and Well Being			
EDUC 402	Introduction to Educational Studies			
EDUC 500	Exploring Teaching			
EDUC 605	Educational Perspectives in Critical Times			
EDUC 701	Educational Psychology			
EDUC 751 A or B	Educating Exceptional Learners (ELED or Secondary)			
EDUC elective 1				
EDUC elective 2				
EDUC 694	Student Teaching (senior/second semester teaching)			

Course Schedule AY20XX Bachelor of Arts - Theatre Education

Completed/Grade	Fall	Credits	Completed/Grade	Spring	Credits
	DISC 1	4		DISC 3	4
	DISC 2	4		DISC 4	4
	THDA 1	4		THDA 3	4
	THDA 2	4		THDA 4	4
	THDA 401	1		THDA 589	1
	THDA 589	1			
	Total	18			17
Completed/Grade	Fall	Credits	Completed/Grade	Spring	Credits
	DISC 5	4		DISC 6	4
	LANG	4		LANG	4
	THDA 5	4		THDA 7	4
	THDA 6	4		THDA 8	4
	THDA 589	1		THDA 589	1
				EDUC 500	4
		17			21
					_
Completed/Grade	Fall	Credits	Completed/Grade	Spring	Credits
	DISC 7	4		DISC 9	4
	DISC 8	4		DISC 10	4
	THDA 9	4		THDA 10	4
	EDUC 1	4		EDUC 2	4
	THDA 589	1		THDA 589	1
		17			17
Completed/Grade	Fall	Credits	Completed/Grade	Spring	Credits
- Simpleted/Grade	THDA 11	4	completed/ Grade	EDUC 751A OR 751 B	4
	THDA 11	4		EDUC 694 (Student Teaching)	8
	THDA 12	4		LDDC 004 (Student readining)	12
	THDA 13	4	"DDAYIS Co.	re Academic Skills Tests for Educators"	
	7				
	THDA 791 (Internship)	2	codes	5713 (score 156), 5723 (score 162) & 5733 (score 150)	
		18		G 3/33 (SCOIE 130)	

OR 5752, Combined Test, take all 3 at once

take as a sophomore

You must have a 2.8 GPA to apply for student teaching. Major requirements must receive grade C- or better. Education courses require a minimum of B- to receive credit.

	REQUIRED COURSES - THEATRE EDUCATION
THDA 436	History of Theatre I
THDA 438	History of Theatre II
THDA 459	Stagecraft
THDA 460	Elements of Design
THDA 463	Theatre Dance I
THDA 475 (2)	Stage Makeup
THDA 551	Acting I
THDA 589	Practicum (1 CR, repeated every semester)
THDA 624	Theatre for Young Audiences
THDA 721	Arts Integration
THDA 727	Methods of Teaching Theatre
THDA 729	Community-Oriented Drama
THDA 741	Directing I
THDA 760	Teacher Planning for Theatre
THDA 791	Internship (senior/first semester teaching)
THDA Tech	
EDUC 500	Exploring Teaching
EDUC 605	Educational Perspectives in Critical Times
EDUC 701	Educational Psychology
EDUC 751 A or B	Educating Exceptional Learners (ELED or Secondary)
EDUC 694	Student Teaching (senior/second semester teaching)

Course Schedule AY20XX Bachelor of Arts - Theatre Education w/ Dual Major in Educational Studies

Completed/Grade	Fall	Credits	Completed/Grade	Spring	Credits
	DISC 1	4		DISC 2	4
	EDUC 402	4		DISC 3	4
	THDA 1	4		DISC 4	4
	THDA 2	4		THDA 3	4
	THDA 401	1		THDA 4	4
	THDA 589	1		THDA 589	1
	Total	18			21
Completed/Grade	Fall	Credits	Completed/Grade	Carina	Credits
Completed/Grade	DISC 5		Completed/Grade	Spring	
		4		DISC 6	4
	LANG	4		LANG	4
	THDA 6	4		THDA 7	4
	THDA 6 THDA 589	4		THDA 580	4
		1		THDA 589	1
	EDUC 500	4		EDUC 605	4
		21			21
Completed/Grade	Fall	Credits	Completed/Grade	Spring	Credits
	DISC 7	4		DISC 9	4
	DISC 8	4		DISC 10	4
	THDA 9	4		THDA 10	4
	EDUC 701	4		EDUC elective 2	4
	THDA 589	1		THDA 589	1
	EDUC elective 1	4			
		21			17
Completed/Grade	Fall	Credits	Completed/Grade	Spring	Credits
	THDA 11	4		EDUC 751A OR 751 B	4
	THDA 12	4		EDUC 694 (Student Teaching)	8
	THDA 13	4			12
1	I TUDA 14	4	"DDAVIC Core Academ	sic Skills Tosts for Educators"	
	THDA 14 THDA 791 (Internship)	4		nic Skills Tests for Educators" 3713 (score 156), 5723 (score 162)	

OR 5752, Combined Test, take as sophomore

& 5733 (score 150)

You must have a 2.8 GPA to apply for student teaching. Major requirements must receive grade C- or better. Education courses require a minimum of B- to receive credit.

18

Interested students must file an Intent to Dual Major Form, cola.unh.edu/education

4 writing intensive courses are required by the University. One must be English 401 and one must be in your major. The 700 level Methods course fulfills the upper

REQUIRED COURSES - THEATRE EDUCATION DUAL MAJOR				
THDA 436	History of Theatre I			
THDA 438	History of Theatre II			
THDA 459	Stagecraft			
THDA 460	Elements of Design			
THDA 463	Theatre Dance I			
THDA 475 (2)	Stage Makeup			
THDA 551	Acting I			
THDA 589	Practicum (1 CR, repeated every semester)			
THDA 624	Theatre for Young Audiences			
THDA 721	Arts Integration			
THDA 727	Methods of Teaching Theatre			
THDA 729	Community-Oriented Drama			
THDA 741	Directing I			
THDA 760	Teacher Planning for Theatre			
THDA 791	Internship (senior/first semester teaching)			
THDA Tech				
EDUC 402	Introduction to Educational Studies			
EDUC 500	Exploring Teaching			
EDUC 605	Educational Perspectives in Critical Times			
EDUC 701	Educational Psychology			
EDUC 751 A or B	Educating Exceptional Learners (ELED or Secondary)			
EDUC elective 1				
EDUC elective 2				
EDUC 694	Student Teaching (senior/second semester teaching)			