

# Assessment AY 2020-21

## Theater minor program

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**Overview:** To my knowledge, this is the first assessment report filed for the Theater Minor. In AY 2020-2021, there were 11 registered Theater minors, 7 of whom were enrolled in Theater classes. Work products from 5 different Theater classes were assessed by full-time faculty Roberto Varea and Christine Young with administrative support from part-time faculty Natalie Greene and Liv Schaffer.

The Theater minor **mission statement** and **PLOs** are:

**Mission:** Ideal for students who have a passion for Theater, the 20-unit Theater minor allows students to specialize in acting, theater-making, or technical theater/design.

**PLOs:**

1. Analyze principles, works, and methodologies in Theater within their socio-historical contexts
2. Apply technical and conceptual skills to Theater practices
3. Summarize and critically assess how the Theater contributes to a humane and just society

The **curricular map:**

	PLO1 Analyze principles, works, and methodologies in Theater within their socio-historical contexts	PLO2 Apply technical and conceptual skills to Theater practices	PLO3 Summarize and critically assess how the Theater contributes to a humane and just society
<b>required classes (16 units)</b>			
THTR 110 Acting Foundations		I	
THTR 182 Theater and Social History	I		I
THTR 225 Theatrical Composition		D/M	
THTR 3XX Performance & Culture series (students choose 1 class from 7 options)	D/M		D/M

elective choices (4 units required)			
THTR 2XX Elective Theater Technique (Costume Design, Lighting Design, Scene Study, Improvisation)		D	
THTR 3XX Elective Theater Technique (Playwriting, Directing, Advanced Composition, Special Topics)		D/M depending on level of student	
THTR 372 Workshop in Play Production		D/M depending on level of student	

The **assessment schedule**:

AY 2019-2020— PLO 1 assessed (no report filed)

AY 2020-2021— PLO 2 assessed (1<sup>st</sup> report)

AY 2021-2022— PLO 3 assessed (2<sup>nd</sup> report)

AY 2022-2023— alternative assessment (3<sup>rd</sup> report)

For AY 2020-2021 we assessed PLO 2 using a **rubric** developed in 2021:

Theater Minor PLO#2 Rubric: Apply technical and conceptual skills to Theater practices				
Criteria	Exceeds Expectations (4)	Meets Expectations (3)	Needs Improvement (2)	Below Expectations (1)
<p><b>A. Creative Choices:</b> Makes creative choices that are legible, vital and coherent in the creation or performance of theatrical work (ie. where/how work is staged, character qualities and behavior, vocal and physical dynamics, use of props, costumes, space, physicality, rhythm, and other languages of the stage.)</p> <p><i>(assessed through video or written documentation of creative work [ie. script or score])</i></p>	Creative choices are exceptionally legible, vital and coherent.	Creative choices are appropriately legible, vital and coherent.	Creative choices are partially legible, vital and coherent.	Creative choices are not legible, vital or coherent.

<p><b>B. Critical and Conceptual Skills:</b> critically evaluates theatrical work (performance, dramatic texts, theory, or criticism,) and can identify or discuss theatrical vocabularies, structures, and expressive principles, and/or relevant aesthetic or social concepts or intentions.</p> <p><i>(assessed through written critique of a text, performance, or other theatrical content)</i></p>	<p>Critically evaluates the theatrical work with exceptional skill, understanding and insight.</p>	<p>Critically evaluates the theatrical work with skill, understanding and insight.</p>	<p>Critically evaluates the theatrical work with limited skill, understanding and insight.</p>	<p>Does not critically evaluate the theatrical work, or does so with significant errors.</p>
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We assessed the following work products:

- THTR 110-01 Acting Foundations: live performance review (writing) + acting scene (video) - 1 student
- THTR 110-06 Acting Foundations: character biography (writing) + acting scene (video) - 1 student
- THTR 301 Classical Dramatic Literature: live performance review (writing) + final exam (writing) - 1 student
- THTR 303 Performance & Cultural Resistance: final exam (writing) - 2 students
- THTR 390-01 Scene Study: character biography (writing) - 2 students

The aggregated work product assessment scores:

	Exceeds Expectations (4)	Meets Expectations (3)	Needs Improvement (2)	Below Expectations (1)	Not Applicable (0)
<b>A. Creative Choices</b>	1	2			4
<b>B. Critical and Conceptual Skills</b>		6	1		

**Criterion A. Creative Choices:** 3 of 3 students (100%) whose work could be assessed scored at level 3 (meets expectations) or above. Several classes were unable to share work products that were suitable for assessment using Criterion A. This was partly due to work collection errors (some performance videos were lost) and partly because some classes such as THTR 301 and THTR 303 focus almost exclusively on critical and conceptual skills, rather than creative choices.

**Criterion B. Critical and Conceptual Skills:** 6 of 7 students (86%) scored at level 3 (meets expectations)

While the sample size is quite small, it is encouraging that Theater minors were mostly proficient in meeting the learning outcomes for PLO #2: Apply technical and conceptual skills to Theater practices. The difficulty assessing Criterion A suggests that it might be beneficial to de-couple the two parts of the learning outcome and assess them separately.

As the Theater minor program continues to develop its assessment strategy, we look forward to partnering with Faculty Directors of Assessment to gain perspective on the most useful protocols for assessing small minor programs.