

Cornell College
Departmental / Program Assessment Matrix

Department/Program: Department of Theatre

Contact Person: Scott Olinger and Jim VanValen Date: 2/17/2011

MISSION STATEMENT: The Department of Theatre is a community of professional artists, scholars, and students who believe that making theatre and studying theatre enables us to discover possibilities. By exploring such possibilities and investigating choices through the collaborative process, we cultivate imagination and creativity, stimulate curiosity and searching analysis, encourage empathy, and provide some of the insight necessary to illuminate the human condition and tell some of its stories.

Theatre Department Program Goals and Objectives outside of the College Matrix:

1. Recruit quality students who share our passion and liberal arts approach to theatrical education.
2. Engage the community (on-campus and surrounding) through strong dramatic work
3. Re-evaluate our core curriculum by 2013
4. Introduce the community (on-campus and surrounding) to productions that recognize and examine global perspectives.

Cornell College Educational Objectives*	Department/Program Goals/Objectives	Intended Student Outcomes†	Assessment Methods‡	How Information Is Used / Decisions Made
<p>One: Be able to acquire, analyze, interpret, and communicate knowledge; possess skills including, but not limited to, writing, reading comprehension, critical thinking, quantitative reasoning, information literacy, and oral communication;</p>	<p>1. Provide students exposure to classical, contemporary, analytical, and theoretical works pertaining to theatre through production and course work.</p> <p>2. Equip students in the articulation of dramatic criticism and the expression of theatre as an art form.</p>	<p>1. Students should be able to knowledgeably discuss: -- Classical Plays and Canonical Dramatic Literature -- Contemporary Plays and New Works -- Theoretical Works in Theatre</p> <p>2. Students should be able to analyze dramatic works through written assignments, projects, and presentations based upon a particular area of theatrical focus.</p>		

* Refers to the College-wide educational objectives approved by the Faculty during the 2006-07 academic year. These objectives are attached.

† Refers to specific statements of what students should be able to do upon their completion of the program.

‡ Answers the question of “how do we know?” whether / how well students are achieving the intended outcomes. May include indicators of performance, strategies/criteria for evaluating performance, and methods of data collection and analysis (as relevant). In short, what evidence do we have and how did we acquire it?

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<p>Two: Understand the methods and practices of the natural sciences, social sciences, arts, and humanities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ as a result of their experiences with various methods of inquiry, graduates will recognize and apply different disciplinary and interdisciplinary forms of thinking; ▪ as a result of their experiences with a major or concentration, graduates will possess depth of understanding and research skills in at least one method of inquiry; 	<p>1. The department provides opportunities for students to develop skills in designing, acting, directing, researching, writing, analyzing text, etc...</p>	<p>1. Majors will perform, direct, design, and/or write on an advanced level through specific course assignments and departmental production opportunities.</p>		

<p>Three: Possess intercultural knowledge and recognize global perspectives;</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The department encourages empathy and connection with theatrical expressions and stories that span social, historical, and cultural perspectives. 2. The department seeks to encourage students to take on production projects that explore cultural diversity and a broad spectrum of identities. 3. The department seeks to introduce students to theatre professionals, nationally and internationally. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students will recognize the commonality of theatrical expression and oral traditions. 2. Students will analyze and articulate cultural and societal values related through theatrical expression. 		
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<p>Four: Integrate and transfer knowledge and skills from one setting to another;</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The department creates opportunities to apply in-class course work to curricular production work beyond the classroom. 2. By approaching work in the theatre department with a liberal arts mind set, the theatre dept. provides opportunities for students to <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) connect with and respond to the world beyond the theatre b) embrace such other disciplines as education, politics, sociology, psychology, etc and c) integrate other departments in our work 3. The department seeks to educate students in the theatrical world and prepare them for opportunities beyond Cornell College. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students should be able to demonstrate theatrical study through projects and productions both inside and outside of the classroom. 2. Students will demonstrate growth in collaborative skills. 3. Students will examine and reflect upon their own work as young artists and thinkers within the theatre. 4. Students will seek out, examine, create, and define their own individual projects, interests, and theatrical opportunities through independent research and advanced theatre study. 		
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<p>Five: Be cognizant of their responsibility for individual, civic, and social choices</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Engage students in critical examination of social, ethical, and moral issues that make up the human condition. 2. The department provides opportunities to explore and examine the shared interconnection and commonality of the human condition. 3. The department fosters an awareness of civic and social issues with an emphasis on artistic collaboration as modeled by our faculty, nurtured in the classroom, and practiced in our productions. 4. The department seeks to choose material as a means to both entertain and enlighten. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students will articulate and analyze issues generated by theatrical expressions. 2. Through creative work, students will promote discussions of individual, civic, and social responsibilities. 		
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