

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Academic and Student Affairs

AGENDA ITEM: 4 – J (5)

DATE: March 30 – April 1, 2016

SUBJECT: New Program: SDSU Minor in Theatre

South Dakota State University (SDSU) requests authorization to offer a baccalaureate minor in Theater. SDSU currently offers a major in Theatre and a minor in Communication Studies and Theatre. With the approval of this minor and the substantive program modification to the current minor in Communication Studies and Theater, the result would be two distinct minors; one in Communication Studies and the other in Theater. The minor in Theatre is targeted to students majoring in Music Education, Speech Education, and English Education to provide additional employment opportunities to graduates to teach drama in schools. Students will benefit from this minor by acquiring skills in diction, dialogue, speech, and verbal communication, as well as design skills. SDSU expects to graduate 20 students per year with this minor after full implementation.

The proposed curriculum does not require any new courses and consists of 18 credit hours. SDSU is not requesting new resources.

RECOMMENDED ACTION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I move to approve SDSU's proposal for a Minor in Theatre as described in Attachment I.

**South Dakota Board of Regents
New Baccalaureate Degree Minor**

University:	South Dakota State University
Title of Proposed Minor:	Theatre
Degree(s) in which minor may be earned:	Any
Existing related majors or minors:	Theatre (B.S.)
Proposed Implementation (term):	Fall 2016
Proposed CIP Code:	50.0501

University Approval

To the Board and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.



President of the University

January 28, 2016

Date

After approval by the President, a signed copy of the proposal should be transmitted to the Executive Director. Only after Executive Director review should the proposal be posted on the university web site and the Board staff and the other universities notified of the URL.

1. Do you have a major in this area? X Yes No

South Dakota State University (SDSU) is authorized to deliver the Theatre major.

(Note: SDSU is also currently authorized to deliver a minor in Communication Studies and Theatre. The intent of this new minor request is to establish a standalone minor in Theatre. A substantive program modification has also been submitted to change the current Communication Studies and Theatre minor to a distinct minor in Communication Studies. Thus, where there has been one combined minor, with the approval of this new program request and the substantive program modification request, there will be two distinct minors.)

The College of Arts and Sciences is currently studying optimal program alignment to achieve accreditation. A result of this may be restructuring several programs into a School of Performing Arts. The result of this would split the current structure with theatre moving into the School of Performing Arts and Communication Studies remaining in its current department. As Communication Studies and Theatre will become two separate departments, the splitting of the combined minor is required to keep each specialization with its respective department. While the timing and details of the realignment is still being discussed, a tentative goal of fall 2017 has been set.

2. If you do not have a major in this area, explain how the proposed minor relates to your mission.

Not applicable.

South Dakota State University
New Minor: Theatre

3. How will the proposed minor benefit students?

The minor in Theatre will prepare students to advance and integrate theatre knowledge and skills in a variety of areas and may be especially appropriate for students with substantial interest in theatre, but who intend to pursue careers in other fields.

The minor is targeted toward students in related areas who are seeking additional coursework in theatre for application in their careers upon graduation. It is common for students pursuing Music Education, Speech Education, or English Education to take the coursework for a Theatre minor, knowing that it is often this teacher in a secondary education setting that also teaches drama and performance in the schools.

Additionally, the Theatre minor provides a basis in performance, improvisation, creative problem solving and design. These skills are taught as relative to theatre, but can be applied to any field.

Participating in an acting class, for instance, can help students in a number of different areas. The emphasis on diction, dialogue and articulation can help to improve speech patterns, increase clarity in speech and build confidence when speaking. In addition, a student becomes more aware of their body. Movements and gestures that can indicate nervousness or stress can be brought to awareness and strategies to overcome them can be practiced. A student in an acting class is able to better control their body and actions in many different situation. Finally, techniques for body relaxation, mental focus and physical dexterity are crucial to the craft of acting. These techniques can be used and applied to any sort of task that a student might encounter in the future.

Other theatre classes emphasize creativity in solving problems or designing elements of a production. As with any creative art such as music, dance or visual art, theatre helps to encourage a student to think outside of the box in pursuit of solutions to problems. Theatre is a hand built art form. Sets, costumes, props are not bought from a store but built from the ground up. Students are involved in all steps of the process from concept to design to construction to implementation on stage. They have worked with materials and techniques that may have been new to them and have gained confidence in their abilities to be creative planners and problem solvers.

A recent study by the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies and the Arts Education Partnership, with support from the US Department of Education and the National Endowment for the Arts shows that students who participated in arts classes and activities (including performing arts) had higher test scores and higher achievement rates than students without a background in the arts.¹

4. Provide estimated enrollments and completions in the table below and explain how the estimates were developed.

	Fiscal Years*			
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Estimates	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019
Students in the minor (fall)	12	16	20	20

¹ <http://www.nasaa-arts.org/Publications/critical-evidence.pdf>

South Dakota State University
New Minor: Theatre

Completions by graduates	0	8	8	9
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* Do not include current year.

These estimates are based on the number of students in the current Communication Studies and Theatre minor with a focus on theatre. There are 38 students in the CST minor with about a third of those students focused on theatre.

An increase is predicted in the number of students that will complete a minor in Theatre due to increased flexibility in requirements and the recently implemented degree requirement for students in the College of Arts and Sciences to complete a minor.

5. What is the rationale for the curriculum?

The 18 credit curriculum will provide students with a range of theatre studies from areas including performance, production, analysis, and history. The goal of the curriculum is to raise the student's overall level of proficiency and to provide a comprehensive overview of the discipline.

Required classes will target selected areas of knowledge and give students the needed range of study in the areas listed above. Students will be allowed 3 credits to choose an elective relevant to their interests, major, or desire to explore a subject in more detail.

6. Complete the tables below. Explain any exceptions to BOR policy being requested.

A. Distribution of Credit Hours

Theatre	Credit Hours	Percent
Requirements in Minor	15	83.3
Electives in the Minor	3	16.7
Total	18	100%

B. Required Courses in the Minor

Prefix	Number	Course Title	New*	Hours
THEA	100	Introduction to Theatre	N	3
THEA	131	Introduction to Acting	N	3
THEA	241-241L	Stagecraft and Lab	N	3
THEA	243	Make-Up	N	3
THEA	351	Directing	N	3
		Subtotal, required		15

* New: Y= yes, N = no.

C. Elective Courses in the Minor: List courses that may be taken as electives in the minor. Indicate any new courses to be added specifically for the minor.

Select 3 credits from the following courses:

Prefix	Number	Course Title	New*	Hours
THEA	135	Theatre Activities – Acting	N	1
THEA	145	Theatre Activities – Technical	N	1
THEA	240	Stage Costuming	N	3

South Dakota State University
New Minor: Theatre

THEA	250	Play Analysis	N	3
THEA	361	Literature and History of the Theatre I	N	3
THEA	364	Literature and History of the Theatre II	N	3
THEA	375	Theatre Arts Management	N	3
THEA	435	History of American Musical Theatre	N	3
THEA	441	Scene Design	N	3
THEA	443	Costume Design	N	3
THEA	445-445L	Lighting Design and Lab	N	3
THEA	452	Stage Management	N	3
THEA	455	Advanced Acting	N	3
THEA	470	Portfolio and Resume Building	N	3
THEA	480	Summer Theatre	N	1-5

* New: Y= yes, N = no.

7. What outcomes will be expected for all students who complete the minor? How will these outcomes be achieved?

The Theatre Minor will include the following expected student learning outcomes:

- Identify and define theatre vocabulary, major elements/techniques, and technology/equipment for theatre productions.
- Describe the interrelated processes of creation, interpretation, performance, and production.
- Examine works of theatre in historical and stylistic contexts and recognize the cultural milieu in which they were created.
- Apply knowledge using perceptive analysis and critical evaluation.
- Use knowledge and skills in collaborative and individual roles related to theatre interpretation.

The above outcomes will be achieved through coursework, production lab hours, performance and crew opportunities on productions and attendance at theatrical performances. The courses included in the minor have been selected to provide a balance between classroom and experiential learning to maximize the learning opportunities for each student.

8. What instructional technologies will be used to teach courses in the minor? This refers to the instructional technologies used to teach the new courses in the minor and NOT the technology applications students are expected to learn.

There are no new courses that will be taught in the minor. Current instructional technologies will be used. Courses will utilize existing classroom technology, Desire2Learn (D2L), and theatre production equipment and materials to assist in teaching courses.

South Dakota State University
New Minor: Theatre

9. Is the University is requesting authorization to provide the minor to students at an off-campus location or by distance delivery? If yes, explain.

None

10. Costs, Budget & Resources: Explain the amount and source(s) of any one-time and continuing investments in personnel, professional development, release time, instructional technology and software, other O&M, facilities, etc needed to implement the minor.

All courses are currently being taught. No additional resources are needed.

Appendix A
Theatre Minor – Student Learning Outcomes

Individual Student Outcomes	<i>Required Coursework</i>					<i>Elective Coursework</i>																
	THEA 100	THEA 131	THEA 241-241L	THEA 243	THEA 350	THEA 135	THEA 145	THEA 240	THEA 250	THEA 361	THEA 364	THEA 375	THEA 375	THEA 435	THEA 441	THEA 443	THEA 445-445L	THEA 452	THEA 455	THEA 470	TEHA 480	
Students will identify and define theatre vocabulary, major elements/techniques, and technology/equipment for theatre productions.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Students will describe the interrelated processes of creation, interpretation, performance, and production.	X		X	X	X			X				X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	
Students will examine works of theatre in historical and stylistic contexts and recognize the cultural milieu in which they were created.	X								X	X	X			X								
Students will apply knowledge using perceptive analysis and critical evaluation.	X				X				X	X	X			X								
Students will use knowledge and skills in collaborative and individual roles related to theatre interpretation.		X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X		X	X	X	X	X			X