

**New Undergraduate Program (Majors, Minors, Sequences) Proposal  
Illinois State University - University Curriculum Committee**

**Program Department** School of Theatre and Dance

**Initiator** Maggie Marlin-Hess

**Phone** 646-522-2159

**Initiator Department** School of Theatre and Dance

**Coauthor(s)** Janet Wilson (jmwilso4@ilstu.edu), John Tovar (jatovar1@ilstu.edu)

**Title of New Program** Musical Theatre Sequence

**Submission Date** Wednesday, March 24, 2021

**Email** memar11@ilstu.edu

**Campus Address** 5700 School Of Theatre & Dance

**Version** 6 **ID** 319

**Proposed Starting Catalog Year** 2022-2023

**Associated Course Proposal(s):**

New Course proposal THD 120 titled *Musical Theatre Workshop I*

New Course proposal THD 210 titled *Acting II*

New Course proposal THD 241 titled *Musical Theatre Musicianship*

New Course proposal THD 256 titled *Voice and Movement for the Actor I*

New Course proposal THD 329.05 titled *Topics in Stage Movement: Musical Theatre Dance Styles*

New Course proposal THD 336 titled *Musical Theatre Workshop II*

New Course proposal THD 337 titled *Musical Theatre Workshop III*

New Course proposal THD 354 titled *Musical Theatre History*

**1. Proposed Action**

New Major

New Minor

✓ New Sequence

More than 50% of courses in this program are Distance Education

**Sequence Major**

Theatre

**2. Provide Undergraduate Catalog copy for new program.**

**MAJOR IN THEATRE (B.A., B.S.)**

**MUSICAL THEATRE SEQUENCE**

**Minimum required credit hours: 55**

- THE 102 (2 total credit hours)
- THE 103
- THE 104
- THE 110
- THE 120
- THE 210
- THE 237
- THE 241
- THE 256
- THE 314A02
- THE 314A08
- THE 322
- THE 329A05
- THE 336
- THE 337
- THE 354
- MUS 137 (6 credit hours)

**Take 1 of the following:**

- THE 130
- THE 160

**Take 2 (4 credit hours) of the following Dance courses.**

One course (2 credit hours) must be at the 200- or 300-level.

- DAN 105
- DAN 107
- DAN 112
- DAN 119
- DAN 125
- DAN 205
- DAN 207
- DAN 219
- DAN 224
- DAN 228
- DAN 305
- DAN 307
- DAN 319

**Notes:**

Students who are deficient in dance technique or do not make continual progress will have to begin in a lower-level technique course (DAN 104, DAN 106). Promotion to each level is at the discretion of the instructor. Deficiency hours will be in addition to the 55 hours required for this sequence.

**3. Provide a description for the proposed program.**

The proposed Musical Theatre Sequence will train students in the art and craft of acting and allied skills in musical theatre. The curriculum for this sequence will utilize existing courses in acting, dance, and music combined with new courses written specifically for this new sequence. Students will have the opportunity to practice and hone their craft in acting and musical theatre performance through the School of Theatre and Dance production program, with additional support for musicals provided by the School of Music. The capstone project for this sequence is a musical theatre senior recital.

The goals of this program are to:

1. Project one's self truthfully through word, song, and action into the given circumstances of the text.
2. Develop an expressive singing voice possessing great musical freedom supported by the requisite skills in musicianship and music literacy to create clear storytelling through song.
3. Develop a disciplined, flexible, and engaged body through movement and dance training as both an instrument of characterization and to meet the demands of dance style and technique in musical theatre performance.
4. Prepare students to compete successfully in the profession.

**4. Provide a rationale of proposed program.**

This proposed Musical Theatre curriculum aligns with the Strategic Plan for Illinois State University. It fulfills the first strategic direction and objective to "enhance strength and stability" and "ensure strong enrollment and student success." Musical Theatre is one of the most popular forms of theatrical entertainment in the U.S. and around the world drawing audiences for theatre, music, and dance. Musicals generate income to support huge casts of performers, musicians, artistic and production staff, and theatre venue personnel. In most playhouses, the income earned through the musical productions supports the rest of the production season and community outreach programming. Students trained in this integrated three-pronged art form are competitive in a much larger field of professional opportunities including, but not limited to, contracts for Broadway, Off-Broadway, Regional Theatre, National and Regional Tours, Theme Parks, Cruise Ships, Cabarets, Concerts, and Theatre for Young Audiences. With the implementation of this program, we will be able to formally meet the needs and interests of the many students who wish to enter the field of musical theatre. Previously, we would lose students who sought training in musical theatre to other universities or they would have to cobble together their own education through the current offerings in place across the School of Theatre and Dance, and the School of Music. This sequence will attract a greater number of students to apply to ISU, raise the standards of acceptance into our performance sequences in Theatre, Dance, and Music, and provide the professional training necessary to be successful in this widely popular American art form. With the addition of three Musical Theatre Workshop courses, the Musical Theatre History course, and the Musical Theatre Musicianship course, built from our current faculty and using resources already in place, we can offer this sequence and attract more talent to ISU while also supporting our own theatre production season.

This proposed Musical Theatre curriculum also aligns and underscores the seven core values of Illinois State University. In particular, the value of Individualized Attention is interwoven in every facet of the Musical Theatre curriculum from small classes and private voice lessons to the capstone project of a senior recital of musical theatre repertoire. Collaboration is essential in musical theatre performance and students begin to develop their collaborative skill set (deep listening, building on the ideas of others, etc.) from their first semester in the program. There is a separate attachment to this proposal that specifically addresses Diversity and Inclusion in the Musical Theatre curriculum.

**5. Describe the expected effects of the proposed program on existing campus programs (if applicable).**

Through offering this program, we expect to see a significant increase in the number of applicants to the School of Theatre and Dance. This will have a positive impact on our performance programs, thus enabling a more competitive admission process. The integrated nature of this sequence will boost enrollment in theatre, dance, and music course offerings. Furthermore, students training specifically in musical theatre will allow the school to raise the bar of our performance standards in our musical productions and open our season selection process to consider works that are more diverse and more demanding of performers.

**6. Provide a sample four-year plan of study that fulfills the following requirements:** 120 hours, 42 senior college hours (200 and 300 level courses), and 39 General Education Program hours or 36 hours with exemption. If the program is a BS program, show the BS-SMT degree requirement. If the program is from CAS, show Foreign Language Requirement (LAN 111/LAN 112). Confirm General Education requirement exemptions on the General Education page of the current Academic Catalog. *4-year plans are not required for minor program proposals.*

**Total Hours Required for Musical Theatre - 120****First Year****Fall Semester** (16.5 credit hours)

THE 110 (3)

THE 120 (1)

THE 102 (.5)

THE 103 (3)

ENG 101 or COM 110 (3)

General Education course (3)

General Education course (3)

**Spring Semester** (16.5 credit hours)

THE 210 (3)

MUS 137 (2)

DAN Elective (2)

THE 102 (.5)

THE 104 (3)

ENG 101 or COM 110 (3)

General Education course (3)

**Second Year****Fall Semester** (16.5 credit hours)

THE 356 (3)

MUS 137 (2)

THE 241 (3)

DAN elective 200-level (2)

THE 102 (.5)

General Education course (3)

General Education course (3)

**Spring Semester** (14.5 credit hours)

MUS 137 (2)

THE 314A08 (3)

THE 102 (.5)

THE 130 or 160 (3)

General Education course (3)

General Education course (3)

**Third Year****Fall Semester** (14 credit hours)

THE 237 (2)

THE 329A05 (3)

THE 354 (3)

General Education course (3)

LAN 115 or B.S. - SMT (3)

**Spring Semester** (14 credit hours)

THE 336 (2)

THE 314A02 (3)

General Education course (3)

General Education course (3)

University-wide elective (3)

**Fourth Year**

**Fall Semester** (14 credit hours)

THE 322 (3)

Senior University-wide elective (2)

Senior University-wide elective (3)

University-wide elective (3)

AMALI requirement or University-wide elective (3)

**Spring Semester** (14 credit hours)

THE 337 (2)

Senior University-wide elective (3)

Senior University-wide elective (3)

Senior University-wide elective (3)

Senior University-wide elective (3)

**7. Describe the expected curricular changes required, including new courses. If proposals for new courses have also been submitted, please reference those related proposals here:**

This new sequence proposal assumes that separate proposals for revisions to the Acting sequence and new courses associated with the sequence will be approved. Certain courses that previously stated in their prerequisites that they were only open to Acting majors will be edited to include Musical Theatre majors.

The following is a list of new course proposals:

THE 120 Musical Theatre Workshop I

THE 336 Musical Theatre Workshop II

THE 337 Musical Theatre Workshop III

THE 241 Musical Theatre Musicianship

THE 354 Musical Theatre History

THE 329A05 Topics in Stage Movement: Musical Theatre Dance Styles

THE 210 Acting II

THE 256 Voice and Movement I

**8. Anticipated funding needs and source of funds.**

One part-time staff member will be needed to implement this new program. In the fall semester, for Musical Theatre Workshop I, a musical accompanist/pianist will need to be hired for 2 hours per week (32 hours for the semester). By the third spring of enrollment in this program, a musical accompanist/pianist will need to be hired for 6 hours per week (96 hours for the semester) for Musical Theatre Workshop II and Musical Theatre Workshop III. This need for 32 hours in the fall and 96 hours in the spring will be ongoing when the program is fully enrolled. This will be funded from the SOTD Personnel budget.

Note: When the Musical Theatre is fully enrolled with 40 students, the ideal staffing would be to hire a .75 FTE NTT as an in-house Musical Theatre Director/Coach/Accompanist. This hire would teach the Musical Theatre Musicianship course; accompany prospective students when they audition for the sequence; accompany Musical Theatre Workshops I, II, and III; and provide musical direction, coaching, and accompaniment for Musical Theatre auditions and productions. This .75 FTE NTT could teach a course for the School of Music each semester, raising the FTE to 1.0. This .25 would need to come from the SOM NTT budget. This .75 FTE NTT will be requested through Instructional Capacity initially, and then from the PERM NTT bucket as those funds become available.

**9. No Does this program count for teacher education?**

**10. No Is this an Interdisciplinary Studies program?**

**11. The following questions must be answered.**

- Yes** Have you confirmed that Milner Library has sufficient resources for the proposed program?
- No** Are more than 120 hours required to complete a degree with this major?
- No** Beyond General Education, does the major require more than 66 semester hours?
- No** Does this sequence (if in a major) require more than 55 semester hours of major courses?
- No** Does this program stipulate specific general education courses offered in the major department/school as a part of the major requirements only if such courses serve as prerequisites for other courses required by the major?
- No** Is the proposed program intended to be longer than four years (as indicated by the plan of study)?
- Yes** Have letter(s) of concurrence from affected departments/schools been obtained?  
*A departments/school is affected if it has a program with significant overlap or if it teaches a required or elective course in the program.*

**12. Routing and action summary for New Program:****1. School of Theatre and Dance Department Curriculum Committee Chair**

<u>Michael Vetere (website)</u>	<u>Michael Vetere</u>	<u>11/11/2020 8:13:54 PM</u>
Signature	Print	Date

**2. School of Theatre and Dance Department Chair/School Director**

<u>Ann Haugo (website)</u>	<u>Ann Haugo</u>	<u>11/12/2020 9:51:18 AM</u>
Signature	Print	Date

**3. College of Fine Arts College Curriculum Committee Chair**

<u>John Tovar (website)</u>	<u>John Tovar</u>	<u>4/7/2021 2:34:07 PM</u>
Signature	Print	Date

**4. College of Fine Arts College Dean**

<u>Jean Miller (website)</u>	<u>Jean Miller</u>	<u>4/7/2021 3:47:42 PM</u>
Signature	Print	Date

**5. University Curriculum Committee Chair**

<u>Mary Califf (website)</u>	<u>Mary Califf</u>	<u>9/2/2021 8:56:47 AM</u>
Signature	Print	Date

All new programs (majors, minors, sequences) are routed by the U.C.C. to the Academic Senate

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**Comments**
**Comments from Version 1 from Michael Vetere ( Department Curriculum Committee Chair):**

Please review the proposal rational for diversity and inclusion within the syllabus to connect to objectives as well as the rationale for how the course will integrate or teach the socio-cultural inclusion of diverse perspectives per our discussion on 9/11/20.

Connect sequence to university vision, mission, goals.

Streamline the capstone project with course/projects/assignments of other submitted courses.

Add financial implications form when complete

**Comments from Version 2 from Michael Vetere ( Department Curriculum Committee Chair):**

Please add FIF form.

**Comments from Version 3 from Michael Vetere (School of Theatre and Dance Department Curriculum Committee Chair):**

approved

**Comments from Version 3 from Ann Haugo ( Department Chair/School Director):**

Remove "PLEASE NOTE: The "Request for New Program Approval" financial implication form is currently being filtered through the appropriate channels for approval."

**Comments from Version 4 from Michael Vetere (School of Theatre and Dance Department Curriculum Committee Chair):**

approved

**Comments from Version 4 from John Tovar ( College Curriculum Committee Chair):**

Returned for revisions per Initiator's request.

**Comments from Version 5 from Michael Vetere (School of Theatre and Dance Department Curriculum Committee Chair):**

approved

**Comments from Version 5 from John Tovar ( College Curriculum Committee Chair):**

#2 – under the last section of dance classes, the last lists 'DCE 21'. This needs to be changed to represent a real department and a real course #.

**Comments from Version 6 from Michael Vetere (School of Theatre and Dance Department Curriculum Committee Chair):**

approved

