



# THEATRE



Acting

Technical  
Production

Directing  
Stage Management



Main Stage  
and  
Studio Productions



# Communication, Media and Theatre

## Curriculum Overview Undergraduate Program B.A. in Communication, Media and Theatre

### Performance

**Acting 1.** Development through mastery of basic skills. Emphasis on concentration, observation, discipline and self knowledge.

**Acting 2.** Development of Acting Techniques through text analysis, character development, internal and external techniques and objective/subjective interpretation.

**Acting 3.** Development of language, the actor and the text through awareness of rhythms, styles and language patterns.

**Children's Theatre Workshop, Elementary and Middle School.** Workshop designed to cover all aspects of production culminating in performances for elementary school children and middle school children.

**Creative Dramatics.** Development of dramatic skills useful in the class room, serving the needs of students from grades one through twelve.

**Directing.** Principles and techniques of the director's art.

**Ensemble Interpretation.** Theory and practice of oral interpretation by groups; choric readings, reader's theatre, chamber theatre.

**Improvisational Theatre.** Mastering improvisational theatre games for actor training and performance.

**Interpretation of Poetry.** Literary analysis and oral performance of lyric, narrative, and dramatic poetry.

**Interpretation of Prose.** Literary analysis and oral performance of fiction and non-fiction.

**Interpretation of Shakespeare.** Selected pieces emphasizing special performance techniques to illuminate study of the plays.

**Interpretation of Drama.** Literary analysis and performance of plays, emphasizing the solo reader.

**Oral Interpretation of Literature.** Development of intellectual and emotional responsiveness to prose, poetry and drama.

**Playwriting.** Study of dramatic art with writing plays.

**Voice Class.** Improving voice quality, volume, projection etc. for actor or teachers

### Production

**Advanced Stage Craft.** A More complete understanding of backstage work.

**Costume Design.** Provide an overview of the aesthetics, organization and management of a costume team.

**Lighting Design.** Introduction to the role of lighting designer through actual design projects.

**Make-Up.** Provide fundamentals of stage make up for straight and character roles.

**Scenographic Design.** Introduction to the many skills required of the scenic designer through actual projects.

**Stage Craft.** Introduction to all aspects of backstage technical production.

**Stage Management.** Provide an arena to experience and understand the multitudinous duties of a Stage Manager.

**Summer Theatre.** All aspects of theatre production covered: acting, directing,

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## History and Literature

**American Musical Theatre.** *Comprehensive study of the history of Musical Theatre in the United States.*

**American Social Problem Plays.** *Survey of plays in the 20th century that reflect the political atmosphere at the time.*

**Contemporary Theatre.** *Survey of theatre and drama of the 20th century.*

**Conventions of drama.** *Opportunity to study the conventions of drama.*

**History of Theatre 1.** *Study of the history of theatre from its beginnings to the 1600.*

**History of Theatre 2.** *Study of the history of theatre from 1600 to the present.*

**Naturalism & Realism.** *Opportunity to analyze naturalistic/realist plays from the works of Zola to the present.*

**Women Playwrights.** *Opportunity to analyze women playwrights during different political periods in the 20th century.*

## Practical Experience

The Stage Center Theatre allows students to practically apply what they learn in the classroom and the opportunity to constantly work in the area they have chosen. In a normal season there are four main stage productions (full productions) for which student actors audition, student stage managers are needed, and student technical support is imperative. Some productions allow students the opportunity to work with professional actors and directors from the Chicago Theatre scene. There is the Studio Series as well. Depending on the year there will be 2—6 productions. These are black box productions promoting student directors, designers, actors and technicians as well as producers for some seasons.

Students at Northeastern are prepared for the real theatre once they have graduated and are experienced in a variety of fields to allow them a “chance” once they have graduated.

Students studying in Education can use the theatre classes they have taken in their future classrooms, in after school productions assigned by principals, and in their academic fields.

## Curriculum Overview Graduate Program MA in Communication, Media and Theatre

### Theatre Offerings

**Dramatic Theory.** *Analysis of major theories of dramatic writing and dramatic production from Aristotle to Artaud and their influence upon theatre and drama.*

**Comparative Performing Arts.** *Comparison of the various performing arts as well as their translation often from literature.*

**Seminar—Research Problems in Theatre.** *Review of recent scholarship in the performing arts.*

**Seminar—Research Problems in Performance Studies.** *Review of recent scholarship in the interpretative arts.*

**Theatre Management.** *Managerial policies and practices in education, community and professional theatres with emphasis on common problems and solutions.*

**Independent Study.** *Individual investigation into selected topics in methods and materials*

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## Faculty

Anna Antaramian, Professor, M.F.A., New York University (New York City)

Rodney Higginbotham, Associate Professor, M.F.A., Southern Illinois University (Carbondale)

Harold Hild, Professor, Chair, PH.D. Loyola University (Chicago)

David Unumb, Professor, PH.D., Loyola University (Chicago)

## Adjunct Faculty

Jim Blair, MA, Education, Roosevelt University, MA, English, Northeastern Illinois University (Chicago)

Ron Mace, MA, Speech/Performing Arts, Northeastern Illinois University, (Chicago)

Ellen O'Keefe, MA, Northeastern Illinois University (Chicago)

John Rodriguez, M.F.A., Northwestern University (Chicago)

John Ross, MA, Theology, Holy Apostles (CT), MA, Theatre, UIC (Chicago), MA, Dramatic Theory, Harvard (Boston), STM, Sacred Theology, Boston University (Boston)

Nancy Carol Ruby, M.F.A., Theatre Performance, DePaul University (Chicago)

Daniel Wirth, M.F.A., University of California, (San Diego LaJolla)

## Staff

Robert Smith, B.F.A., Illinois Wesleyan University (Bloomington)



Website located at:  
[www.neiu.edu/~stagectr/home.htm](http://www.neiu.edu/~stagectr/home.htm)



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