



**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS**

New Course Request

SDSU	Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences / School of Performing Arts
Institution	Division/Department
Dennis D. Hedge	2/27/2024
Institutional Approval Signature	Date

Section 1. Course Title and Description

Prefix & No.	Course Title	Credits
THEA 325	Playwriting	3

Course Description

An introduction to the essential elements of playwriting and the basics of drama, including story, character, conflict, scene construction, and overall plot formation. Students also consider issues such as drama as metaphor, realities of staging, and production elements.

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

Prefix & No.	Course Title	Pre-Req/Co-Req?
None		

Registration Restrictions

None

Section 2. Review of Course

2.1. Will this be a unique or common course?

Unique Course

Prefix & No.	Course Title	Credits
THEA 250	Play Analysis	3
ENGL 3xx, 4xx	Various Creative Writing courses	3
THEA 401	Performance Theatre Studio	1-3

Provide explanation of differences between proposed course and existing system catalog courses below:

There are no courses in playwriting courses offered at any of the regental institutions. The only course that might be thought of as similar in theatre is THEA 250 Play Analysis. THEA 250 focuses on understanding the structure and dramatic elements of existing scripts. The proposed course, THEA 325 Playwriting, uses the elements of dramatic structure to allow students to write their own, new plays. This course will give students the opportunity to put their ideas on paper and express themselves as playwrights, creating new scripts, and studying the process of playwriting. Creative writing classes are offered in some form at all institutions. These courses focus on telling stories in a narrative or story form, rather than a play script as in playwriting.

THEA 401 Performance Theater Studio lists the following description: "Intensive study of selected areas in theatre practice (acting, directing, dance, design, playwriting, technical production, etc.). Topic varies. May be repeated." This course served as a production lab for students creating and producing staged performances. Each student involved would focus on their specific area – playwrighting, design/tech, directing, etc. Playwrighting is simply a component, not the center of the course.

The school has offered this course as a THEA 492 Topics course on several occasions in the past. It should also be noted that Playwrighting as a Topics course is included in the Professional Writing Minor as an elective course.

Section 3. Other Course Information

3.1. Are there instructional staffing impacts?

No. Schedule Management, explain below: This course will be part of the workload of an existing faculty member. This class has been taught before as a Topics course. The faculty member who taught that will be the same one teaching this and it will be built into their workload just as the Topics course was.

3.2. Existing program(s) in which course will be offered: Theatre (B.A., B.S.)

3.3. Proposed instructional method by university (as defined by AAC Guideline 5.4): E - Seminar

3.4. Proposed delivery method by university (as defined by AAC Guideline 5.5): 001 – Face to Face

3.5. Term change will be effective: fall 2024

3.6. Can students repeat the course for additional credit? Yes, total credit limit: No

3.7. Will grade for this course be limited to S/U (pass/fail)? Yes No

3.8. Will section enrollment be capped? Yes, max per section: 12 No

3.9. Will this course equate (i.e., be considered the same course for degree completion) with any other unique or common courses in the common course system database in Colleague and the Course Inventory Report? Yes No

3.10. Is this prefix approved for your university? Yes No

Section 4. Department and Course Codes (Completed by University Academic Affairs)

4.1. University Department: School of Performing Arts

4.2. Banner Department Code: SPAR

4.3. Proposed CIP Code: 50.0501

Is this a new CIP code for the university? Yes No

**NEW COURSE REQUEST
Supporting Justification for On-Campus Review**

Corey Shelsta	Corey Shelsta	9/6/2023
Request Originator	Signature	Date
David Reynolds	David Reynolds	1/22/2024
Department Chair	Signature	Date
Jason Zimmerman	Jason Zimmerman	1/22/2024
School/College Dean	Signature	Date

1. Provide specific reasons for the proposal of this course and explain how the changes enhance the curriculum.

There are three classes in the School of Performing Arts curriculum that emphasize the reading, analysis, and structure of existing plays: Play Analysis and Theatre History and Literature 1 and 2. The school does not have any class in which students draw on stories from the world around them and personal experiences to create new, written dramatic works. This course will give students the opportunity to put their ideas on paper and express themselves as playwrights, creating new scripts, and studying the process of playwriting. Additionally, this course has been offered as a THEA 492 Topics class in the past and is often requested by students.

2. Note whether this course is: Required Elective

3. In addition to the major/program in which this course is offered, what other majors/programs will be affected by this course?

This course is an elective in the Professional Writing minor.

4. If this will be a dual listed course, indicate how the distinction between the two levels will be made.

N/A

5. Desired section size: 12
6. Provide qualifications of faculty who will teach this course. List name(s), rank(s), and degree(s).
Jim Wood, Professor, MFA
7. Note whether adequate facilities are available and list any special equipment needed for the course.
The school has adequate facilities, and no special equipment is needed.
8. Note whether adequate library and media support are available for the course.
No additional library or media support is required for this course.
9. Will the new course duplicate courses currently being offered on this campus? Yes No
10. If this course may be offered for variable credit, explain how the amount of credit at each offering is to be determined.
N/A