New Requestor: Michael Phillips
Submitted: 2020-09-07 13:43:08
Submitting as: Faculty Member or APA

Request for: Program
Level Undergraduate
Type of Request: New (course, program, focus/concentration, or temporary course)
Will this be offered within an existing division or department? Yes
Type of program Concentration
Division Creative Arts
Department/Program Theatre/Dance
Is this curricular change driven by assessment data you have collected? Yes

Summary/Rationale for proposal

The Theatre Program is proposing a new degree concentration—a four-year Bachelor of Fine Arts professional degree concentration in Theatre Education that grants initial licensure. There are only twelve such programs in the United States and one on the West Coast. The Theatre department can offer this new concentration with no additional resources, faculty, space or supplies. We anticipate that it will net between 15-30 new students annually (or more) based on regional and national demand and the results of initiating a similar degree offering in WOU’s Music department.

There are 58 degree programs in the United States that offer an undergraduate degree concentration in Theatre Education, and only a handful of them offer four-year degree plans that confer licensure to teach in secondary education. There are only five undergraduate degree concentrations on the entire West Coast, only three of which are in the PNW (none in Oregon). None of those programs offer the four-year licensure and only one of them offers a B.F.A. This concentration would be a stand-alone program in the PNW/West Coast and highly sought after.

There are only 12 B.F.A. pre-professional programs (of the 58 noted above) in Theatre Education in the U.S. All programs researched take healthy cohorts annually (15-30) and consistently run at capacity in terms of enrollment.

Here is a comprehensive list of programs that offer undergraduate degrees in Theatre Education in the United States, as outlined in Theatre Trip Research: https://www.theatretrip.com/theatre-education-programs/#UGUSA

Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science (BA/BS) in Theatre Education in U.S.:

- 46 BA/BS Programs Nationally
- Only two in Pacific Northwest
  - Seattle Pacific University—Washington (fifth year required for licensure)
  - Western Washington University (fifth year required for licensure)

Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Theatre Education:

- Only 12 programs in the United States
- Only one in Pacific Northwest or West Coast:
  - Central Washington University (fifth year required for licensure)

Western Oregon University already attracts many students who earn an undergraduate Theatre degree on our campus and go on to pursue teacher licensure in Theatre during a fifth year (often at other institutions). Given that WOU is currently one of only two institutions offering the BFA Theatre degree in the state of Oregon, we are uniquely positioned to be the only program in both Oregon and on the West Coast to offer students this rigorous professional curriculum which leads directly to teacher certification in only four years. We believe this program will attract students not only from Oregon, but from all over the West Coast and nationally.

With potential approval during the 2020/2021 academic year, we anticipate accepting the first cohort into the program in Fall of 2021.

THEATRE EDUCATION DATA

The Theatre Department proposes to add a four-year professional degree track in Theatre Education that grants initial licensure. The following research was compiled to support the department’s position that this track is a more effective way to prepare students for initial certification, and to demonstrate that there is a need for licensed Theatre educators in the region and in the country. Although it is not possible to find specific data for the State of Oregon for Theatre Education in the Oregon DLLR (2017) and Federal Bureau of
Labor Statistics (FBLS), their statistics for all P-12 education provides evidence for the potential of 2,364 (338 per annum) new and additional positions between 2017 and 2024 in occupations for which the BFA in Theatre: Theatre Education prepares students (Art, Music & Drama Teachers (SOC 25-1121). This has been cross-referenced with the SOC codes (25-2021, 25-2022, 25-2031) provided by the FBLS. Moreover, based on the extant data provided in the DLLR report, the State of Oregon shows a stronger job market than the national average in K-12 education.

Additionally, there is a need for more Theatre teachers P-12 across the United States. According to data collected as part of the 2016 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) 84% of schools participating had at least one or more full-time Theatre education specialist(s), leaving another 16% of P-12 schools with no Theatre educator. The proposed program would help to train these professional educators to fill these positions, serving the needs of students, communities, the state, and the region.

Occupation: Elementary School Teachers; Middle School Teachers; Secondary School Teachers

CIP Code 13.0101 - 13.1299
2017 - 12,105; 5,112; 9,462
2024 Change 13,160; 1,055; 5,525
413 10,358 896
% Change 8.6%; 8.1%; 9.5%
% Change 7.5%; 7.5%; 7.5%

Oregon DLLR Occupation Projections

Occupation: Elementary School Teachers; Middle School Teachers; Secondary School Teachers

2016 1,410,900; 630,300; 1,018,700
2026 1,515,900; 677,700; 1,095,500
Change 19,700; 47,300; 76,800

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Projections

Program this concentration/focus is part of
Title of new program, requirement, focus, or concentration Theatre Education Concentration
Description

PRE-EDUCATION CORE CLASSES - Middle level/high school teaching majors are required to have successfully completed each of the following before entry into the professional core:

ED 200 Foundations of Education Credits: 3
ED 233 Applied Adolescent Learning & Development Credits: 3
ED 259 Special Education & Inclusive Communities Credits: 3
ED 373 Introduction to Curriculum and Assessment Credits: 3

THEATRE COURSES

TA 220 Production Participation Credits: 0 (take 4 times)
TA 221 Directing Practicum Credits: 0 (take 2 times)
TA 222 Foundations Workshops Credits: 0 (take 4 times)
TA 234 Stage Management Credits: 3
TA 255 Movement I Credits: 2
TA 271 Acting II Credits: 4
TA 290 Voice I Credits: 2
TA 305 Speech II Credits: 2
TA 343 Costume Design Credits: 4
TA 346 Scenic Design Credits: 4
TA 348 Lighting Design Credits: 4
TA 405 Acting Shakespeare Credits: 4
TA 457 Directing II Credits: 3
Choose One:
D 102 Beginning Jazz Dance Credits 3
D 103 Beginning Tap Dance Credits 3

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION CORE
ED 404 Clinical Experience Seminar I Credits: 2
ED 405 Clinical Experience Seminar II Credits: 2
ED 411 Clinical Experience I Credits: 3
ED 412 Clinical Experience II Credits: 3
ED 418 Assessment, Planning and Instruction Credits: 3
ED 421 Technology Integration Credits: 3
ED 429 Professional Development Seminar III Credits: 2
ED 434 Content Pedagogy I Credits: 3
ED 436 Content Pedagogy II Credits: 3
ED 444 Content Literacy Credits: 3
ED 446 Environments for Diverse Learners Credits: 3
ED 450 Methods for Classroom Management Credits: 3
ED 481 Introduction to ESOL and Bilingual Education Credits: 3
ED 498 Clinical Experience III Credits: 10

TOTAL CREDITS: 93

Catalog ID:
Programs affected/consulted

This new concentration affects the Theatre program and the School of Education. From the School of Education, we have been consulting with Marie LeJeune and Dean Mark Girod. While Professor LeJeune has taken the lead in the discussions, we began consulting with both she and Dean Girod at the beginning of Spring term 2020, and worked with them during Summer 2020 in preparation for this submission. We have received invaluable advice from both as we have developed the curriculum, and have
consulted with them at every step of the process.

Faculty and Facilities Needed (for Dean review only)

This new concentration will require no new faculty or facilities to administer.

How and when will the effectiveness of this program be determined? (For Dean Review only)

Supporting Documents

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**Related Courses:**

No related courses found

Department head/Program coordinator decision:

✔ Yes by Scott Grim (2020-09-09 17:15:53)

Comments:

Division chair decision:

✔ Yes by David Janoviak (2020-09-09 17:30:47)

Comments:

Division curriculum chair decision:

✔ Yes by Jodie Garrison (2020-09-10 02:35:45)

Comments:

Curriculum Committee Decision:

✔ Yes by Laurie Burton (2020-09-22 17:10:18)

Comments:

Senate Decision: Pending:

Sent to Leigh Graziano (grazianol@wou.edu), on: 2020-09-22 17:10:18

LAS Dean Decision: Pending: Kathy Cassity (cassityk@wou.edu),

Provost/VPAA Decision: Pending: Rob Winningham (winninr@wou.edu),

Entered into appropriate systems by registrar’s office: Pending: Amy Clark (clarkaj@wou.edu),

Entered into catalog: Pending: Susan Hays (hayss@wou.edu),