

THE NORWALK CONSERVATORY OF THE ARTS



2024 - 2025 Catalog

Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts

Director of Admissions

69 Wall Street

Norwalk, CT 06850

admissions@thenorwalkconservatory.org

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY POLICY

Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts is committed to providing equal education and employment opportunities for all qualified persons without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, ancestry, sexual orientation, disability, or any legally protected classification.

Inquiries may be directed to:
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Director of Admissions
69 Wall Street
Norwalk, CT 06850
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ANTI-DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT POLICY

The Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts admits students of any race, color, national, and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at The Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and school-administered programs.

RIGHT TO REVISE

The provisions of this catalog are not to be constructed as an irrevocable contract between the students and the Institution. This catalog attempts to present information about the Institution for the 2023-2024 academic year as accurately and completely as possible. However, for educational and financial reasons, the Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts reserves the right to change at any time any of the provisions, statements, policies, curricula, procedures, regulations, and fees. Any changes will be duly published in the online catalog and informed by the Provost.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

THE NORWALK CONSERVATORY OF THE ARTS

The Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts is a new college conservatory designed to challenge and prepare students with the skills and tools needed for a career in the performing arts. The Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts offers undergraduate degrees in three major areas including Musical Theatre Performance, Musical Theatre Dance Performance, and Television / Film Performance.

HISTORY OF THE NORWALK CONSERVATORY OF THE ARTS

The Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts was founded in 2018 by industry creatives to develop a college that was equal parts training and opportunity. A conservatory comprises a faculty of the greatest artists currently working in theatre and television. A suburban campus in the backyard of the biggest theatre city in the world. A place where the artists of today can train, audition for professional work, and grow simultaneously. The conservatory built The LINK Program which developed into the full two-year college conservatory that comprises NoCo today. With many LINK alumni working on Broadway and on Television, a faculty of the most pivotal artists, proximity to New York City, small class sizes, and a curriculum built for today's industry, The Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts is a wonderful place to learn and grow.

MISSION OF THE INSTITUTION

The Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts provides exemplary arts education to aspiring professional students, makes a positive impact in the local community of arts, and creates connections in the music, theatre, and film world that will last a lifetime.

THE CAMPUS

The Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts is an urban campus located in downtown Norwalk. The neighborhood is rapidly changing with a 12 million dollar City/State renovation of the neighborhood which began in the fall of 2023.

There are six buildings on campus used for classes depending on the student's elected program/major. They are referred to as The Flagship, The Underground, The Vault, The Theatre, GCA, and The Spot. All buildings abide by all local, state, and federal laws in regard to fire, safety, and health. The Fire Marshall has toured and approved all spaces. All buildings are accessible by key card access. Students, faculty, and administrations are the only individuals containing key cards with the exception of the Fire Department and EMS Services in conjunction with Norwalk Hospital. All buildings have full HVAC heating and cooling. All buildings are inspected in full accordance with the law by all regulatory bodies. Equipment is inspected annually.

The Dormitories are located at 102 East Ave., Norwalk, CT 06851. NoCo dorms are only accessible to students and student advisory staff members. The dormitories are approximately a ten-minute walk from our Flagship building and the first floor is fully handicap accessible. Dormitories meet all requirements of the fire and health department.

NORWALK CONSERVATORY OF THE ARTS TRADITIONS

Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts is set to build traditions and foster community. All of our majors are focused on the performing arts and we seek to grow opportunity, comradery, and connection through the following. We previously held summer intensives and are proud to continue these traditions from these programs.

All students travel to New York City at least once a year to see a Broadway performance as a collective whole. We typically look at performances with at least one alumni or more in the production. We set up talk-backs with these alumni. Our alumni from the LINK program and now current conservatory majors, serve as both mentors and peers to our current students.

The Conservatory produces a large-scale Immersive Haunted House in conjunction with The SoNo Collection annually. The event attracts thousands of local residents and tourists from across the tri-state area. All students are able to audition for roles within the immersive experience. The theme and script for this particular production change annually. All students are encouraged to assist in building scripts, make-up plots, sets, props, costumes, and more with a Faculty Advisor. The event builds a comradery experience across all majors in the institution and the community.

All students are able to utilize the Magnolia Room at BJ Ryans for cabaret performances and open mic nights. BJ Ryans is located right on the NoCo campus and offers a restaurant and stage for performances. Students can perform a song, a monologue, recite poetry, or even debut a new piece for their peers and for the public in a casual and supportive atmosphere. The performance opportunity is not linked to any course but provides an outlet for creative expression and community building.

ACCREDITATION

Currently, the Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts holds institutional licensure and programmatic licensure from The Connecticut Office of Higher Education, effective November 06, 2023.

The Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts is applying for accreditation with the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST). NAST establishes national standards for theatre and theatre-related disciplines and works to provide assistance to both institutions and individuals. For more information on NAST, visit <https://nast.arts-accredit.org>.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The LINK program is the predecessor to the Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts. The program was created in 2018 and existed as an opportunity for college students to supplement their training and work with

pivotal industry artists in their chosen field of study. The Conservatory hosts annual alumni events with The LINK Program to connect alums to one another and foster a greater sense of community and network. The conservatory has established a mentorship program to connect current students to alumni working in their field to gain a better understanding and deeper knowledge of the industry as a whole.

Social media pages are frequently updated with alumni success stories. We celebrate our alumni and work to help highlight their success in the community and our internal network.

ADMISSION TO THE COLLEGE

The Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts operates on a rolling admissions basis. Admission decisions are typically issued within weeks of your audition date. On top of the application, all students must audition for their desired major

Students can begin by submitting their application through the official website. At this time, the institution does not accept the Common Application. Students must receive a high school diploma or equivalent prior to the first day of classes of their intended year.

The Norwalk Conservatory offers virtual auditions as well as live auditions in a number of cities nationwide. Once you have submitted your application an admissions representative will reach out to schedule your audition. A list of audition requirements will be sent via email. We do not hold prescreens, we believe all students should have the right to audition live in person or onscreen. All on-site audition locations are listed on the official website.

Throughout the audition process, based on the desired major, students can be expected to perform a monologue, contrasting musical theatre songs, and/or a musical theatre jazz dance combination. In addition, a headshot, resume, and an essay (400 words minimum) are also required.

An official transcript from the student's high school may be sent to admissions@thenorwalkconservatory.com or attached to your application.

An admissions letter will be sent out after the full application has been received and completed. Within an acceptance letter, students can find the steps they need to take to secure their spot for the coming school year.

ADA COMPLIANCE

The Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts is dedicated to the education and advancement of all of its students including those with disabilities. Many of the Conservatory's buildings are ADA compliant and we are presently working to make all facilities fully ADA compliant. Prior to the start of the semester, students will be offered the option to self-identify any disabilities with our in-house counselor to begin making arrangements for ADA accommodations for building accessibility and equal access to learning.

If a student has a mobility issue, we will use The Underground and The Spot as temporary classroom spaces, both are fully ADA-compliant. Students with mental health concerns will have access to a counselor on staff. If a student is deaf or blind, we have assisted listening systems (ALS) available to accommodate their disability. We have clear signage in all facilities. If a student is blind or visually impaired, all spaces allow for guide dogs and the use of mobility canes. Students with learning disabilities will have the opportunity to work with specialized tutors. If we have any student enrolled with any disability, our administration and faculty will be required to take a course in assisting and instructing those with disabilities.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

At this time, the Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts does not accept international students. All students must be United States citizens.

TRANSFERRING CREDITS TO THE NORWALK CONSERVATORY OF THE ARTS

Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts Credit for Prior Learning Policy

Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts recognizes the value of prior learning experiences and is committed to providing a fair and rigorous assessment process for students seeking credit for such learning. Our institution adheres to the guidelines set forth by the Board and the Department of Higher Education to ensure transparency, consistency, and academic integrity in the assessment of prior learning.

Transfer Credit from Accredited Institutions:

Students who have completed relevant coursework at institutions of higher learning accredited by the Board or a regional accrediting association and reputable international institutions may be eligible for transfer credit. Assessment methods may include the review of student transcripts, course descriptions, syllabi, learning outcomes, credit hours earned, and supplemental educational materials used during the student's time of study at their prior accredited institutions. Courses with a grade of C- or higher are generally transferable, and Pass/Fail courses will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Credit for Studies from Non-Accredited Institutions:

For studies completed at non-accredited colleges, students will not be able to receive credit.

Credit for Prior Experiential Learning:

Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts employs various acceptable methods of assessment, including standardized tests, nationally recognized credit evaluations, individualized written or oral tests administered by qualified faculty, and portfolio reviews. Portfolio reviews, as outlined in subsection (b)(2) of Section 10a-34-16, will be conducted with the following provisions:

Written procedures for portfolio development and assessment.

Adequate support for portfolio development, such as credit courses or non-credit workshops.
 Assessment by a minimum of two qualified faculty members.
 Verification that learning is equivalent in level and nature to approved college programs.

Credit Limits and Recordkeeping:

Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts adheres to the regulation that no more than 50 percent of the credits required for a degree will be awarded for prior experiential learning. Comprehensive records of evaluations and credit decisions will be maintained, specifying the experience for which credit was awarded, the assessment decision, and the credit numbers earned. All records will be kept confidential, within our chosen student information system. Credits earned through transfer will be designated as such on all Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts transcripts.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION (TUITION AND FEES)

The program will hold an annual tuition of approximately \$39,190 USD. Scholarships will be granted within the institution to exceptional students. Each attending student will be considered FULL-TIME. There is a nonrefundable advance deposit as a sign of firm intent to attend the Institution. No refunds shall be granted unless approved unanimously by the Director, President, Secretary, and Treasurer of the program.

Students may pay in full for the entirety of the program as they wish. NO financial aid will be provided through the institution and therefore, all loans acquired by attending students must be through private lenders. After completion of accreditation, the institution will work with state and federal agencies to provide financial assistance for students. Payment and the fees associated will be decided and agreed upon by the Acting CFO and Office of Admissions on a case-by-case basis. Policies will be upheld contractually as set by the Institution.

Each student will hold a record within the Office of Financial Aid, located on the property, where payments will be marked appropriately and will be available to students, parents, or other legal entities if needed. These records will clearly indicate dates of payments, late payments, associated fees, and all other charges based on the usage of resources within company property.

The 2024 - 2025 Tuition breakdown is as follows:

FALL 2024: 2-Year Musical Theatre Performance	\$19,595 USD per semester
FALL 2024: 2-Year Television & Film Performance	\$19,595 USD per semester
FALL 2024: 2-Year Musical Theatre Dance Performance	\$19,595 USD per semester
SPRING 2025: 2-Year Musical Theatre Performance	\$19,595 USD per semester
SPRING 2025: 2-Year Musical Theatre Dance Performance	\$19,595 USD per semester
SPRING 2025: 2-Year Television & Film Performance	\$19,595 USD per semester

ROOM AND BOARD

Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts offers housing on campus, within a 10-minute walking distance of all campus buildings in East Norwalk. All out-of-state students are required to reside in the on-campus dormitories. In-state students who opt out of dormitories must reside with a parent or guardian. With a grocery store and a train station on campus, students never have to travel far for anything. There are dozens of restaurants, shops, movie theaters, The SoNo Collection - a brand new state-of-the-art mall, and the coolest aquarium in New England. Housing is in single, double, triple, or quad occupancy. The Office of Student Affairs is responsible for creating an integrated learning experience that supports students in reaching their professional and personal goals.

The rates below do not include food and/or beverages. The Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts does not have a traditional cafeteria. We operate a dining dollars program where students and/or parents/guardians may add funds to their student account. Students may spend those funds at a number of local restaurants offering student meals at a discounted rate. Dining dollars can be used for breakfast, lunch, dinner, or snacks. Options for students with all dietary restrictions are available. Participating in the Dining Dollars program is voluntary, there is no minimum funding requirement.

The Room and Board breakdown is as follows, as of March 2023:

Housing Reservation Deposit *	\$1,000 USD
Housing	\$6,440 USD per semester
Returned Check Charge	\$50 USD

*A non-refundable deposit that is applied against the balance.

STUDENT CENTRAL: FINANCIAL AID

The Conservatory's Office of Financial Aid is committed to helping students and parents navigate the management of the cost of a Conservatory education. Financial counseling services are available to students and families. The Office of Financial Aid can help you understand how to apply for loans and assistance.

If you would like to talk to the Office of Financial Aid we are open and available Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m EST. Phone calls can be made at 203-343-0386 or financialaid@thenorwalkconservatory.org

Refund dates are as follows:

Before August 1st for Fall term/Before January 1st for Spring term: 75% refund

After August 1st for the Fall term/After January 1st for the Spring term: No refunds

No refunds will be offered for housing fees.

Student payment notification is distributed through invoice by electronic mail and student payments are processed and recorded using Quickbooks software. The institution accepts payment through ACH (bank transfer), by check, and by credit card. If paying with a credit card, the payee will incur a 3% charge. The additional charge will be communicated to them prior to payment through electronic mail as well as being listed on the invoice incurred. Any returned payments will incur a fee of \$50.00 USD.

Adding / Dropping a Course:

All schedule changes must be made within the first week of classes. Students must attend the first scheduled class right after adding a course, or they may lose the right to be enrolled in the course. A student may drop a course within two weeks. After this time frame, a student will receive a W.

Code of Conduct

All Norwalk Conservatory students must adhere to the Code of Conduct at all times. The Norwalk Conservatory has set forth reasonable expectations in terms of behavior and expectations. A student enrolling in The Norwalk Conservatory assumes a responsibility to conduct him/herself/themselves in a manner compatible with The Norwalk Conservatory's function as an educational institution. The student is expected to respect and abide by local ordinances, and state and federal statutes, both on and off campus all stated in the Student Handbook.

The Norwalk Conservatory reserves the right to take necessary and appropriate action to protect the safety and well-being of the campus community. Students are responsible for their behaviors on and off campus and are expected to abide by the Code of Conduct, as well as all The Norwalk Conservatory policies and procedures at all times. Students are obligated to notify the proper officials at the Office of Student Affairs of any behavior that occurs off campus that violates local/federal law and/or The Norwalk Conservatory policies including being documented on another institution's campus. The Norwalk Conservatory reserves the right to modify or change the Code of Conduct at any time.

STUDENT CENTRAL: GRADE BREAKDOWN

Letter Grade	Percentage %	Quality Points
A	93 - 100	4.00 (Excellent)
A-	90 - <93	3.67 (Excellent)

B+	87 - <90	3.33 (Good)
B	83 - <87	3.00 (Good)
B-	80 - <83	2.67 (Good)
C+	77 - <80	2.33 (Fair)
C	73 - <77	2.00 (Fair)
C-	70 - <73	1.67 (Fair)
D	60 - <70	1.00 (Poor)
F	<60	0.00 (Failure)
P	<p>Pass</p> <p>To be counted toward the degree requirement and indicated the student received a “C” or higher on a Pass/Fail basis. This is not averaged into the student’s cumulative GPA</p>	0.00
W	<p>Withdrawal</p> <p>If a student chooses to drop a class after the first two weeks of class, they receive a W. This will not be counted toward the degree requirement nor toward the student’s cumulative GPA.</p>	0.00

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

All applicants will be considered for merit-based, institutional scholarships as part of our admissions process. There is no additional application or documentation needed for institutional scholarship consideration. Institutional scholarships are funded by grants, private donations, and fundraising efforts through the Conservatory. When students receive their acceptance letter, they also receive notification of their talent/merit and needs-based scholarships. Talent-based scholarships are awarded based on the applicant’s audition. Students are offered the opportunity to request additional scholarships and can complete a needs-based application to help us identify those who require additional financial assistance.

STUDENT LIFE

All Norwalk Conservatory students are encouraged to explore Norwalk, Connecticut. The SoNo

Collection is a spectacular shopping, dining, art, and entertainment destination in Norwalk, Connecticut. Less than a mile from campus, students can visit their favorite restaurants and retailers. The institution has partnered with many restaurants with student discounts. Pinstripes, located in SoNo Collection, includes a variety of entertainment such as bowling and bocce.

All students are granted access to the beach, just miles from campus. Students are available to take a step away from campus life and enjoy a relaxing day by the water.

The Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk is just South of the SoNo Collection. Featuring over 7,000 animals, Norwalk Conservatory students can learn more about marine life and aquatics.

The World's Largest Dairy Store and renowned grocery store, Stew Leonards is located in Norwalk, CT. The local family-owned business is a staple in the heart of the community.

Within the institution, there are many out-of-class opportunities. Content creation is explored in the Television Pilot Mainstage. Students will work in a collaborative setting to write, stage, act, and produce a new Television Pilot. Live theatre can be found in an immersive environment throughout the Mainstage Dance and Musical productions. Students will enhance their in-class skills by working directly with industry professionals.

As Norwalk Conservatory grows, elective clubs and classes will expand. Within the first year of the institution opening, students will expect to select electives such as Drag Performance (Gender Identity and Exploration, creative performance outlet, design, and more), Guitar, and Audio Engineering. Faculty Advisors will be present at some meetings and will serve as a mentor and guide.

The Norwalk Transit District provides ample transportation services including local bus, shuttle, and train commuter services in Norwalk, Westport, and Greenwich and regional bus connections to Danbury, Stamford, Bridgeport, and Milford. MTA offers train services to and from Grand Central Station, New York City. The train schedules are posted on the MTA website.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Tutoring services are available free of charge. Peer tutoring will be delegated by Department Heads. Open office hours are available by appointment for students to meet one-on-one with faculty. The Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts has a strong relationship with Circle Care Center (618 West Ave, Norwalk, CT 06850) who offer stigma-free health services. Eligibility for an Assistance Animal is determined on a case-by-case basis upon review of required documentation. Please contact the Office of Housing and Student Affairs for assistance.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS: INFORMATION AND REGULATIONS

At Norwalk Conservatory, the academic year begins with the first day of the fall term and concludes with the last day of the spring semester. In accordance with federal policy, Norwalk Conservatory defines a credit hour as an amount of work represented in the achievement of intended learning outcomes. The Norwalk Conservatory uses the term "credit hour" in describing a course, but awards credits for that course solely on the basis of classroom time without any expectation of student work outside of the classroom. For example, the institution awards 2 credit hours for a course that meets 2 hours per week over a semester. This information is published in the student handbook. The 2-year degree program requires 60 weeks (two 15-week sessions) of dedicated training and full-time study for a minimum total of 100 credit hours for degree attainment. The student's major is their officially declared program of study. All students are advised by a faculty member within their department to help students understand the course requirements.

To be in academic good standing, a student must attain a 2.00 or higher cumulative grade point average. A prerequisite is a condition that must be met before a student is allowed to enroll in a particular course. All prerequisite courses are listed in the section of this catalog containing course descriptions. Only the program director may waive prerequisites. See the grading system in more detail on page 8.

ABSENCE POLICY

Regular class attendance is expected here at The Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts, and excessive absence, regardless of reason, may disqualify a student for course credit. Excessive Absence is defined as four or more classes missed, without permission between the instructor and student throughout the semester. If a student misses three classes in a row without permission, they will be required to meet with our on-site counseling team to provide solutions for attendance and academic achievement. Attendance will be taken each class by your instructors. An attendance requirement is stated on the syllabus.

For scheduled absences, students must get permission from their instructor as well as their Department Head prior to the absence. Students are responsible for making up any missed assignments or assessments.

Auditions

Students MUST request permission to miss class for auditions outside of NoCo. The Student Audition Absence Request form must be completed and signed by your department head. These forms can be found on the homepage of the website under 'student forms'.

If permission is denied, any absence still taken will be considered unexcused for the specified audition. Students are expected to make up any missed coursework and have obtained permission from their department chair as required. Missing class the day before or the day after the audition is not permitted. Similarly, if you have an audition in the afternoon, your absence will not be excused for the morning.

Scheduling a counseling session during a class time is not approved, and will count as an unauthorized absence.

Bereavement Leave

In the event of the death of a student's immediate family member (father, mother, husband, wife, child, brother, or sister) the student will be permitted to take leave for up to three class days. Longer absences must be approved by the student's Department Head.

Medical Leave

A medical leave of absence permits students to take a break from their studies at any point in a term, regardless of their academic standing, so that they may address any medical concerns. Students are responsible for communicating any medical leave with their Department Head as well as the Provost. After their leave, students can return to The Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts to pursue their educational goals.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

Academic dishonesty is unacceptable and not tolerated at The Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts. The institution regards academic dishonesty including plagiarism and cheating as serious matters and will be dealt with accordingly in regards to sanctions and potential expulsion from the Conservatory. Any faculty member who has evidence a student has committed academic dishonesty must schedule a meeting with the student in a confidential and private setting within (2) days of finding the evidence of the offense. The student will have the opportunity in this meeting to respond to the allegation.

Academic honesty is expected in all class-related activities. Students are expected to complete their educational endeavors while maintaining the academic standards of honesty and rigor in research without cheating or engaging in plagiarism. The Norwalk Conservatory provides small classes to ensure there is a high level of student and faculty engagement. Students are expected at all times to attend class. Faculty keep attendance records and report excessive absence and behavior. Each instructor will elect their own absence policy, which will be approved by the Department Head.

The evaluation process, therefore, is designed to provide feedback and information for the improvement of academic performance, to reward good instruction, and to provide data to administrators for curricular and personnel planning. Evaluations will be the primary source of information/feedback for recommendations for the improvement of instruction. Records of all evaluations will be held in the Office of the Provost. Faculty members have the right to review their files. Semester evaluations are due by February 1st for the Fall Semester and July 1st for the Spring Semester. Annual evaluations are due July 1st.

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Our General Education requirements fulfill our students' interests and the need for knowledge and integrated learning across several disciplines to ensure well-rounded educational offerings and programs. Our programs maintain a base requirement of 25 credit hours per semester. Our General Education courses consist of 10 credit hours per semester. All are required courses. We believe a well-rounded curriculum benefits all students. They include:

History Requirement:

History of Television/Film

This course provides an introductory television and film history, covering the birth of film from photography in the 1890s and initial silent films to the implementation of sound in film in the 1920s. We will continue to explore shifts in television and films both in production and style and the influence of society, politics, and culture. From musical films and the golden years of Hollywood through films during the Second World War. Students will develop a deep appreciation of film and its history. We will further explore film styles including narrative, documentary, episodic, short form, and other more experimental forms. We will analyze the point of view, the directors, cinematographers, and actors' artistic choices and use actual scripts from historical television and films to analyze, study, perform, and film.

Social Studies Requirement:

Entrepreneurship

Entrepreneurship offers aspiring artists a unique opportunity to explore the business side of the musical theatre and television/film industries. This dynamic course is designed to equip students with the essential skills and knowledge needed to succeed as entrepreneurial artists in today's competitive landscape. Through case studies, guest lectures, and hands-on projects, students will learn how to identify opportunities, develop creative ventures, and effectively navigate the complexities of the entertainment industry. Topics covered include creative project management, marketing and self-branding strategies, fundraising and financing models, intellectual property rights, and digital media distribution. With a focus on innovation, resilience, and strategic planning, this course empowers students to forge their own paths as creative entrepreneurs while gaining practical insights into the ever-evolving world of entertainment.

Ethics 1

This course is an examination of some topics in moral philosophy. Several moral issues will be discussed, including: Is there a moral difference between killing and letting someone die? What is acceptable in the treatment of animals? Can cheating be justified? We will also discuss many general issues about morality, like what makes an action right or wrong, and to what extent is this a matter of the action's consequences? When is an agent morally responsible for their actions? Is there a single true morality, or is moral truth relative to cultures or individuals?

Psychology 1

Psychology 1 provides an overview of the scientific study of human behavior including motivation, emotion, and development. The course focuses on the active understanding of brain

functions and behavior. This course will examine what it means to be human and how we have emerged through behavior and the mental process. Students will explore the characterization of a role and how motivation and emotion affect action. Psychology 1 introduces a growth mindset based on continuous learning, flexibility, and freedom of choice as a foundation for personal resilience and empowerment. This course explores limiting thoughts, emotions, and paradigms that may interfere with the development of that mindset. Learners will examine components of emotional intelligence including self-awareness, social awareness, self-management, and relationship management, and how they relate to responsible decision-making. The course provides opportunities for exploring, applying, critically analyzing, and challenging concepts, theories, principles, and evidence-based practices through experiential activities and self-reflection in a safe and supportive environment.

Business Skills 1

Business Skills 1 offers an overview of the pillars of business including marketing, operations, accounting, finance, management, and human resources. We will focus on the business of the performing arts and all roles within the sector including production companies, creatives, and performers. We will further explore branding, communication, and proper business materials for those pursuing a career in the performing arts.

Business Skills 2

Business Skills 1 is a prerequisite to this course. Business Skills 2 offers an overview of the pillars of business including marketing, operations, accounting, finance, management, and human resources. This course continuation will focus on the business of the performing arts and all roles within the sector including production companies, creatives, and performers. We will further explore branding, communication, and proper business materials for those pursuing a career in the performing arts.

Humanities Requirement:

Music Theory 1

This introductory music theory course covers both the fundamentals of theory and techniques to apply this theoretical knowledge in real situations. Through the learning of scales, intervals, chord structures and sequences, rhythms, and musical notation, students will increase their ability to 'sight-sing' (singing musical notation they have no prior knowledge of). By applying this same knowledge to the piano keyboard, students of all skill levels will be able to perform songs and play simple melodies. The skills that students learn in this class will allow them to listen with more intention, understand harmonies and melodies, and give them a theoretical vocabulary that can be used in any musical discipline or setting.

Music Theory 2

This course will build on the foundational skills and techniques learned in Music Theory 1. Many of the exercises and activities in this class will be similar in structure but with an added level of complexity and difficulty. This course will introduce different scales such as the chromatic scale, the melodic, harmonic, and natural variations of the minor scale, and modal theory. This complexity will also extend to more advanced intervals and rhythms — and as a result, more complex systems of notation. In this course, we will introduce chordal extensions (major and flat sevenths, sus chords, and ninths), as well as slash chords and upper structures. Students will be expected to play more complex chord sequences, as well as sight sing and perform on the piano keyboard more challenging melodies.

Science Requirement:

Neuroscience

Neuroscience offers students a comprehensive exploration of the fundamental principles and concepts underlying the study of the nervous system. This introductory course provides a multidisciplinary approach to understanding the structure and function of the brain and its role in behavior, cognition, and perception. Students will examine topics such as neural development, neuroanatomy, synaptic transmission, sensory and motor systems, and higher cognitive functions. Emphasizing critical thinking and scientific inquiry, students will learn to evaluate primary research articles and apply basic experimental techniques used in neuroscience research. By the end of the course, students will emerge with a foundational understanding of the principles of neuroscience and an appreciation for the complexity and diversity of the nervous system.

English Requirement:

English Composition

English Composition I offers students a comprehensive introduction to the principles and practices of effective academic writing. Through a combination of critical reading, analytical thinking, and structured writing assignments, students will develop fundamental skills necessary for success in college-level writing. Emphasizing clarity, coherence, and rhetorical awareness, this course guides students through the process of crafting well-organized essays that engage with diverse texts and ideas. Topics covered include thesis development, paragraph structure, evidence integration, and revision strategies. Through instructor feedback and peer review, students will refine their writing abilities while cultivating their own unique voice and style. This course serves as a cornerstone for academic success across disciplines, preparing students to communicate effectively in both their academic and professional pursuits.

Playwriting 1

Explore the fundamentals of playwriting in this dynamic course, where students engage with key elements of crafting compelling scenes and short plays. Through lectures, workshops, and weekly assignments, students develop their craft in character development, dialogue, and plot structure. Witnessing their scenes come to life in staged readings, course participants gain insight into collaborative playwriting and productions. This course also provides a heavy focus on analysis, feedback, and revision in the playwriting process.

Screenwriting 1

This course focuses on the main elements of screenwriting through lectures, weekly assignments, productions of written scripts, and extensive analysis in the classroom. We will focus on the unique style of writing for the screen and all of its elements. Students will develop themselves as writers through an examination of the creation of a story, theme, character development, and their point of view.

Screenwriting 2

Building upon Screenwriting 1, this course delves deeper into cinematic storytelling. Through lectures, workshops, and assignments, students refine skills in crafting compelling narratives. Emphasizing structure, pacing, and character development, students elevate their storytelling abilities. With feedback sessions, students emerge with a refined portfolio and confidence in pursuing screenwriting.

As our institution caters to the performing arts and its majors our courses are designed to focus on the arts, but recognize the need and importance of a well-rounded general education. The integration of the knowledge obtained through General Education is naturally folded into the program course of study. Students also have a monthly check-in with Department heads for counseling and advising. Department heads are available throughout the week during office hours, in addition to monthly check-ins. During this time, students will both consult and evaluate their journey with department heads providing advice and guidance to enhance each student's goals and objectives.

FERPA POLICY

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act protects the privacy of a student's educational records. All of the rights under FERPA belong to the student, once he/she/they has enrolled in a post-secondary institution.

Alumni records will be stored in ampEducator, the official student information system used by The Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts. Records include full transcripts, assessment (jury) scores and ratings, and any institution-initiated arbitration between students and/or faculty. Records will also be kept for occupational employment during their time at the institution as well as student report employment for a full calendar year after graduation. Documentation received from transfer institutions will be kept in the Office of the Provost for seven years following graduation. If a student takes a leave of absence from the institution those records will be held for 10 years following their last recorded day of study. Students

wishing to receive records are able to obtain them through electronic mail requests to the Office of the Registrar. Records will only be made available to the individual student. In the case of death or inability to request records, records may be requested by the student's next of kin.

PROGRAMS OFFERED

Musical Theatre Performance

Musical Theatre Performance is an acting-based program with a strong focus on the Meisner technique supplemented by vocal and dance training. Performance faculty includes a plethora of Broadway Directors, Music Directors, and Casting Directors who are currently in the industry and leading a plethora of classes. From staple classes like MT Scene Study, Jazz 1, and Harmonies & Vocal Styles to fresh courses including Acting for the Camera and Commercial Hip Hop, well-rounded performers graduate ready for today's theatrical market. The two-year undergraduate program is crafted specifically for those looking to work in musical theater professionally.

Core YR1 Semester 1 - 17.00 Credits

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
BAL	Ballet	1.00
CHH	Commercial Hip Hop	1.00
GYM	Gymnastics	1.0
HVS1	Harmonies & Vocal Styles 1	3.00
JZD	Jazz Dance	2.00
LAB1	Laban 1	1.50
MTA	MT Audition Technique	3.00
MTS1	MT Scene Study 1	2.00

TAP	Tap	1.00
VOV	Voice Over	1.50

Gen Ed YR1 Semester 1 - 6.50 Credits

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
BSK1	Business Skills 1	1.50
MUS1	Music Theory 1	1.00
PSY1	Psychology 1	1.00
TVF1	History of TV/Film 1	3.00

Core YR1 Semester 2 - 17.00 Credits

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
ACT-MT	Acting for the Camera	1.50
BAL	Ballet	1.00
CHH	Commercial Hip Hop	1.00
GYM	Gymnastics	1.00
HVS2	Harmonies & Vocal Styles 2	1.50
IMP1	Improvisation 1	1.50
JZD	Jazz Dance	2.00

MEI-MT	Meisner	1.50
MTA	MT Audition Technique	3.00
MTS	MT Scene Study	2.00
TAP	Tap	1.00

Gen Ed YR1 Semester 2 - 5.50 Credits

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
BSK2	Business Skills 2	1.50
ENG1	English Composition I	3.00
MUS2	Music Theory 2	1.00

Core YR2 Semester 1 - 16.00 Credits

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
ACT-MT	Acting for the Camera	1.50
CHH	Commercial Hip Hop	1.00
GYM	Gymnastics	1.00
JZD	Jazz Dance	2.00
MEI-MT	Meisner	1.50
MTA	MT Audition Technique	3.00

TAP	Tap	1.00
VAS1-MT	Voice & Speech 1	1.50
VCS1	Vocal Styles 1	2.00
VOV	Voice Over	1.50

Gen Ed YR2 Semester 1 - 6.00 Credits

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
NEU1	Neuroscience 1	3.00
PLY1	Playwriting 1	3.00

Core YR2 Semester 2 - 11.50 Credits

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
ACM1-MT	Acting for Commercials 1	1.00
CHH	Commercial Hip Hop	1.00
GYM	Gymnastics	1.00
JZD	Jazz Dance	2.00
MTA	MT Audition Technique	3.00
MTE	MT Dance Ensemble	1.00
SHW1	Showcase 1	1.50

TAP	Tap	1.00
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Gen Ed YR2 Semester 2 - 6.00 Credits

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
ENT1	Entrepreneurship 1	3.00
ETH1	Ethics 1	3.00

Musical Theatre Dance Performance

A dance-focused, blended program that allows captivating dancers to hone their craft while cultivating vocal and acting skills. Taught by Broadway and commercial dance choreographers, and Broadway dance captains, MT Dance Performance is incredibly rigorous and physically demanding. This program offers a balance of strong vocal and acting course loads. Additional preparatory coursework includes Gymnastics, Acting for the Camera, and a voice-over course for well-rounded performers ready to work after graduation. This program is designed for budding triple threats and those with very strong dance abilities. We offer MT Dance Performance as a two-year undergraduate program.

Core YR1 Semester 1 - 16.50 Credits

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
BAL	Ballet	1.00
BMT	Ballet MTD	1.00
CHH	Commercial Hip Hop	1.00
GYM	Gymnastics	1.00

HVS1	Harmonies & Vocal Styles 1	3.00
JZD	Jazz Dance	2.00
LAB1	Laban 1	1.50
MTDA	MTD Audition Technique	3.00
MTE	MT Dance Ensemble	1.00
MTS1	MT Scene Study 1	2.00
TAP	Tap	1.00

Gen Ed YR1 Semester 1 - 6.50 Credits

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
BSK1	Business Skills 1	1.50
MUS1	Music Theory 1	1.00
PSY1	Psychology 1	1.00
TVF1	History of TV/Film 1	3.00

Core YR1 Semester 2 - 17.00 Credits

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
ACT-MT	Acting for the Camera	1.00
BAL	Ballet	1.00

BMT	Ballet MTD	1.00
CHH	Commercial Hip Hop	1.00
GYM	Gymnastics	1.00
HVS2	Harmonies & Vocal Styles 2	1.50
JZD	Jazz Dance	2.00
MEI-MTD	Meisner	1.50
MTDA	MTD Audition Technique	3.00
MTE	MT Dance Ensemble	1.00
MTS2	MT Scene Study 2	2.00
TAP	Tap	1.00

Gen Ed YR1 Semester 2 - 5.50 Credits

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
BSK2	Business Skills 2	1.50
ENG1	English Composition I	3.00
MUS2	Music Theory 2	1.00

Core YR2 Semester 1 - 17.00 Credits

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
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ACT-MT	Acting for the Camera	1.50
BAL	Ballet	1.00
BMT	Ballet MTD	1.50
CHH	Commercial Hip Hop	1.00
GYM	Gymnastics	1.00
JZD	Jazz Dance	2.00
MEI-MT	Meisner	1.50
MTDA	MTD Audition Technique	3.00
MTE	MT Dance Ensemble	1.00
PTWK	Partner Work	1.00
TAP	Tap	1.00
VAS1-MT	Voice & Speech 1	1.50

Gen Ed YR2 Semester 1 - 6.00 Credits

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
NEU1	Neuroscience 1	3.00
PLY1	Playwriting 1	3.00

Core YR2 Semester 2 - 16.00 Credits

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
ACM1-MT	Acting for Commercials 1	1.00
BAL	Ballet	1.00
BMT	Ballet MTD	1.50
CHH	Commercial Hip Hop	1.00
DSWG	Dance Swing	1.50
GYM	Gymnastics	1.00
JZD	Jazz Dance	2.00
MTDA	MTD Audition Technique	3.00
SHW1	Showcase 1	1.50
TAP	Tap	1.00
VOV	Voice Over	1.50

Gen Ed YR2 Semester 2 - 6.00 Credits

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
ENT1	Entrepreneurship 1	3.00
ETH1	Ethics 1	3.00

TV/Film Performance

This two-year undergraduate program is designed for actors who want to work in the Television/Film industry. Taught by New York City's leading acting instructors, casting directors, and agents, students will hone in on the necessary skills to build a stand-out career on screen. The Associate of Arts in TV/Film Performance offers an intensive curriculum with coursework like Acting For the Camera, Scene Study, Script Writing, and Acting for Commercials, among other courses. This is an ideal program for transfer students or recent college graduates looking to further their education in Television and Film.

Core YR1 Semester 1 - 19.00 Credits

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
ACS1	Acting Styles 1	2.00
ACT-TV	Acting for the Camera	3.00
CHH	Commercial Hip Hop	1.00
EDT1	Editing 1	1.00
GYM	Gymnastics	1.00
IMP1	Improvisation 1	2.00
LAB1	Laban 1	1.50
SST	Scene Study	2.00
VAS1	Voice & Speech 1	1.50
VOV	Voice Over	1.50
YOG	Yoga	1.00

Gen Ed YR1 Semester 1 - 8.50 Credits

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
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BSK1	Business Skills 1	1.50
PLY1-TV	Playwriting 1	3.00
PSY1	Psychology 1	1.00
TVF1	History of TV/Film 1	3.00

Core YR1 Semester 2 - 19.50 Credits

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
ACM1-TV	Acting for Commercials 1	2.00
ACT-TV	Acting for the Camera	3.00
CHH	Commercial Hip Hop	1.00
EDT2	Editing 2	1.00
GYM	Gymnastics	1.00
MEI-TV	Meisner	3.00
SCB1	Stage Combat 1	1.00
SST	Scene Study	2.00
VAS2	Voice & Speech 2	1.50
VOV	Voice Over	1.50
YOG	Yoga	1.00

Gen Ed YR1 Semester 2 - 4.50 Credits

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
BSK2	Business Skills 2	1.50
ENG1	English Composition I	3.00

Core YR2 Semester 1 - 16.00 Credits

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
ACT-TV	Acting for the Camera	3.00
CDV1	Character Development 1	2.00
CHH	Commercial Hip Hop	1.00
GYM	Gymnastics	1.00
MEI-TV	Meisner	3.00
SST	Scene Study	2.00
TFA	TV/Film Audition Technique	1.50
VOV	Voice Over	1.50
YOG	Yoga	1.00

Gen Ed YR2 Semester 1 - 6.00 Credits

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
NEU1	Neuroscience 1	3.00

SCR1	Screenwriting 1	3.00
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Core YR2 Semester 2 - 16.50 Credits

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
ACT-TV	Acting for the Camera	3.00
CDV2	Character Development 2	2.00
CHH	Commercial Hip Hop	1.00
GYM	Gymnastics	1.00
MEI	Meisner	3.00
SHW1	Showcase 1	1.50
SST	Scene Study	2.00
TFA	TV/Film Audition Technique	1.50
VOV	Voice Over	1.50

Gen Ed YR2 Semester 2 - 6.00 Credits

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
ETH1	Ethics 1	3.00
SCR2	Screenwriting 2	3.00

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Acting for Commercials 1

Acting for Commercials is a dynamic performance course tailored to aspiring actors seeking proficiency in commercial auditioning. Through a blend of practical exercises and simulated auditions, students will hone their audition techniques, focusing on delivering compelling performances with clarity, charisma, and effective vocal modulation. Emphasizing clear diction and precise vocal placement, participants will cultivate the essential skills required for success in the competitive realm of commercial acting.

Acting for the Camera

Students will build and refine the skills required for acting in front of the camera. In this course, we will explore different methodologies and techniques for on-camera acting. Students will gain a greater sense of how to approach material and act for the lens. Students will study several television and film scenes and their corresponding sides to critically analyze the work of the actor and apply it to their performance. Students will learn the differences between acting for the camera versus the stage and help strengthen the necessary tools for on-camera acting.

Acting Styles 1

Acting Styles is a comprehensive performance class designed to introduce students to a diverse array of methodologies including Suzuki, Meisner, Method, Viewpoints, Laban, and beyond. With hands-on exercises and theoretical discussions, students will delve into the intricacies of each approach, honing their craft and expanding their artistic repertoire. This course explores both the physical and emotional elements necessary to cultivate a versatile skill set, laying the foundation for a dynamic acting career.

Ballet

Offered in levels I - III, Ballet focuses on ballet training, delving deeper into the intricacies of technique and vocabulary. Students will be assessed for skill level at the start of the term and be sorted into one of three levels. Learners will refine their skills through comprehensive sessions covering barre work, centre exercises, petit and grand allegro, as well as complex combinations. Emphasizing alignment, fluency in ballet vocabulary, and an understanding of traditional technique coordination and phrasing, participants will immerse themselves in the artistry and discipline of ballet. Additionally, the course will entail memorization of ballet terminology and critical analysis of ballet history and performance, further enriching students' appreciation and comprehension of this timeless art form.

Ballet MTD

Ballet MTD is an additional required section of ballet, tailored specifically for MTD majors. This course parallels our standard ballet training, focusing on refining technique and expanding vocabulary with an emphasis on heightened skill requirements suited for MTD majors. Through rigorous sessions encompassing barre work, centre exercises, petit and grand allegro, and intricate combinations, students will enhance their alignment, fluency in ballet terminology, and grasp of traditional technique coordination and phrasing. The curriculum also includes memorization of ballet vocabulary and critical analysis of ballet history and performance, fostering a deeper appreciation and understanding of this timeless art form within the context of musical theatre dance performance.

Commercial Dance Ballet

Commercial Dance Ballet offers a specialized course section for students majoring in Commercial Dance, tailored to their unique needs and aspirations. This course mirrors traditional ballet training while integrating elements specifically relevant to commercial dance contexts. Students will undergo initial skill assessments to ensure proper placement within the appropriate level. Throughout the term, participants will engage in comprehensive sessions covering barre work, centre exercises, petit and grand allegro, and intricate combinations, all adapted to suit the demands of commercial dance. Emphasizing alignment, fluency in ballet terminology, and understanding traditional technique coordination and phrasing, this course equips students with the technical proficiency and versatility necessary for success in commercial dance settings.

Commercial Hip Hop

This course is composed of levels I - IV, as students will undergo assessments for their appropriate skill level at the start of each semester. Commercial Hip Hop is dance and performance-heavy and has no lecture classes. The course focuses on combinations, mock auditions, and performances of a variety of Commercial Hip Hop movements and styles. Classes consist of warm-ups, across-the-floor exercises, and learning combinations. This course is intended to build stamina by merging fitness and dance techniques. The study includes the foundational pillars, vocabulary, rhythm, and culture of the styles.

Contemporary Dance

Contemporary Dance is designed to train aspiring dancers in many new styles of modern dance technique. Offering a blend of choreography lessons and performance projects, students will cultivate a deep understanding of body awareness, musicality, and storytelling through modern movement. Guided by seasoned instructors and inspired by contemporary trends in the dance world, Commercial Dance majors will receive training for career paths in professional and touring dance companies.

CD Commercial Hip Hop

CD Commercial Hip Hop offers a specialized course section created specifically for commercial dance majors. Students will undergo assessments at the beginning of each semester to ensure proper placement within the appropriate level. This dance and performance-intensive course dispenses with lectures, focusing instead on practical application through combinations, mock auditions, and performances encompassing various Commercial Hip Hop movements and styles. Classes are structured with warm-ups, across-the-floor exercises, and comprehensive instruction in learning choreographed combinations. Designed to enhance both dance technique and physical stamina, this course merges fitness principles with dance techniques, allowing students to develop their endurance and artistry simultaneously. Through an immersive study of foundational pillars, vocabulary, rhythm, and cultural influences, participants will gain a comprehensive understanding of Commercial Hip Hop within the context of commercial dance performance.

Character Development 1

This foundational course immerses students in the fundamental principles of crafting compelling and multifaceted characters for the stage. Students will explore the intricacies of character analysis, understanding the nuances of psychological, emotional, and physical embodiment. This course studies character archetypes and the depths of individual character motivations, helping students learn how to breathe life into diverse personas. Through scene studies, improvisation, and script analysis, learners will refine their skills in portraying a range of character types, honing their ability to captivate audiences with authenticity and depth.

Character Development 2

Building upon the foundational skills acquired in Character Development 1, Character Development 2 offers an advanced exploration of the art of character portrayal on stage. This course challenges students to push the boundaries of their creative expression as they delve deeper into the complexities of character construction. Offering in-depth character studies and intensive scene work, students will refine their ability to embody diverse personas with authenticity and depth. Further examining vocalization and exploring the subtleties of gesture and expression, students will cultivate a deeper understanding of character psychology and motivation. Through collaborative exercises and individual exploration, learners will hone their craft, developing the versatility and insight necessary to tackle a wide range of roles.

Dance Swing

Dance Swing is a course designed to immerse students in the vibrant world of swing dancing. From the infectious beats of jazz to the lively movements of Lindy Hop and beyond, this course explores the rich history and dynamic styles of swing dance. Dance Swing curriculum focuses on technique classes and partner work, helping students to master the fundamentals of lead and follow, footwork variations, and improvisation. This course is specifically designed for

Commercial Dance majors who will pursue careers in professional dance companies and touring groups.

Editing 1

Editing 1 fosters digital editing skills in the context of television and film productions. This introductory course provides students with an overview of the editing process, examining techniques and tools used in post-production to shape narrative storytelling. Utilizing group projects and tangible outcomes, students will learn fundamental skills in editing software, including editing workflows, basic cutting techniques, and the integration of sound and visual elements. Editing 1 places emphasis on understanding the principles of continuity, pacing, and rhythm in post-production. Students will gain the foundational knowledge and technical proficiency necessary to manipulate digital media effectively.

Editing 2

Editing 2 serves as an advanced continuation of Editing 1, focused on refining techniques for television and film post-production. Building upon the foundational knowledge acquired in Editing 1, this course delves deeper into the intricacies of editing theory and practice, with a particular emphasis on advanced cutting techniques, visual effects integration, and sound design. Through a combination of practical projects and lectures, students will explore innovative approaches to storytelling and develop their own unique editing style. Students will also tackle complex editing challenges and refine their ability to manipulate visual and auditory elements to enhance narrative impact. By the end of the course, students will emerge with a comprehensive understanding of the creative possibilities of digital editing and the skills to produce professional-quality content for television and film.

Global Dance

Global Dance offers students the chance to learn the rich, diverse dance traditions from around the world. Designed for Commercial Dance majors, this interdisciplinary course provides a comprehensive examination of dance as a universal form of expression, unpacking cultural, historical, and social roots. Students will explore a wide range of dance styles, including traditional dances, classical forms, and contemporary expressions from various regions and cultures. From the intricate footwork of Indian classical dance to the rhythmic portrayals of African dance, students will gain insights into the cultural contexts, symbolism, and significance of dance within different societies — and how they continue to shape professional dance routines.

Gymnastics

Gymnastics (Levels I-IV) offers a training program designed to prepare students for intricate roles on stage, blending the precision of gymnastics with concepts needed in the performing arts. Tailored to accommodate students of all skill levels, this course is divided into four levels, with placement determined by assessments at the start of each term. Through an inclusive curriculum

encompassing strength training, flexibility exercises, and tumbling techniques, students will develop the physical skills and agility necessary to execute demanding choreography with grace and precision. With a focus on safety, technique, and artistic expression, this course empowers students to master the art of gymnastics and excel in roles that demand athleticism, agility, and poise.

Harmonies & Vocal Styles 1

Ensemble singing is one of the cornerstones of theatrical performance. This course will prepare students for any professional group singing situation they may encounter and will give the students a foundation from which more advanced concepts can be learned. This course will focus on ensemble sound through SATB (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) singing, finding your place within the ensemble, sight singing (singing from a score), and internalizing harmony lines (singing supporting melodies that fit around primary melodies). Students will understand the principles of different singing styles and techniques, learn techniques to speed up learning harmonies, explore the relationship between their body and their voice, and draw out their innate musical appreciation and comfortability with harmony. This course also focuses on dance combinations, mock auditions, and performances of a variety of Musical Theatre Dance Styles. Classes consist of warm-ups, across-the-floor exercises, and learning combinations. This course is intended to build stamina by merging fitness with dance and dance technique and focuses on maintaining vocal harmonies while executing demanding choreography.

Harmonies & Vocal Styles 2

This course will build on the foundational skills and techniques learned in Harmonies and Vocal Styles 1. Many of the exercises and activities in the class will be similar but at a higher skill level and complexity. This course will challenge students with as many as eight harmony lines. Students will become comfortable with learning their place within an ensemble and having the confidence and skill to maintain their role in a complex sound world. Learners will be expected to internalize difficult chromatic lines and will also be expected to perform their harmony lines solo — or with multiple people in different tessituras of the ensemble. This course also focuses on dance combinations, mock auditions, and performances of a variety of Musical Theatre Dance Styles. Classes consist of warm-ups, across-the-floor exercises, and learning combinations. This course is intended to build stamina by merging fitness with dance and dance technique and focuses on maintaining vocal harmonies while executing demanding choreography.

History of Dance 1

History of Dance 1 is a general education course crafted for Commercial Dance majors. Tracing the origins and influences of alternating dance forms, this course spans from early social dances to the emergence of contemporary commercial styles. Through lectures, multimedia presentations, and experiential learning, students will explore the cultural, social, and artistic contexts that have shaped the development of commercial dance. Examples of course topics include syncopated rhythms of jazz and the evolution of hip-hop. Students will analyze seminal

choreographers, groundbreaking performances, and transformative cultural movements that have defined the evolution of dance.

History of Dance 2

Building upon the foundational knowledge acquired in History of Dance 1, this advanced general education further dives into the history of multi-cultural dance styles, exploring their evolution and impact on contemporary dance culture. This course examines the movements, trends, and artists who helped shape the comprehensive history of dance. students will gain a broadened understanding of the development of commercial dance from its roots to its current manifestations. Through critical analysis, scholarly research, and creative projects, students will develop a more complete understanding of dance history through present-day trends and movements.

Scene Study 1

Scene Study is a performance-based course. Students will continue to build their acting tools with in-depth scene and monologue texts from contemporary works. With a focus on text analysis, students dissect the nuances of dialogue and subtext, enhancing their interpretive abilities and fostering a deeper connection to the material. Other course topics include character development and working as an ensemble.

Improvisation 1

This performance-based course focuses on the basic techniques and style of improvisation of the actor and singer. With a focus on spontaneous movement and presentational skills, students will develop personas to create performances. Theatre games, sketch work, and specific exercises will be used to create an explorative environment on the given themes and topics of the course.

Jazz Dance 1

Jazz Dance (Levels I-IV) offers a comprehensive exploration of the fundamentals of Jazz Dance across four levels, with placement determined by assessments at the start of each semester. Rooted in European and African cultural heritage and deeply connected to jazz music, this course delves into the rich history and expressive techniques of jazz dance. Emphasizing improvisation as a key element, students will cultivate their unique style and artistic voice while studying traditional and contemporary jazz forms. With a strong focus on jazz dance within the musical theatre canon, students will gain insights into the intersection of dance, music, and storytelling. Through progressive instruction and experiential learning, students will develop technical proficiency, rhythmic precision, and performance skills, preparing them to excel in the dynamic world of jazz dance performance.

Laban

This course offers a study of Laban Movement Analysis (LMA), describing the principle concepts of human movement, including the Bartenieff Fundamentals. Laban 1 will help students develop the mental focus and the emotional responsiveness that is necessary for both the actor through movement. This course will examine the principles of LMA as they apply to acting and choreography.

Meisner

Sanford Meisner believed that all good acting comes from the heart and there's no mentality to it. This course explores the Meisner technique both in lecture and performance. Meisner is "based on bringing the actor back to his emotional impulses and to act firmly rooted in the instinctive." Actors will understand the principles and practices of Meisner Technique training and explore and practice exercises in performance. Principle elements of this course include improvisation, emotional truth, personal response, and authenticity within given circumstances.

MT/MTD Audition Technique

This course is designed to work the arts and skill of auditioning and give students the confidence needed for a successful musical theatre audition. MT Audition Technique aids students in selecting appropriate audition material, cuts, and working on that material for audition performance. Analysis of songs occurs both musically and through the text to build character, point of view, and unique choices for the material. Actors will learn and understand audition etiquette, how to cut songs, and how to deliver a musical theatre audition performance for a successful career in the industry.

MT Dance Ensemble

MT Dance Ensemble offers an invigorating blend of cardiovascular exercise and technical training in dance ensemble performances. This dynamic course combines high-energy choreography with focused skill development to enhance students' endurance, agility, and technique. Through rigorous workouts, rehearsals, and performance projects, students will refine their dance skills while mastering intricate ensemble routines inspired by the vibrant world of musical theatre. Students will emerge from this course with heightened physical fitness, technical proficiency, and stage presence.

MT Scene Study 1

Two of the key skills for any performer are collaboration and multi-discipline performance. MT Scene Study offers a combination of practical theater skills such as singing with performance-based assessments. Students are encouraged to practice skills individually, for example in a singing class, a dance class, or an acting class, and often it is not until they are cast in a performance that these skills come together. This course aims to approach theater through a

more holistic lens, requiring students to analyze script and score, derive their own creative choices, and bring texts to life.

MT Scene Study 2

MT Scene Study 2 builds upon the foundational concepts introduced in MT Scene Study, offering students an opportunity to deepen their understanding and application of performance techniques in musical theatre. This continuation course emphasizes the development of collaboration and multi-disciplinary performance skills essential for success in the theatrical profession. Students will continue to analyze scripts and scores, explore character motivations, and make informed creative choices to bring texts to life on stage. By engaging in collaborative projects and receiving feedback from peers and instructors, students will hone their artistic craft and develop a nuanced approach to performances that integrates vocal, physical, and emotional expression.

Partner Work

Partner Work offers technical experience in the art of dance duets, focusing on the dynamic interplay between partners in various dance styles. Students will engage in choreographic exploration and collaborative projects, studying the intricacies of partnering techniques, communication, and trust-building. From classical ballet pas de deux to contemporary partner work, students will develop the skills and versatility to execute intricate lifts, transitions, and synchronized movements with precision. This course provides a platform for students to deepen their understanding of partnership dynamics and develop their unique artistic voices within the context of dance duets. The course format is physically demanding and through constructive feedback, students will emerge with advanced technical proficiency and a refined ability to engage in movement with their dance partners.

Showcase

Showcase provides a unique opportunity, featuring guest artists from Broadway and the performing arts industry. With guidance from industry experts, students will craft audition showcases, honing performance skills, and refining materials to present to agents and representatives. This course is in the format of lectures, workshops, and personalized coaching. Course learners gain invaluable insights and practical experience to navigate the professional realm of showcasing and auditions.

Tap Dance

Tap Dance (Levels I-IV) provides comprehensive training in tap dance technique at varying skill levels. Students are assessed and placed into one of the four levels at the beginning of the term. Each level includes an overview of proper body placement, learning and refining tap terminology, individual tap steps, and movements. Students create tap phrases, choreograph short to lengthy combinations, and work on across-the-floor and traveling steps. As levels progress, the focus

shifts to performance technique, artistry, rhythm, and improvisation, culminating in the incorporation of non-traditional tap steps.

TV/Film Audition Technique

TV/Film Audition Technique is tailored to the specific demands of auditioning for television and film roles for TV/Film Performance majors. This course focuses on refining audition skills and instilling confidence necessary for success in the industry. Students learn to select appropriate audition material, analyze monologues both emotionally and textually to develop character and point of view, and make unique choices for their performances. Additionally, actors gain insight into audition etiquette and deliver compelling audition performances tailored for the television and film industry.

Vocal Styles

This course is designed to expand students' vocal versatility, range, and capabilities across genres. From classical to contemporary, students will explore and master a range of vocal styles, honing their technique and interpretation of different songs and genres. Offering vocal exercises and performance opportunities, students will develop the skills and confidence to adapt seamlessly to different musical genres and display proficient growth over the course of the semester.

Voice Over

This course is an introduction to voice-over for actors. It covers acting for voice-over, home studio setup, how to record in a professional studio, mic technique, and basic editing. We will cover the basics of commercial, animation, and audiobook voiceover through analyzing, performing, and critiquing copy. Industry-standard learning materials including streaming services, podcasts, and commercials will be utilized for reference and learning objectives.

Voice and Speech 1

Voice and Speech 1 is a performance class dedicated to cultivating the vocal strengths and techniques essential for both stage and screen acting. Students will focus on developing proper breathing techniques and sight-reading skills to enhance their onstage presence and communication abilities. This course serves as a prerequisite for Meisner Acting levels 1 & 2 and Voice and Speech 2, providing students with foundational skills necessary for further advancement in their acting training.

Voice and Speech 2

Voice and Speech 2, a performance class, builds upon the foundation laid in Voice and Speech 1. Through physical exercises and vocal training, students continue to refine their vocal instruments, aiming to achieve increased vocal clarity and resonance. Emphasis is placed on exploring vocal

variety to enhance expressiveness and versatility in performance, equipping students with the tools to captivate audiences on stage and screen.

Yoga

Focusing on physical well-being and mindfulness, this undergraduate course is tailored for TV/Film Performance majors. Through a blend of physical postures, breathwork, and mindfulness techniques, students will cultivate strength, flexibility, and resilience in both body and mind. Designed to support performers in preparing for and recovering from demanding roles, this course emphasizes alignment, injury prevention, and holistic wellness practices. Whether seeking to enhance performance skills, manage stress, or foster self-care habits, students will emerge from this course with a deeper connection to their bodies and a renewed sense of vitality for their artistic pursuits.

ELECTIVE DESCRIPTIONS

Directing

Dive into the art and profession of stage directing in this immersive elective course designed for all majors. Stage Directing offers students a comprehensive education on the directorial process, from script analysis and concept development to blocking, staging, and collaboration with actors and designers. The course format includes hands-on activities, scene work, and critical discussions, allowing students to develop their directorial vision and hone their ability to communicate effectively with creative teams. This course empowers students to bring theatrical visions to life on stage. Whether aspiring to pursue careers as professional directors or simply seeking to deepen their understanding of theatre-making, students will emerge from this course equipped with the skills and confidence to prepare for leadership roles in theatrical productions.

Guitar 1

The learning of an instrument has many benefits to students, far beyond the ability to just play the instrument. Through learning the guitar, students will increase their knowledge of musical form, structure, and theory, build on their aural skills, learn a skill that will complement their vocal education, and much more. This introductory guitar course will begin with a focus on fretboard knowledge and reading of tablature, and then progress to open chords, fingerpicking, and barre chords. After the completion of the course, students will be expected to be able to read simple/intermediate tablature and accompany themselves or their peers whilst they sing.

Guitar 2

Building on the foundational skills acquired in Guitar 1, this course offers students a deeper exploration of musical form, technique, and expression on the guitar. This intermediate-level

course expands upon the fundamental concepts of fretboard knowledge and tablature reading, guiding students toward a more nuanced understanding of music theory and structure. Through a series of progressive lessons, students will master advanced chord voicings, melodic improvisation, and rhythmic intricacies, honing their ability to perform more nuanced pieces on the guitar. By the conclusion of the course, students will emerge with a heightened level of musical proficiency to continue their personal journey toward mastery of the instrument.

The Art of Drag

This course explores gender and sexuality and how they are embodied, negotiated, and expressed. The Art of Drag covers the intersections of gender and sexuality with race, ability, location, ethnicity, age, and social standing. This course will teach the foundations of drag performance including aesthetics, style, the binary, costumes, makeup, and entertainment performance. Power, oppression, and marginalization of gender, sexuality, and drag will be discussed.

Audio Engineering

Now so, more than ever, a career in musical theater is a multi-hyphenate career. The more skills performers have, the more employable they are, and having an understanding of audio engineering and recording/editing techniques is one such skill. From making demos of their work to creating vocal reels, the ability to use digital audio software such as Logic, Pro Tools, and Ableton is incredibly useful in the modern world. Furthermore, post-covid, the self-tape is here to stay, and the ability to create high-quality recordings of audition material is an incredibly important skill. This course will look at both of the above areas of audio engineering and will give students the skills to record and document their work to the industry standard level. By the end of the course, students will be able to record themselves and others singing and performing instruments (both acoustic and digital (MIDI), using a variety of professional tools. The final assignment of this course will be to produce a recording that includes at least four channels of audio, one channel of which must be vocal, one channel of which must be digital/midi, and one channel of which must be an acoustic instrument.

Choreography

Students will explore various techniques and styles of dance through creative movement. This course will focus on how choreography styles have evolved throughout time. The four main elements of composition: space, shape, time, and energy are explored for students to have a deeper understanding of the production process of putting together a dance performance.

Cinematography

This course explores techniques used by noted cinematographers to learn cinematic genres and narrative techniques. Composition, audio, lighting, and camera movement will be studied for students to understand the basic elements that go into film production.

Commercial Jazz

Commercial Jazz offers an exploration of the dynamic fusion between jazz dance techniques and contemporary commercial styles, crafted specifically for the aspiring commercial dance major. Through a comprehensive curriculum in technique, choreography, and performance skills, students will approach the vibrant world of commercial jazz dance. Course topics include mastering intricate footwork, and stylized movements, and honing stage presence and musicality. Learners will develop the versatility and artistry necessary for success in commercial dance settings.

Song Writing

Songwriting is a very useful tool for performers; not only does the student learn concrete skills such as structure, form, lyric writing, melody, and chord sequence composition, but they also increase their ability to appreciate all forms of music. This course helps students increase their aural skills, and learn new ways to express themselves and communicate. Perhaps most importantly, all the skills learned in this course will deepen the student's ability to appreciate the writing of other composers and lyricists, which will allow them to authentically connect with material when they perform.

Standup Comedy

Find your comedic voice in Standup Comedy. Led by a local, professional standup comedian, students learn standup delivery, comedy writing, and the development of their comedic persona and show. Curated with lessons on comedic improvisation and peer review, students hone their comedic timing, refine their material, and cultivate their unique comedic voice. By the end of this course, students will have developed a series of comedic skits, monologues, and more that will be polished for live performance.

Standup Comedy & Storytelling

Discover your comedic voice in Standup Comedy and Storytelling. Led by a renowned professional comedian, this course blends traditional standup techniques with the art of narrative storytelling for the stage. Students delve into standup delivery, comedy writing, and the development of their comedic persona while exploring the integration of storytelling elements. Course participants will refine their comedic timing, polish material, and cultivate a unique comedic brand. Upon completion, students showcase a repertoire of comedic skits, monologues, and narratives ready for a live performance.

Performance Internship

This experiential internship course offers students in any of our associate's programs the opportunity to continue to earn credit for one semester of major courses by participating in a professional internship as a performance role. Through assignments and reflective journaling,

students will demonstrate mastery of program competencies, including proficient performance skills, application of acting techniques, versatility in artistic abilities, and readiness for the industry. By engaging in real-world performance experiences, students will develop the skills and professionalism necessary for successful careers in musical theatre.

Private Voice

Private Voice offers students a unique opportunity for one-on-one vocal instruction, tailored to their specific talents and goals. In this pass/fail course, students arrange half-hour sessions with one of our experienced private voice instructors to receive personalized vocal coaching. Through individualized assessment and guidance, students will focus on developing their vocal technique, expanding their repertoire, and honing their performance skills. Whether aiming to improve vocal range, strengthen breath control, or refine stylistic interpretation, students will receive tailored feedback and support to enhance their vocal abilities. With a focus on individual progress and effort, this course empowers students to grow as vocalists and performers in a supportive and personalized learning environment.

Silks

Explore the thrilling world of aerobatic silks in this intensive elective course. Designed for performers seeking to enhance their physicality and artistic expression, this course offers physically demanding training in utilizing aerial silks for showstopping performances. Taught through strength conditioning, aerial techniques, and choreography, students will learn to execute breathtaking maneuvers and sequences with professional assistance. Emphasizing safety, technique, and creativity, students will develop the strength, flexibility, and aerial awareness necessary to captivate audiences with stunning silk performances on stage.

Stage Combat

Stage Combat is a course designed to specifically prepare students in safety and technique for the art of stage fighting. Blending practical training, choreographic exploration, and scene work, students will learn how to execute convincing fight sequences while prioritizing safety and precision. Enrolled students will master the fundamentals of stage combat, including unarmed combat, swordplay, and theatrical weaponry. Emphasizing collaboration and creativity, students will collaborate with scene partners to choreograph and perform dynamic fight scenes that enhance dramatic storytelling. With a focus on physical conditioning, spatial awareness, and character-driven action, this course empowers students to bring thrilling moments of conflict and intensity to the stage while fostering a deep appreciation for the artistry of theatrical combat.

TRUSTEES

Des McAnuff
Matthew Seebeck
Dana Black
Bianca Garcia

Brian Clarke Jr.
Valerie Post
Kevin George

ADMINISTRATION

President: Daniel Loftus George
Provost: Frederick Feeney
Registrar: Alec Biron
Director of Financial Aid: Diana Burch
Director of Admissions: Meredith Walker
Director of Housing and Student Life: Myrna Black
Mental Health Counselor: Mariah Carey, LPCA, NCC