

HUMANITIES (CA)

THEATRE

PREFATORY STATEMENT

The study of theatre as a liberal art enables students to experience a form of cultural enrichment through engagement with an art form like no other. Live theatre demands a personal involvement that teaches students a variety of skills to be used both in the arts and in other fields as well. These skills include aesthetic judgment, performance and technical expertise, and personal discipline and self-confidence. The study of theatre also offers students not only a richer understanding of the profoundly important role the arts play in the world, but also a deeper respect for the artistic products of diverse cultures.

Goal I: Skills Acquisition

Students will demonstrate both comprehension and practical ability in the specific skill area (performance, design, technical production, dramatic criticism) that makes up the focus of a course. In each course, opportunities to practice the appropriate skills will be made available.

Objectives: All students will

1. give evidence of competence in the designated skill area
2. identify and use the various tools and terms specific to this theatrical skill area
3. demonstrate knowledge of the specific contributions made by this particular skill area to the art of theatre
4. acquire more sophisticated aesthetic judgment through the practice of critiquing various aspects of theatre in production
5. examine dramatic literature from the perspective of a particular theatrical skill area.

Goal II: Culture

Students will study the cultural context within which all theatre is created; they will consider the social, political, economic, and artistic ramifications of the plays read and/or produced in conjunction with the class.

Towards that end, students will

1. comprehend the cultural context of the dramatic literature worked on in the class
2. compare the various cultural contexts explored with their own.

Goal III: Creative Capacities

Through the practical application of various theatre skills, students will enhance their own creative capacities.

Students will:

1. how to express themselves in a variety of creative endeavors, all of which are crucial to the making of theatre
2. sharpen their abilities to work successfully in collaborative situations, and thereby develop self-confidence.