

THR 560 Collaborative Production (3 credits) Procedures and Guidelines

THR 560 Collaborative Production (3). Seniors collaborate as a theatre company to create an original production that integrates several of the following areas: improvisation, playwriting, acting, directing, dramaturgy, design, technical production, and stage management. Collaboration of group project approved in advance with advice, approval, and supervision by at least one instructor.

Student Responsibilities

1. Collaborative Production is a *self-directed* performance project conducted *independently* by a collaborative group of students. First, organize a group of seniors with whom you would like to collaborate on an original and integrative production. As group, initiate and decide on a particular topic of investigation of mutual interest to everyone.
2. Read and study the KU Core Goal 6 and Collaborative rubrics included in the Collaborative Production Agreement form (PDF). Be sure everyone agrees to these criteria.
3. Then, write up a detailed, 1-page proposal that explains what and why your group wants to investigate a specific topic or question and give a working title for your project. Be sure to explain what you plan to do to meet the criteria for KU Core Goal 6 and Collaboration (e.g., how your project will integrate which specific theatre skills).
4. Choose at least one faculty mentor to supervise your project by exploring professors' areas of expertise at <http://theatre.ku.edu/faculty>. *Before* the next fall or spring semester begins, share your detailed proposal with one professor and/or meet with a professor to flesh out your proposed ideas in detail.
5. Once a professor agrees to mentor you on your project, create your own "syllabus" or planned Schedule of what your group will do and turn in by specific due dates over the course of the semester. (See THR 560 sample Syllabus.)
6. Fill out the Collaborative Production Agreement (PDF) and attach your proposal and schedule. Have each group member sign it, and get signatures from your professor and department chair. Make copies for yourselves and your professor. Submit another copy of this form with your detailed proposal and semester schedule to Karen Hummel in 356 Murphy. She will give you a permission number to enroll in THR 560 with your professor.
6. Funding opportunities are available at <http://ugresearch.ku.edu/student/fund>.
7. For your public performance, you must reserve the use of the Inge Theatre or other spaces well in advance. Use the Academic Activity Application (PDF).
8. Consider performing your work at the Undergraduate Research Symposium: <http://ugresearch.ku.edu/student/share>.

Faculty Responsibilities

1. Upon agreeing to supervise and mentor a collaborative group of students, make suggestions for improving the students' initial, self-directed Proposal.
2. Discuss the students' proposed Schedule for turning in evidence of their work-in-progress to you by due dates.
3. Reach mutual agreement on how students will be assessed for their individual and group work over the course of the semester (e.g., see sample Syllabus). Make clear your expectations and how you will assess students' progress at various times during the semester. Agree upon what will happen if students fail to accomplish specified responsibilities by deadlines. If desired, you may also create and use your own additional rubrics to evaluate portions of projects over the semester (e.g., rubrics for writing, critical thinking, oral communication).
4. Once you approve all contractual aspects of this project, sign the students' copy of the Collaborative Production Agreement (PDF).
5. Ideally, it is recommended that faculty meet (or check in) with students at least once a week for 30-60 minutes to discuss any obstacles and questions that arise during the creative process. Ensure that students stay on task and on schedule by providing feedback on everything you receive as soon as you are able.
6. At the end of the semester, evaluate the students' final production using KU Core Goal 6 and Collaborative rubrics that are included in the Collaborative Production Agreement (PDF) at <http://theatre.ku.edu/advising>.
7. Depending on the outcomes of the students' final production, encourage students to participate in Undergraduate Research initiatives at <http://ugresearch.ku.edu/student/overview>, in part, to bring greater visibility to students' achievements in the Department of Theatre.

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