Theatre Practicum Syllabus
THR 101, 201, 301, & 401
Effective Fall 2015

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COURSE DESCRIPTION
Theatre is an endeavor that is best learned through practice. The University Theatre offers students a number of opportunities to act in and crew productions. Practicum allows students to earn required class credit while engaged in these activities. Earning four points completes each practicum. Crewing a production is worth two points. Acting is worth two points. However, you can only earn two points by acting per credit. The other two points must be earned by crewing.

EARNING PRACTICUM POINTS:
To pass a practicum course, a student must accumulate a total of four (4) points. No more than two (2) points per practicum course may be earned by acting.

4 points = One stage management or assistant directing position in a University Theatre production (students who stage manage should receive their credit through 401).
2 points = One acting role in a University Theatre production.
2 points = One crew assignment in a University Theatre production, from final run-through to last performance.

Additionally, special production projects, such as fundraisers, staged readings etc., may offer practicum points, as will assistant stage managing, designing, dramaturgy, and voice/dialect coaching. Credit for these activities will be determined in consultation with the Artistic Director in advance.

Please note: not all activities are eligible or appropriate for practicum credit. Non-credit activities include: directing projects, non-University Theatre projects (whether or not guided or advised by faculty or staff), activities for which credit is already being earned for another course, activities for the University Theatre for which you are receiving pay and activities deemed inappropriate for meeting the purposes of theatre practicum. If you have any questions, please contact the Artistic Director.

ENROLLING IN PRACTICUM

Officially enrolling in Practicum requires a permission number. The number may be obtained from the Artistic Director.

To be cast in a University Theatre production you must attend auditions. For Information on Auditions and Casting go to the University Theatre website > Links > Inside the University Theatre > Auditions and Casting

To apply for a crew assignment you must complete and turn in the attached Practicum Assignment Application form. Turn the form into Dennis Christilles in Murphy 356.
**PRACTICUM OPPORTUNITIES**

Crew Assignments: to be determined by the Technical Director and Artistic Director. You must submit the attached application form. Turn the form into Dennis Christilles in Murphy 356.

Stage Managing or Assistant Directing: fill out an application and submit it in 317 Murphy. Applications may be found online at the University Theatre website > Links > Inside the University Theatre > Stage Management

Acting: to be determined as a result of the audition process by each production’s director in consultation with the Artistic Director.

Students interested in other practical activities such as dramaturgy, design, voice coaching, etc. should contact the appropriate faculty member as there is no formal application process for these positions. Decisions are based on the student’s interests, abilities, and academic standing. The Artistic Director is responsible for decisions about the practicum points these assignments may carry.

**EXPECTATIONS & GRADING**

All students enrolled in any practicum must attend a mandatory introductory meeting. There will be several opportunities to attend this meeting at the beginning of each semester. In addition, students will be asked to attend one other session in order to be trained in basic necessary skills prior to their crewing assignment. These sessions will be also be held several times so that everyone will have the opportunity to attend.

If you don’t complete your Required Technical Skills test before the beginning of your crew assignment, your grade will be affected.

A student commits to a practicum activity by accepting an acting role, accepting a crew position, or agreeing to a stage management or assistant directing position. If a student then withdraws from that commitment, he or she has effectively failed that activity.

Here is how grades for each practicum are assigned:

- Two successfully completed activities = A
- One successfully completed activity and one failed activity = F
  (The successfully completed activity may be used toward the completion of another practicum)
- Two failed activities = F

Please do not accept a role or a crew position unless you are absolutely certain that you can fulfill it. If you drop a crew assignment, you have effectively failed that activity. If you must drop a crew, contact Technical Director, Alex Weston and Artistic Director, Dennis Christilles immediately so that we can find a replacement. Finding someone to take your place is helpful, but does not lessen the penalty.

If you are a Theatre major, you must complete three practicums (101, 201 and 301). If you are a Theatre minor, you need to complete only one theatre practicum.

**CREW REQUIREMENTS**

You are normally required to be on the production from the final run-through rehearsal (FRT or “crew-view”) to the final performance. This usually involves 12 to 14 evenings and one weekend afternoon. To find the exact dates you will be needed, please look carefully at the attached production grid.
The nature of training a crew and performing crew duties means you must be available for *every* rehearsal and performance from the final run-through (FRT) through final performance.

**ACTING REQUIREMENTS**
If you are cast in a show, you must be available for all rehearsals. Each director sets the rehearsal schedule differently, but they are generally three hour evening sessions beginning after 6:30 or 7:00, Monday through Friday or Sunday through Thursday. Rehearsals usually start six weeks before opening. Weekends may be required.

**STAGE MANAGING**
Students may earn a total of 4 points (an entire practicum credit) by stage-managing a production. The practicum to enroll in is THR 401. The Artistic Director and the Technical Director in consultation with each production's director make Stage Management, Assistant Directing and Assistant Stage Managing assignments.

*For more information about the department and policies, go to* [http://www.theatre.ku.edu](http://www.theatre.ku.edu).

**Disabilities and Special Needs**
The KU office of Disability Resources coordinates accommodations and services for all students who are eligible. If you have a disability for which you wish to request accommodations and have not contacted DR, please do so as soon as possible. Their office is located in 22 Strong Hall; their phone number is 785-864-2620 (V/TTY). Information about their services can be found at [http://www2.ku.edu/~disability/index.shtml](http://www2.ku.edu/~disability/index.shtml)

Please also contact me privately in regard to your needs in this course.
PRACTICUM ASSIGNMENT APPLICATION

This is your application to be assigned to a running crew for a University Theatre production. Be especially mindful of listing all possible conflicts that you anticipate. Consult the Production Grid in order to understand the exact required dates for each production. The Production Grid can be found on the University Theatre website (http://www.kutheatre.com) > Links > Inside the University Theatre

Name ______________________________________________________________

Theatre Major or Minor? (circle one)

Freshman __ Sophomore __ Junior __ Senior __ Graduate __

I have enrolled in, but not completed the following practicum (the original date of my enrollment in this courses is included):

    THR 101
    THR 201
    THR 301

I have completed the following practicum courses (the activities that I have successfully completed are listed with each practicum to which the points were assigned):

    THR 101          THR 201          THR 301
    a)                a)                a)
    b)                b)                b)

My Schedule Conflicts

I know that I will have the following conflicts this semester:
List only evening and weekend conflicts

Sunday       Monday      Tuesday      Thursday     Friday      Saturday