

Approval Chart for Curriculum Changes

A = Approve I= Information Item¹ R= Advise & Respond²

Course Number _____ or Degree Plan(s) THDN track of Theatre BFA

State the requested change and reason. A memo may be attached if more space is necessary.

Circle the number that corresponds to the requested change. Degree plan changes are on the second page.

					COUNCIL ³					
	Change to a Course	Dept./School	College Academic	Deans	TEC	UGEC	UUAC	GRAD	Provost	President
1.	Title (description unchanged)	A	A	A	I				I	I
2.	Description (not affecting content)	A	A	A	I				I	I
3.	Course term(s)	A	I	A	I				I	I
4.	Content (substantive change)	A	A	A	I				A	A
5.	Number of hours (lecture, lab, contact)	A	A	A	A				A	A
6.	Course number within the hundred	A	A	I	I				I	I
7.	Course number beyond the hundred	A	A	A	A				A	A
8.	Prerequisites	A	A	A	I				I	I
9.	Course fee(s)	A	--	A	--				A	I
10.	From U to G <i>or</i> G to U	A	A	A	A				A	A
11.	Cross list with another department: U or G level	A	A	A	A				A	A
12.	Department of record	A	A	A	A				A	A
13.	Open or close a course	A	A	A	A				A	A
14.	New course — See website for application and process. This change includes combining or splitting a course(s).	A	A	A	A				A	A

Note: When an academic unit does not have a council, the UGEC and/or UUAC will serve as its academic council, depending on the nature of the issue.

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		COUNCIL ³							Provost	Faculty	President	Board of Trustees
	Change to a Degree Plan	Dept./School	College Academic	Deans	TEC	UGEC	UUAC	GRAD				
1.	University Requirements — Change in approved course content ⁶	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--
2.	University Requirements — Add or drop a required course from the University Requirements chart ⁶	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	--
3.	University Requirements — Add or drop a course from a menu within the University Requirements ⁶	A	--	--	A				A	--	A	--
4.	University Requirements — Change hours within a menu on the University Requirements chart ⁶	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	--
5.	Major — Revision of major ^{4,5}	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--
6.	Major — Adopt or change admission requirements	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--
7.	Major — Add ^{4,5}	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	I
8.	Major – Discontinue (proposed by the department or college)	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	I
9.	Major – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	See below.										
10.	GPA — Revise major or cumulative requirement	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	--
11.	Minor — Revise course selection	A	A	A	I				I	--	I	--
12.	Minor — Add	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--
13.	Minor – Discontinue (proposed by the department or college)	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--
14.	Minor – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	See below.										
15.	Degree — Add	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	I
16.	Degree – Discontinue (proposed by the department or college)	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	I
17.	Degree – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	See below.										
18.	Any change to a graduate degree program	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--

COUNCIL ³										
	Provost-Proposed Change	Provost	Department	Dean	TEC	UUAC	Graduate	Faculty	President	Board of Trustees
1.	Major/Graduate Program – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	A	R	R	A			A	A	I
2.	Minor – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	A	R	R	A			--	A	--
3.	Degree – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	A	R	R	A			A	A	I

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COUNCIL ³										
	Change to the Catalog Information	Dept./School	College Academic	Deans	UGEC	UUAC	GRAD	Provost	Faculty	President
1.	General requirements for graduation including course requirements that are common to all majors for all degrees ⁷	--	--	--	A			A	A	A
2.	Admission requirements	--	--	--	A			A	A	A
3.	Policies governing academic probation and suspension	--	--	--	A			A	A	A
4.	Requirements for graduating with honors	--	--	--	A			A	A	A
5.	Other academic policy changes	--	--	--	A			A	--	A

¹ Councils may request additional information about “Information” items. These items are approved as “Consent Agenda.”

² The Dean and Department should respond to the Provost’s recommendation to close a program in writing. Advise & Respond (R) requires that the voting body should receive the written responses at least one week prior to the vote.

³ All courses that meet University Requirements for general education must go through UGEC. Courses or degrees offered only to students seeking teacher certification must go through the Teacher Education Council. All undergraduate changes must go before the UUAC. All graduate degree plan changes must go through the Graduate Council.

⁴ A minimum of 30 hours is required for a major. A maximum is specified for each degree (e.g., BA, BS). The university minimum for elective hours is 6, unless the requirements of external accrediting bodies make it impossible.

⁵ Program or course changes that apply to any major that includes Teacher Certification will be reviewed by the college, the Teacher Education Council (TEC), and then the UUAC.

⁶ Courses that satisfy ACU’s University Requirements (General Education) will normally have lower-level numbering, be free of prerequisites and co-requisites, appeal to more than one or two majors, and “not narrowly focus on those skills, techniques, and procedures specific to a particular occupation or profession” (SACS 2.7.3). Departments may request exceptions to the first three criteria.

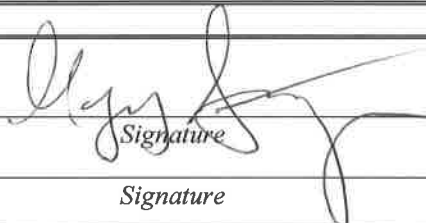
⁷ The UUAC approved the clarification that “general requirements for graduation” means the enumerated items in the “General Requirements for Bachelor’s Degrees” section of the catalog.

Revised 3-8-17

Curriculum/Catalog Changes Signature Page

Department/School Chair(s)	
 Signature	2/9/18 Approval date
_____ Signature	_____ Approval date

College Academic Council(s)	
 Signature	2.23.18 Approval date
_____ Signature	_____ Approval date

Dean(s)	
 Signature	2/27/18 Approval date
_____ Signature	_____ Approval date

Teacher Education Council	
_____ Chair's signature	_____ Approval date

General Education Council	
_____ Chair's signature	_____ Approval date

Undergraduate Academic Council	
_____ Chair's signature	_____ Approval date

Graduate Council	
_____ Chair's signature	_____ Approval date

Provost	
_____ Signature	_____ Approval date

Faculty	
_____ Chair of faculty senate	_____ Approval date

President	
_____ Signature	_____ Approval date



January 20, 2018

Abilene Christian University
Attn: ACU Academic Council

Dear Members of the CAS Academic Council & UUAC,

The Department of Theatre is seeking approval for a new Dance Track that falls under the four-year BFA Theatre, 128-hour degree.

Adding this particular track underscores the mission of ACU Theatre and is not a substantive change in degree planning. This additional track launch will allow us make a unique statement among our constituents of faith and art programs; Dance Track options are non-existent or limited in these programs. In order to be competitive with D1 programs such as Texas State and OCU, ACU Theatre must add comprehensive dance. ACU Theatre can therefore, expand on the limited number of spots offered each year through our audition process, an obvious win for university recruitment.

Justified and rigorous, a dance track will allow ACU to invest and strengthen the technique currently taught in the Musical Theatre Track as well. We have heard NYC Theatrical Agents like Nancy Carson repeatedly state that our students must improve in dance training to seek representation, book the job or apply for graduate programs. We are losing students to other programs that offer such training as it meets the demand of those that do not possess a strong singing talent expected in a Musical Theatre Track. We have current and prospective students at present that fall under this category.

The Theatre Department is currently in the middle of a search for a full time dance instructor hire to support the Musical Theatre Track so adding this position is low impact. It only makes sense to take advantage of this opportunity. Guest Artist, Lily Balogh from the New York City Ballet is instructing classes currently. Lily is the 5th Guest Artist to be brought in to support dance training at ACU. Thanks to private donor support, Lily returned to continue instruction for Spring 2018.

Dawne Meeks continues to instruct dance courses but serving as Chair for the past three years has placed an additional burden on Professor Meeks to attend to administrative duties and direct, choreograph and teach. Students have the option of taking Ballet/Modern classes under the Exercise Science major but it is not ideal as they are basic level courses.

The Dance Track would be added to the following menu of tracks currently offered to make a total of seven tracks offered under the BFA Theatre Degree: Acting, Musical Theatre,

Education, Design/Tech, Directing, and Theatre Ministry, and Dance. We also seek approval for THEA 228 Dance Conditioning, which is currently being offered (Spring 2018) for the second time as a Special Topics course.

Dr. Sheila Jones, Chair of Exercise Science, has granted access for Dance Track students to enroll in KINE 232, Structural Kinesiology (see statement of support document). Structural Kinesiology is a 3-hour lecture class that supports anatomical foundations and mechanics of human motion and basic principles of motor skills.

The Dance Track would require students to complete a total of 32 hours: 28 lecture and lab technique and 4 recital performance credits. The track hours are commensurate with the six tracks currently offered.

Guest Artist, Lily Balogh, choreographed and instructed Fall 2017 and is currently instructing Spring 2018 thanks to a private donor gift. Lily has been hired to continue to choreograph and instruct this semester as well as to recruit for the Department of Theatre. Lily trained with the American Ballet Theatre in NYC and danced with the New York City Ballet. Ms. Balogh has dual citizenship in the US and Hungary and owns a dance studio in Belgium. This is the 5th year for the Department of Theatre to contract a guest dance artist, thanks to CAS Dean and donor support.

Over the past five years ACU Theatre has employed the following fall semester guest artists:

- Kei Tsurharatani- Trained in Japan. NYC. Performed in *King & I*, *Bdwy*; *Miss Saigon*, *Bdwy*; and going into rehearsals for *Jagged Little Pill*, *Bdwy*.
- Melissa Young- Alvin Ailey Trained, NYC. Associate Artistic Director, Dallas Black Dance Theatre, Dallas, TX
- Melissa Zaremba- NYC Rockette Dancer, National Tours, Professional Union Choreographer, completing MFA in Choreography, May 2018.
- Crystal Lewis- MFA in Dance, Sam Houston University. Former Dance Faculty, Radford University, VA.
- Lily Balogh- American Ballet Theatre, NYC; New York City Ballet

Adding a dance track has been a 20+ year dream that the ACU Theatre has aggressively sought to obtain. Visiting Committee Reports show the need for expanded dance technique training over the past 20 years and actively in the last 13 years, stated since ACU Theatre launched Senior Showcase in Spring 2006. Here are a few quotes from students reporting to Visiting Committee over the years:

- "We want expanded dance training to match the new dance studio."
- "We want consistency in training - the same teachers, longer class exposure, every semester classes."
- "Very thankful for ballet based dance training."
- "I wish there was a dance track as that's my talent."
- "I feel like I have grown so much just from this semester while being nurtured."

Senior Showcase is a capstone performance that Senior BFA Musical Theatre and Acting track students perform in for NYC, LA, and DFW Union Agents and Casting Directors. Showcase will be presented in NYC at The Actors Temple, an Off-Broadway theatre, for the third year this coming March 2018. Agents and Casting Directors have repeatedly underscored the urgent need for further dance training. (See the support document from Agent/Owner, Nancy Carson of Carson-Adler, NYC.)

Serious conversations are underway with Tepper Director, Lisa Nicholas, to explore a special track designed for dance track students. Musical Theatre Track students in the Tepper program currently take dance classes at Broadway Dance Center, so fleshing out this menu to make a more intensive dance component could easily be executed much like the expansion ACU Theatre seeks. The Tepper Semester is a unique program from Syracuse University's Department of Drama that offers undergraduate students in advanced levels of acting, directing, musical theater, playwriting, casting, design, and stage management the opportunity to immerse themselves in a rigorous artistic training program in the culturally rich setting of New York City. Designed to be inclusive, this program welcomes qualified applicants from other schools, colleges, and universities.

At present, ACU Theatre sends 90% of students to NYC upon graduation. ACU Theatre currently has graduates working in television, film, Broadway, National Tours, Regional Performance, Design, Directing, Choreography and Teaching in the arts. We have students placed in NYC, LA, Chicago, Atlanta, DFW, Austin and other regional and international hubs.

Thank you for your consideration in helping ACU Theatre to grow and improve our missional training in the performing arts. We seek to be authentic storytellers as prophets of the word through song, dance and word wherever God leads us.

Blessings,
Dawne Swearingen-Meeks
ACU Theatre Chair, Associate Professor

New Track Application

Track Title: Dance

Type of Degree: BFA

Home Department: Theatre

Developer: Dawne Swearingen Meeks

Idea Credit: Adam Hester

Supporter: Donna Hester

I. Overview

A1.Mission of the track: The Abilene Christian University Department of Theatre, Dance Track, is committed to providing quality training and opportunity for the disciplined dance theatre artist in a nurturing environment that models Christian values.

A2.Mission of the Department: The Abilene Christian University Department of Theatre is committed to providing quality training and opportunity for the disciplined theatre artist in a nurturing environment that models Christian values.

B. Goal Competencies:

At the end of four-year dance track study each student should be able to:

1. Confidently articulate and apply advanced technique skills in ballet, tap, jazz and modern styles of dance in the classroom, in audition and in performance.
2. Breakdown, memorize and execute combinations in class and on the stage confidently, quickly and consistently.
3. Utilize appropriate professional callback etiquette tools.
4. Confidently and consistently execute proper placement and alignment in the body.
5. Confidently and consistently execute steps that incorporate specialized fluidity and timing or abstract timing as applicable to theatrical storytelling on the stage.
6. Apply characterization and appropriate style to choreography and given circumstances.
7. Communicate and confidently articulate dance vocabulary as it applies to all styles of dance technique.
8. Confidently comprehend and execute partnering techniques versus solo or company requirements.
9. Apply a confident understanding of how to network and utilize dance theatre audition technique tools.

C. Learning Outcomes:

Dance Track Students should be able to specifically:

1. Articulate Broadway styles of dance vs. conservatory styles and terms of dance.
2. Articulate and execute the following as it relates to Classical Ballet Technique: Terms such as single, double, triple and quadruple pirouettes, axial turns, piques, chaines, pencil, compass, fouette', soutenu, and other tours.

3. Articulate and execute the following as it relates to Classical Ballet Technique: jumps/leaps such as petit & grande jetés, tour jetés, split leaps, side jetés, soubresaut, échappe' saute', entrechat quatre, tour en l'air, tuck, straddle/russian, firebird, Barrel turns, calypso leap, sissone, pas de poisson, cabriole.
4. Articulate and execute the following as it relates to Traditional and Hoofing Tap Technique with awareness of gravity shift/placement: flap, shuffle, maxi-ford, a variety of timesteps including traveling, drawbacks, pullbacks, shim-sham, paddle n roll, wings, grab-offs, buck n wing, waltz clog, rolling shuffles and a variety of turning tap combinations.
5. Articulate and execute the following as it relates to Modern Dance Technique: Body Actions/range of motion including abduction, adduction, flexion, extension, lateral curves/plane/shifts, rotation, awareness of weight, focus, traveling, isolations, movement intention, inversion, contract and release, C Jump, T Line, fortifications, triplet, slide, gallop, skip, meter, duple meter, triple meter, complex meter, mixed meter, polymeter, time signature, sustained vs swinging, tilt, x-rolls, and yield & push.
6. Articulate and execute historic dances such as the Victorian Waltz, Regency Country dances, Elizabethan Galliard & la volta, 17th century Minuet dance steps such pas marche, pas grave and coupe'.
7. Confidently lead a theatre dance warm up.
8. Confidently apply theatre character study, research and motivation to choreography so that a piece is danced with an objective and action rooted in truth.

D. Target Audience: Prospective students that possess natural talent and strength in dance and movement skills. This audience understands the concept of storytelling through dance first rather than song first as the need for character demands more than just spoken text in specific styles or moments on the stage.

These students may not necessarily align with the expectations set for Musical Theatre Track with pressure to be vocally competitive but it would allow for students with this skill set to grow and flourish. This track is unique as no other university affiliated with Churches of Christ offers such a program of study.

E. Admission Requirements: All students are required to maintain a 2.50, though most students hold to a more competitive GPA and Dean's List status. All Dance Track students must submit a screening package that includes a 60-second monologue, three 60-second dance examples including ballet, tap and jazz or modern, an interview, headshot, theatrical resume, and 2 short answers. Note: They may choose to submit a 16-bar song selection if they possess vocal singing skills. ACU Theatre currently utilizes the GetAccepted Platform where all materials may be uploaded. Students are invited for an person audition to the Abilene Campus. Audition dates begin in November and run through early-mid March.

II. Feasibility:

A. Relational Track Mission Aspects: This track aligns with the other art forms of stage performance. ACU Theatre has been lacking in comprehensive dance training for the last 20 years. It is vital that dance training is provided at a level of competitive

excellence. Consistently, we have received feedback from agents and casting directors stating that our students need more dance technique. This dance track will benefit musical theatre track students as well as acting, directing, educational, tech/design and theatre ministry track students. Students will be exposed to designing, lighting, costuming and sound design for the dance stage. Educational and directing track students will be exposed to a greater dance vocabulary, movement patterns and storytelling. Acting and musical theatre students will be given opportunities to take dance instruction which will further dance technique, confidence and understanding of auditioning and performing.

Expanding our dance track studies will entice higher level professional teachers, choreographers and directors to guest instruct, workshop, choreograph and direct as they will see that the program is more serious about the work, therefore more competitive. More competitive programming means greater opportunity for graduate school studies, agent/casting director interest, professional regional theatre work, national tours, cruise ships, film, television and Broadway endeavors.

Most importantly, we need global changers in our world. Dance can reach people free from language barriers, it can speak to metaphor, theme/concept and very specific ideologies. We need dance performers, choreographers and instructors that are missional prophets that engage in dance movement to stir and illuminate God's truth.

A. Track Demand: High Demand. Currently ACU Theatre has several students that would be better suited to a dance track than the Musical Theatre Track. We have current prospective students that are currently demanding the track and we have lost potential students in past years because the dance training was considered weak. Launching a Dance Track will give ACU Theatre a unique distinction among constituent schools of faith. It will raise visibility, will allow us to raise departmental acceptance numbers and will allow our program to move to the next level of competitiveness. ACU Theatre is currently in a D1 shift as we are now competing against Texas State, OCU, NYU, Baylor and TCU as main competitors. The Dance Track will also allow more recruitment opportunities as well.

B. Student Demand: Our goal is to invite 2-4 dance track majors for Fall 2018. I feel this is a realistic number considering funding came late. The target would be 10-12 with a max number of 16 students.

III. Curriculum Outline:

Theatre Dance Track Course Description

ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC COUNCIL PROPOSAL: Theatre Dance Track (THDN)

DEPARTMENT: Theatre, BFA

PROPOSAL DATE TO COUNCIL: 2/16/18

TRACK HOURS: 32

PROPOSED TRACK START DATE: Fall 2018

Degree plan

NOTE:

- THEA 228 (yellow highlight) has been taught as Special Topics.
- KINE 232 (blue highlight) has been approved by the Kinesiology and Nutrition chair for inclusion.

THEATRE CORE	CREDIT HOURS	OFFERINGS
THEA 101 - Transforming Artists: An Orientation to the Theatre Major	1	Fall
THEA 137 - Technical Practicum	1. Take 6x. 1 x 6 = 6 hrs	Fall, Spring, Summer
THEA 220 - Introduction to Theatre	3*	Spring
THEA 226 - Acting I	3	Fall, Spring
THEA 227 - Introduction to Technical Theatre	4	Fall
THEA 230 - Fashion as Cultural Reflection	3	Fall
THEA 469 - Stage Makeup	3	Spring
THEA 480 - Arts and Culture: A Christian Aesthetic (capstone)	3	Spring
THEA 490 - History of Theatre (writing-intensive course)	3	Fall, odd years
Total *Hours may also fulfill university requirements and are not included in total major hours	23	
THEATRE DANCE (THDN)		
THEA 138 - Theatre Workshop: Performance	1. Take 3x. 1 x 3 = 3 hrs	Fall, Spring
THEA 221 - Beginning Jazz	1	Fall
THEA 222 - Beginning Ballet	1	Spring
THEA 223 - Beginning Tap	1	Spring
THEA 224 - Beginning Modern	1	Spring

KINE 232 - Structural Kinesiology	3	Spring
THEA 228 - Dance Conditioning	1. Take 2x. 1 x 2 = 2 hrs	Fall
THEA 321 - Movement for the Stage	3	Fall
THEA 325 - Acting II	3	Fall
THEA 327 - Acting III: Improvisation for the Stage	3	Spring
THEA 350 - Acting IV: Period Styles for the Stage	3	Fall, even years
THEA 421 - Advanced Jazz	1	Spring
THEA 422 - Advanced Ballet	1	Fall
THEA 423 - Advanced Tap	1	Fall
THEA 424 - Advanced Modern	1	Spring
THEA 425 - Advanced Dance Auditioning	1	Spring
THEA 461 - Children's Theatre for the Stage	3	Fall
Total	32	
Supplement for major		
Sophomore (or higher) literature course	3	
Electives	Minimum 14 hours	
Total major hours	72 credit hours	

Minimum GPA in major (all THEA courses are included): 2.50

Minimum GPA for graduation: 2.50

Minimum advanced hours: ≥33

Minimum total hours: ≥128

Detail & Description of Track Courses:

THEA 138- Theatre Workshop Performance (Requirement: Four rotations for Dance Track Recital Performance)

Lecture Hours: 0

Lab Hours: 1

Terms Offered: Fall & Spring

For students cast in productions. The course may be repeated each semester for credit up to 10 hours.

THEA 221 – Beginning Jazz

Lecture Hours: 0

Lab Hours: 3

Credit Hours: 1

Terms Offered: Fall, odd years

A practical class for developing the performer's technique in jazz choreography for musical theatre. Fulfills a PEAC activity credit. For theatre majors only.

THEA 222 - Beginning Ballet

Lecture Hours: 0

Lab Hours: 3

Credit Hours: 1

Terms Offered: Spring, even years

A practical class for developing the performer's technique in ballet for musical theatre. Fulfills a PEAC activity credit. For theatre majors only.

THEA 223 - Beginning Tap

Lecture Hours: 0

Lab Hours: 3

Credit Hours: 1

Terms Offered: Spring

A practical class for developing the performer's technique in tap dancing for musical theatre. Fulfills a PEAC activity credit. For theatre majors only.

THEA 224- Beginning Modern

Lecture Hours: 0

Lab Hours: 3

Credit Hours: 1

Terms Offered: Spring

A practical class for developing the performer's technique in modern dance for musical theatre. Fulfills a kinesiology activity credit. For theatre majors only.

KINE 232 - Structural Kinesiology

NOTE: Approved for Dance Track by Dr. Sheila Jones.

Lecture Hours: 3

Lab Hours: 0

Credit Hours: 3

Terms Offered: Fall, Spring

Anatomical foundations and mechanics of human motion; basic principles of motor skills.

THEA 228- Dance Conditioning

NOTE: Applying for Academic Council Approval at present.

Lecture Hours: 0

Lab Hours: 3

Credit Hours: 1

Terms Offered: Fall, Spring

Provides conditioning and cross-training for dance. Emphasis is placed on developing strength, flexibility, and coordination. Aids in injury prevention. Students may choose to count one dance course as a kinesiology activity credit.

THEA 321 - Movement for the Stage

Lecture Hours: 3

Lab Hours: 0

Credit Hours: 3

Terms Offered: Fall

Theory and application of movement, combat techniques, the Alexander technique, the elements of a physical regimen in order to develop physical coordination, flexibility, strength, spontaneity, and awareness of the body in presentational space. Prerequisite: THEA 226. For theatre majors only.

THEA 325- Acting II

Lecture Hours: 3

Lab Hours: 0

Credit Hours: 3

Terms Offered: Fall

An application of the six step, the basic object exercise, and other acting tools developed by Uta Hagen, toward producing a scene/character study based on a modern American play. Prerequisites: THEA 226

THEA 327- Acting III: Improvisation for the Stage

Lecture Hours: 3

Lab Hours: 0

Credit Hours: 3

Terms Offered: Spring

Improvisational training techniques explore the inner sources of spontaneous creation by exercising commitment and creative freedom in each moment of performance. Students will

study improvisational theory and enact performance sessions designed to build spontaneous awareness Prerequisite: THEA 226

THEA 350- Acting IV:Period Styles for the Stage

Lecture Hours: 3

Lab Hours: 0

Credit Hours: 3

Terms Offered: Fall

Period Styles for the Stage is intended for theatre majors with a primary interest in acting. This course is required for the acting track major that is pursuing a BFA degree in theatre. Other theatre students may select this course as one of several options for theatre requirements.

Beginning Acting, THEA 226 is a prerequisite.

THEA 421 - Advanced Jazz

Lecture Hours: 0

Lab Hours: 0

Credit Hours: 1

Terms Offered: Spring, even years

Provides advanced training in jazz dance technique for the musical theatre. Emphasis on placement, fluidity, musicality, execution, and style as it applies to professional auditioning and performing. Fulfills a PEAC activity credit. Prerequisite: THEA 221 or permission of instructor. For theatre majors only.

THEA 422 - Advanced Ballet

Lecture Hours: 0

Lab Hours: 0

Credit Hours: 1

Terms Offered: Fall, even years

Provides advanced training in ballet dance technique for the musical theatre. Emphasis will be placed on alignment, placement, fluidity, execution of steps and style as it applies to professional auditioning and performing. Fulfills a PEAC activity credit. Prerequisite: THEA 223 or permission of instructor. For theatre majors only.

THEA 423 - Advanced Tap

Lecture Hours: 0

Lab Hours: 0

Credit Hours: 1

Terms Offered: Spring, odd years

Provides advanced training in tap dance technique for the musical theatre. Emphasis on rhythm, musicality, syncopation, execution, and style as it applies to professional auditioning and performing. Fulfills a PEAC activity credit. Prerequisite: THEA 221 or permission of instructor. For theatre majors only.

THEA 424 - Advanced Modern

Lecture Hours: 0

Lab Hours: 0

Credit Hours: 1

Terms Offered: Spring, odd years

Provides advanced training in modern dance technique for the musical theatre. Emphasis on placement, fluidity, strength, emotional connection, execution, and style as it applies to professional auditioning and performing. Fulfills a PEAC activity credit. Prerequisite: THEA 224 or permission of instructor. For theatre majors only.

THEA 425 - Advanced Dance Auditioning

Lecture Hours: 0

Lab Hours: 0

Credit Hours: 1

Terms Offered: Spring, odd years

Provides advanced training in dance auditioning technique for the musical theatre. Emphasis on memorization, style and performance as it applies to placement, fluidity, musicality, and execution relational to professional auditioning and performing. Fulfills a PEAC activity credit. Prerequisite: THEA 221-THEA 224 or permission of instructor. For theatre majors only.

THEA 461- Children's Theatre for the Stage

Lecture Hours: 3

Lab Hours: 0

Credit Hours: 3

Terms Offered: Fall

An overview of children's theatre: understanding the literature, acting techniques, design concepts, and the production presentation.

IV. Institutional Supports

- A. These are unchanged from current program tracks.
- B. Faculty: There is an open position announcement for a dance faculty member.
Currently, we have a Guest Artist each fall. Our hope is to continue to employ Lily Balogh in an ongoing guest artist capacity or as faculty which is preferred. Lily desires to stay. Dawne Meeks currently teaches dance technique as well as Jackie Beth Shilcutt through Exercise Sciences. We also regularly invite in dance workshop teachers. We are

currently in conversation with the NYC Tepper Program to expand the dance offerings to align with the Dance Track.

- C. There will be impact on the department as performance experiences always require more than meets the eye. Lighting and sound design for dance can be a detailed, lengthy creation process and so can dance costumes depending on the required demand. Modern black costumes and black backdrops could be a first option to meet budget needs though we will want to expand in time. Dance Track students will also be needed for dance ensemble or leading roles for Musical Theatre performances like CATS, West Side Story, and Oklahoma's Ballet Core. Dance Chapel performances or recitals can be performed on an open, clean space. That still requires time to clear, clean and paint the floor and hang appropriate curtains; however, I believe it is still less than requesting a full set to be built. Moving forward, ACU Theatre may want to add a dance performance production on the season menu.
- D. ACU Theatre opened a fully finished Dance Studio this past August 2017 in the WPAC. A private donor generously gave to support the completion of the dance and movement classroom that had never been finished. Additionally, the staff and faculty at the Money Recreation Center have been incredibly generous to provide additional dance studio spaces each semester at no cost to the department. We stand in gratitude.
- E. Faculty Loads: Faculty loads were actually lessened for Chair Meeks this semester. Lily Balogh relieved Dawne of three courses to allow Mrs. Meeks to have a Chair reduction for the first time in three years. Dawne Meeks typically teaches a full load or overload each semester. In addition, Chair Meeks directs, choreographs, mentors, fundraises and attends to administrative duties. Dawne will continue to teach beginning level classes if needed but plans to phase out advanced level dance if not all dance instruction. The intended plan is to allow a full time dance instructor to instruct all dance technique courses. Workload example: Prepping a minute of choreography for class instruction or for a production takes approximately an hour of creative application not to mention the hours of research and music selection before the actual steps may be created.
- F. Collaboration Opportunity: There is a wonderful collaborative opportunity with Exercise Science because of spaces, workshops we share and will continue to share, faculty, guest artists and the Exercise Science 232 that will allow Dance Track students to understand the kinesthetic movement of the body more confidently.
- G. Dance Studio Needs: Barres, mirrors, dance floor, mats, stereo and space. ACU Theatre has all of these components needed for a dance space. The Rec Center also offers these components.
- H. Library Needs: None at present.
- I. Recruiting: Raises the recruiting level, positive reflection on the school and elevates potential student numbers accepted into the theatre program.
- J. ACU currently offers four in-house scholarships. Our hope would be to gain more financial support through this new track offering.

V. Assessment Plans:

- A. Writing Reflection and Assessments.
- B. Writing Reflection, Assessments and Performance Presentation.

- C. Writing Reflection, Assessments and Performance Presentation.
- D. Writing Reflection, Assessments and Performance Presentation.
- E. Writing Reflection, Assessments and Performance Presentation.
- F. Writing Reflection, Assessments and Performance Presentation.
- G. Demonstration and Assessments.
- H. Writing Reflection, Assessments, Demonstration and Performance Presentation.

VI. Timeline for Program Development and Implementation: Launch Fall 2018.

EMAIL APPROVAL FROM SHEILA JONES 1/14/18

On Jan 14, 2018, at 9:13 PM, Sheila Jones <joness@acu.edu> wrote:

Hi Dawne,

I would support that idea, as long as it would not be a large amount of students. 2-5 students sounds great.

Thanks,

Sheila

Sheila Jones, PhD, RD, LD
Chair, Department of Kinesiology and Nutrition
ACU Box 28084
Abilene, Texas 79699
(325) 674-2089

Romans 8:38-39

On Sun, Jan 14, 2018 at 3:56 PM, Dawne Meeks <dms05b@acu.edu> wrote:

Good Afternoon Sheila,

Happy New Year to you!
I pray this finds you well and blessed.

The Theatre department has verbal approvals from Dean Straughn and Provost Rhodes to begin putting together a Dance Track.

We are in the process of submitting paperwork to Dr. Tom Milholland and academic counsel for approval to launch a Dance Track under the BFA, Theatre Major.
This new track would go into effect Fall 2018 if everything goes according to plan.

We are essentially bundling several existing dance & theatre technique courses already in our menu. We hope to add a 1 hour Dance Conditioning course that has been taught as a Special Topics course. Finally, we are very interested in adding your course listed below to the requirements for dance track majors.

KINE 232 - Structural Kinesiology
Lecture Hours: 3
Lab Hours: 0
Credit Hours: 3
Terms Offered: Fall, Spring

Anatomical foundations and mechanics of human motion; basic principles of motor skills.

Last week I observed you had three sections offered and several slots available. It appears that you would potentially have room to add 2-5 students. We are excited about the prospect of boosting our majors but don't anticipate it will be a significant number.

I love the idea of collaboration between our departments. Please let me know if you would be willing to support this action.

Blessings and thanks in advance,
Dawne Meeks

Dawne Swearingen Meeks

Associate Professor



January 23, 2018

Dawne Swearingen Meeks
Associate Professor
ACU Theatre Department Chair
Abilene Christian University
1600 Campus Court
Abilene, TX 79699

Dear Dawne,

Thank God, literally. I am beyond happy to hear this wonderful news. As you know, I am a huge supporter of the Musical Theater program at ACU and have been since I first visited there over twelve years ago. I have watched it grow and mature under both Adam and now your guidance. It thrills me to have a solid program to recommend that combines Christian values with an honest approach to what it takes to compete successfully in the world of New York and Los Angeles. The only element that has consistently been lacking in that training has been a dance program that is as top notch as the voice and acting which you have been offering. I have not been shy about voicing that opinion, which is why this thrills me so much. Now if that program becomes an ongoing and consistent part of your department, ACU will jump to a whole new level in the eyes of the world as a whole. Bravo, and a standing ovation for all who made this happen.

Love and continued prayers,

Nancy Carson, ext. 202