



*Please forward*  
*David W. Lewis*  
*4/25/11*

Office of Undergraduate Studies

195 S. Central Campus Drive Salt Lake City, UT 84112-0511 (801) 581-3811 FAX (801) 585-3581

April 20, 2011

TO: David Pershing  
Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

FR: John Francis *John Francis*  
Chair, Undergraduate Council

RE: **Musical Theatre Emphasis**

*Approved*  
*Please forward*  
*Michael King*  
*4/28/11*

At its meeting of Tuesday, April 19, 2011, the Undergraduate Council voted to approve a proposal from the Department of Theatre for a transcribed emphasis in Musical Theatre. The proposal, along with letters of support, is attached.

We are asking you, if you also approve of the proposal, to forward it on to the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate for their consideration.

Department of Theatre  
University of Utah  
Musical Theatre Program  
Proposal for New Emphasis Area  
4/18/2011

Section I: Action

The Department of Theatre at the University of Utah proposes that a new Musical Theatre Program (MTP) emphasis be entered on BFA Theatre transcripts.

The Musical Theatre Program offers a rich and rigorous model for the College of Fine Arts. The Department of Theatre in collaboration with the Departments of Ballet and Modern Dance is creating a professionally oriented university/conservatory program for students who seek careers as actors, singers, and dancers.

The Musical Theatre Program is designed to prepare students for a well-rounded musical theatre performance career. Like the Department of Theatre's Actor Training Program, which has already gone through the emphasis process, the curriculum of the MTP is fundamentally craft-based, offering intensive courses in voice and dance, in addition to acting.

Regardless of emphasis area, all students seeking a BFA in Theatre must develop foundational skills in all areas of theatre by taking "core" courses. This core creates building blocks of knowledge required for more in-depth exploration in specific emphasis areas, and prepares students for the rigors of interdisciplinary collaboration required in both academic and professional theatre.

All first year Theatre majors are required to take

- Script Analysis (THEA 1713)—Students develop skills to be used in the in-depth analysis of play scripts in their historical and cultural contexts, with a special emphasis on the rhetorical and structural elements common to most plays.
- First Year Acting (course number varies depending upon emphasis)—Students begin to develop an understanding of the discipline of acting as well as the process and exploration of the self in creating character. Focus is on elements of acting as applied through exercises, improvisation, contemporary monologues and scene work.
- Theatre and Theory (THEA 2713)—Once students have learned the foundational skills required for the close reading of plays (as described above in Script Analysis), this course provides students with a working understanding of the critical theories most useful in the *analysis and production* of theatrical texts.

Other departmental core requirements are taken at different points in a student's career depending upon his/her emphasis area. Faculty members from each emphasis area have determined specific course sequences to optimize student learning outcomes and facilitate timely progress toward graduation.

Faculty mentors in the MTP guide students through an educational environment that develops the student's

craft, communication skills, knowledge, creative thinking, and collaborative skills. This allows students the ability to explore and develop their skills as actor-singer-dancers with a sense of purpose, where personal expression and professional growth can result in acceptance to a graduate school or a specific career in the arts where they may share their gifts with society.

See Appendix for a detailed four-year program of study for the Musical Theatre Program.

## **Section II: Need**

Currently the Department of Theatre offers a BA in Theatre Studies and three distinct BFA degree emphases: Actor Training Program (ATP), Performing Arts Design Program (PADP), and Stage Management. Each of these emphasis areas has a set of unique requirements designed to meet the expectations of the profession when they apply for jobs or to enter programs of advanced study. Similarly the emphasis in Musical Theatre has a unique set of requirements (see appendix for details). Creating an MTP emphasis on student transcripts and in the Degree Audit Reports System would help students and advisors track progress toward graduation. In addition, the MTP emphasis designation would make it easier for potential employers and admissions personnel to determine the candidate's specific area of expertise and preparation.

## **Section III: Institutional Impact**

There will be a significant impact to the Department of Theatre with the addition of an emphasis in Musical Theatre. Once four full classes of majors have enrolled, the Department anticipates that MTP will increase our total number of majors by approximately 64-72 additional students. The additional majors will require the Department to fully schedule all available studio classrooms in the Performing Arts Building and the West Institute. The Department will also no longer produce a Classical Greek play every year, but will instead produce two musicals a year in both the Babcock and Studio 115 theatres in order to provide musical theatre performance opportunities for Musical Theatre students. In addition, planning has begun with Pioneer Theatre Company to provide internship opportunities for MTP students as it currently does for our Actor Training Program (ATP) students. The Department does not anticipate any other institutional impact beyond insuring equitable allocation of resources between the ATP and MTP emphases, which have different needs than the PADP and Stage Management emphases.

The Departments of Ballet and Modern Dance have added courses to their curricula specifically for the MTP students as well as opened other courses already in the curricula to these students. The impact on these two departments will be beneficial monetarily as they will earn additional SCH for MTP students taking courses in their departments. The only impact on the School of Music is that of advisory support for the MTP emphasis curriculum development. The National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) accredits the University of Utah School of Music and the MTP emphasis in the Department of Theatre will be reviewed in conjunction with the School of Music accreditation in future reviews. The Department of Theatre curriculum committee will work closely with the School of Music to assure that the MTP emphasis meets the NASM requirements for a Musical Theatre Emphasis.

## **Section IV: Finances**

The Department of Theatre has hired new auxiliary faculty specifically to teach the MTP courses. Salaries for these individuals are garnered from the additional SCH these courses generate. The additional Student Credit Hour funding generated by the Musical Theatre Program will cover the cost of the additional MTP courses. The Department plans to admit 18-22 students annually resulting in the possibility of approximately 72 MTP emphasis students in 2013. The total SCH generated per student in the Department of Theatre over four years of study in the MTP emphasis is \$4,875. The increase in SCH for the Departments of Ballet and Modern Dance is projected to be approximately \$30,500 per year. The Department of Theatre is hopeful that the addition of the MTP emphasis and the resultant increase in total number of majors will position the Department to attract internal and external funding for 1-2 additional MTP full-time faculty lines. As in the School of Music, the students are assessed course fees for some of the private lessons they receive. These courses, with their assigned Special Course Fees, have already been approved by the College of Fine Arts Curriculum Committee and have received the subsequent additional approvals as well.

**APPENDIX**  
Musical Theatre Program  
Four-Year Plan of Study

**First Year**

Fall			Spring		
THEA 1220	1 <sup>st</sup> Yr Acting for ATP	3	THEA 1230	1 <sup>st</sup> Yr Acting for ATP	3
THEA 1713	Script Analysis	3	THEA 2713	Theatre and Theory	3
THEA 1714	Music Theory I for MTP	3	THEA 1715	Music Theory II for MTP	3
THEA 2011	Private Voice for MTP I	1	THEA 2011	Private Voice for MTP I	1
BALLE 1190	Beginning Ballet Technique	2	BALLE 1190	Beginning Ballet Technique	2
BALLE 1350	Jazz Dance	2	BALLE 1350	Jazz Dance	2
General Ed	Intermediate Writing	3	General Ed	QA Requirement	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>17</b>	<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>17</b>

**Second Year**

Fall			Spring		
THEA 2220	ATP Acting II	3	THEA 3030	Voice and Text for MTP	3
THEA 2012	Vocal Performance Seminar I	3	THEA 2013	Vocal Performance Seminar II	3
THEA 2011	Private Voice for MTP I	1	THEA 2011	Private Voice for MTP I	1
THEA 1160	Production: Babcock	1	THEA 2014	MTP Ensemble	3
BALLE 1230	Ballet Second Year I	2	BALLE 1230	Ballet Second Year II	2
BALLE 2380	Jazz Second Year I	2	BALLE 2390	Jazz Second Year II	2
General Ed	AI Requirement	3	General Ed	DV Requirement	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>17</b>

**Third Year**

Fall			Spring		
THEA 3720	History of Theatre (fulfills CW Requirement)	3	THEA 3740	History of Musical Theatre	3
THEA 4251	MTP Studio I	3	THEA 4260	MTP Studio II	3
THEA 1225	Conducting for MTP	1	THEA 3230	Audition Techniques I for ATP	2
THEA 4011	Private Voice for MTP II	1	THEA 4011	Private Voice for MTP II	1
THEA 1550	Scenography	5	THEA 1170	Production: Lab	1
TBD	Dance Elective	1-3	TBD	Dance Elective	1-3
DANC TBD	MTP Modern Dance	1	DANC TBD	MTP Modern Dance	1
			General ED	IR Requirement	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>15-17</b>	<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>15-17</b>

### Fourth Year

Fall			Spring		
THEA 3271	Movement for MTP	3	THEA 3790	Senior Project	3
THEA 4011	Private Voice for MTP II	1	THEA 4011	Private Voice for MTP II	1
THEA 3110 or THEA 3600	Beginning Stage Direction or Stage Management	3	BALLE TBD	Tap	1
BALLE TBD	Tap	1	General ED	BF Requirement	3
General Ed	BF Requirement	3	General ED	HF Requirement	3
General Ed	HF Requirement	3	General ED	SF Requirement	3
General Ed	SF Requirement	3			
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>17</b>	<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>14</b>

Graduation Requirements		Credits
Gen Ed Requirements for BFA	WR, QA, AI, 2-HF, 2-SF, 2-BF	24-30
Bachelor's Degree Requirements	DV, IR, CW (THEA 3720)	91
MTP Requirements	THEA 1225, 1230, 1714, 1715, 2011, 2012, 2220, 2013, 2014, 3030, 3230, 3271, 3740, 3790, 4011, 4251, 4260; BALLE 1190, 1230, 1350, 2380, 2390, #TBD (Tap); DANC #TBD; 2 dance electives <sup>2</sup> ; keyboard proficiency <sup>3</sup>	72-78
Theatre Core Requirements	THEA 1160, 1170, 1220, 1550, 1713, 2713, 3110/3600, 3720	22
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>124-136</b>

**MTP acceptance is by audition only.**

THEA 3720: History of Theatre I fulfills the University's CW Requirement and is part of the Theatre Core, which all Majors are required to take in order to graduate with a degree in Theatre.

All MT Majors must take two elective dance courses in order to complete the MT emphasis. The course may be taken through the department of Ballet, Modern Dance, or Exercise & Sports Science but must be approved in advance by the MT Area Head.

All MT Majors must pass a keyboard proficiency test or complete MUSC 1150 Keyboard I (1) with a C or better.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

*School of Music*

## **Memorandum**

April 15, 2011

To: John Francis, Senior Associate Vice President for Undergraduate Studies

From: Robert Baldwin, Interim Director, School of Music *RB*

Re: Proposed emphasis in Musical Theatre

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This memo is to confirm that the Undergraduate Studies Director in the School of Music has reviewed the proposed degree plan for a bachelor's degree emphasis in musical theatre to be offered through the Department of Theatre and confirmed that there is no conflict with degrees offered in the School of Music. The School of Music is willing to take a supportive and advisory role for this emphasis offering. The School of Music is aware that the Department of Theatre will be hiring its own instructors for music classes (e.g. private and group voice as well as introduction to Music Theory) since the School cannot accommodate additional students in our own courses beyond our music majors and minors. MTP students are welcome to audition for and participate in our ensembles, however.

It should also be noted that the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) is the accrediting agency for musical theatre degrees, regardless of the department where they are housed. It is with this understanding that the School of Music will provide a supportive and advisory role for the Department of Theatre with regards to this particular emphasis and the accreditation process. The University of Utah will be subject to a NASM review in 2020, our next formal review year, which will include a review of the MTP emphasis offered in the Department of Theatre.



## Memorandum

**To:** Ed Barbanell, Associate Dean  
**From:** Gage Williams, Chair  
**Date:** January 20, 2011  
**Subject:** **Administrative support for Department of Theatre Undergraduate Musical Theatre Program (MTP) Emphasis**

The Department of Theatre is requesting a BFA emphasis for our new Musical Theatre Program (MTP):

Listing this emphasis on transcripts would bring clarity to this area of study. This would better explain the unique terminology of theatre major degree requirements. Creating this emphasis will also enable academic advisors to better use Degree Audit Reports. In addition, it will provide clear information for future employers and graduate schools in their assessment of our students.

The Department of Theatre proposal is attached for your consideration.

As Chair of the Department of Theatre, I fully support this proposal. Please contact me if you require additional information.





Office of the Dean

**MEMO**

**Date:** January 27, 2011

**To:** Edward Barbanell, Associate Dean  
Undergraduate Studies

**From:** Raymond Tymas-Jones, Dean  
College of Fine Arts

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Raymond Tymas-Jones', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

**Subject:** Support for BFA emphasis in Musical Theatre Program (MTP)

This memorandum is in support of the emphasis for the Theatre BFA in Musical Theatre Program (MTP). This will be a wonderful collaboration between the Departments of Theatre, Ballet and Modern Dance. This strong collaboration will provide students interested in pursuing a career in Musical Theatre the instruction and education needed to help them thrive in a theatre career. As you know, recording this area of study on the transcript will benefit students of the program in their applications for graduate school or employment. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your consideration and assistance.



April 15, 2011

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is to express the Department of Modern Dance's support for the new Musical Theatre Program in the Department of Theater at the University of Utah. The Department of Modern Dance looks forward to being a part of the Musical Theatre Program by offering a new two-semester course in modern dance specifically for this program. This course Danc 1220 and 1230 has already been proposed and accepted by the College Curriculum Committee.

I wish the Theater Department success in the launching of this new program.

Stephen Koester  
Chair, Department of Modern Dance  
University of Utah  
801/587-9809  
801/581-5442 (fax)  
[stephen.koester@utah.edu](mailto:stephen.koester@utah.edu)



DEPARTMENT OF BALLET

330 S 1500 E RM 112 SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84112-0280 (801) 581-8231 FAX (801) 581-5442

April 15, 2011

John Francis, Senior Associate Vice President Academic Affairs

110 Sill Center

Dear Senior Associate Vice President Francis:

I am very pleased to inform you and the Undergraduate Council of the support from the Department of Ballet for the Musical Theater Program (MTP) emphasis in the Department of Theatre, as developed by Chair Gage Williams and his faculty.

The Ballet Department is in charge of the ballet and jazz courses particularly for the students in the MTP. We have accommodated the ballet class schedule for the Theatre Department. Our Graduate TA's with faculty supervision teach the ballet classes. Tamara Squires, our professional jazz dancer and teacher met with David Schmidt, in charge of the MTP, to restructure our jazz classes to suit this MTP emphasis.

I believe this program is a vital area of study for the Theater Department and my faculty are in full support.

Respectfully submitted,

Bené Arnold  
Interim Chair