



DEPARTMENT OF
HIGHER EDUCATION &
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

New Program Report

Date Submitted:

05/18/2021

Institution

Missouri Southern State University

Site Information

Implementation Date:

8/1/2021 12:00:00 AM

Added Site(s):

Selected Site(s):

Missouri Southern State University, 3950 E. Newman Road, Joplin, MO, 64801-1595

CIP Information

CIP Code:

500509

CIP Description:

A program that focuses on the principles and techniques for integrating theatre, music, and dance into a unified production. Includes instruction in acting, dance, voice, technical theater, musical genres, piano, and history of musical theater.

CIP Program Title:

Musical Theatre

Institution Program Title:

Musical Theatre Performance

Degree Level/Type

Degree Level:

Bachelor's Degree

Degree Type:

Bachelor of Fine Arts

Options Added:

Collaborative Program:

N

Mode of Delivery

Current Mode of Delivery

Classroom

Student Preparation

Special Admissions Procedure or Student Qualifications required:

n/a

Specific Population Characteristics to be served:

n/a



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Faculty Characteristics

Special Requirements for Assignment of Teaching for this Degree/Certificate:
All faculty meet HLC standards for faculty qualifications.

Estimate Percentage of Credit Hours that will be assigned to full time faculty:

Full-time 90%

Part-time 10%

Expectations for professional activities, special student contact, teaching/learning innovation:
All faculty are expected to meeting university standards for teaching, scholarship, and service.

Student Enrollment Projections Year One-Five

Year 1	Full Time: 10	Part Time: 0	
Year 2	Full Time: 12	Part Time: 0	
Year 3	Full Time: 14	Part Time: 0	Number of Graduates: 8
Year 4	Full Time: 16	Part Time: 0	
Year 5	Full Time: 18	Part Time: 0	Number of Graduates: 16

Percentage Statement:

n/a

Program Accreditation

Institutional Plans for Accreditation:

The Theatre Department is currently pursuing National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST) accreditation.

Program Structure

Total Credits:

120

Residency Requirements:

Standard institutional residency requirements apply; however, due to the type of program, the majority of the curriculum must be completed in-residence.

General Education Total Credits:

42

Major Requirements Total Credits:

78

Course(s) Added

COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS	COURSE TITLE
0	0	see attached

Free Elective Credits:

0



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Internship or other Capstone Experience:

The curriculum is designed to teach the entire performer with rigorous coursework in musical theatre theory, musical theatre history, individual performance, musical experience, and dance. These courses meet NAST standards for undergraduate performance degrees.

Assurances

I certify that the program is clearly within the institution's CBHE-approved mission. The proposed new program must be consistent with the institutional mission, as well as the principal planning priorities of the public institution, as set forth in the public institution's approved plan or plan update.

I certify that the program will be offered within the proposing institution's main campus, CBHE-approved service region or CBHE-approved off-site location.

I certify that the program will not unnecessarily duplicate an existing program within the geographically applicable area.

I certify that the program will build upon existing programs and faculty expertise.

I certify that the program can be launched with minimal expense and falls within the institution's current operating budget.

I certify that the institution has conducted research on the feasibility of the proposal and it is likely the program will be successful. Institutions' decision to implement a program shall be based upon demand and/or need for the program in terms of meeting present and future needs of the locale, state, and nation based upon societal needs, and/or student needs.

Contact Information

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MCGRANE

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MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY
School Curriculum Oversight Committee/Academic Policies Committee

Proposal for a NEW MAJOR or CERTIFICATE

1. School: Arts and Sciences Department: Theatre Date: 11/03/2020
2. Title: Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre Performance Course #: CIP Code:
3. New Major or Certificate: New Major
4. Date first offered: August 2021

Attach information for items 5-12 as needed.

5. Describe the need for this new major including evidence of student demand for the program and market or societal need for the skills being developed.

The Department of Theatre has historically served three different types of students: 1) students who want to teach Theatre in the public schools, 2)) students who want to pursue a Theatre performance degree and/or go on to graduate school in a Theatre performance-related field, and 3) students who want to pursue a Theatre Technical degree and/or go on to graduate school in a Theatre Technical -related field. The current BM in Musical Theatre degree serves only students in group #1 and provides an overview of Musical Theatre, regardless of their chosen direction, to the other two groups. However, students in these groups differ vastly from each other in terms of ability and future goals. The demands of a performance career or future graduate studies in performance are much higher and require a much more comprehensive educational experience than what is currently offered in the general BM in Musical Theatre degree.

The Department of Theatre is beginning to seek accreditation with the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST). This proposal will allow us to better serve these 3 distinct types of students the Department of Theatre has traditionally taught. It will also allow the department to better target recruiting efforts to these separate types of theatre students and diversify our offerings to better compete with similarly sized institutions in the region and will help us attain NAST certification. Making us one of only six schools in the state with NAST accreditation.

6. Is the major interdisciplinary? Yes – Music and Theatre Departments
7. Are there similar programs offered at other Missouri institutions? Yes
If so, how is this program unique or different from existing programs?

Several Missouri Institutions offer a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre. This program would not necessarily compete head-to-head with the larger programs as total Theatre funding, number of full-time faculty, and larger student populations creates a vastly different learning environment than what MSSU can offer. While the degree is titled the same, and both meet the same NAST standards, students will have a choice of the type of environment in which they would like to study. Many Missouri smaller institutions offer programs in Musical Theatre which are tailored to a BA or BS. Changing our degree offerings here at MSSU, our theatre program will be able to compete with all state universities and colleges, and allow more flexibility in our offerings for our students.

Southeast Missouri State University

BFA Musical Theatre

Webster University

BFA Musical Theatre

Avila University

BFA in Musical Theatre

Lindenwood University

BFA Musical Theatre

Stephens College

BFA in Musical Theatre

8. Describe the curriculum requirements for the major.

NAST standards dictate that degrees in performance are considered professional degrees and require at least 65% of the content of the degree (based upon 120-hour bachelor's degree) to be in theatre-related coursework. This proposal includes a core theatre area of 67% theatre content with the remaining 33% in the General Education area.

The curriculum is designed to teach the entire performer with rigorous coursework in musical theatre theory, musical theatre history, individual performance, musical experience, and dance. These courses meet NAST standards for undergraduate performance degrees.

9. What are the student learning objectives for the program?

Students will be able to perform as soloists and ensemble members at appropriate levels for entry into graduate theatre study.

Students will be able to analyze and synthesize musical theatre in ways that helps improve performance standards.

Students will be able to recognize, classify, and interpret a common body of musical theatre literature and individual repertoire.

Students will gain a common knowledge of the styles of musical theatre.

Students will demonstrate that public performance is a means for engaging a community and contribute to general cultural awareness and arts culture.

10. How will the objectives be assessed?

Ensemble and individual performance standards will be assessed every semester in individual and ensemble performances. Performances at the senior level will be capstone experiences that focus on each student's individual performance skills.

The theatre movement courses will address analyzing and synthesizing physical theatre and dance styles, where students will perform advanced choreographies.

Students will be given an overview of the production elements involved with musical theatre so as to be able to work in any area yet keep their focus on performing.

The musical theatre history course sequence and literature courses will assess the common body of musical theatre literature and individual repertoire.

Ensemble and individual performances engage the community through public performance. Feedback to the performers is given after each performance.

11. If this major is approved –

a. Will additional staff be needed? Yes X , No ____ . If yes, describe.

We will eventually need to hire an adjunct or full-time dance instructor as this program grows.

- b. Will additional space, equipment, special library materials, or any major expense be involved? Yes __, No X. If yes, specify program needs.

12. Include any additional information about the program that would be helpful.

The separation of the Musical Theatre degrees will assist students in graduation and provide more options for students looking to attend MSSU. This will allow us to compete with other schools and universities.

New Proposed Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre Performance Degree Curriculum
Theatre – 34 credits

TH 0116 – History of Musical Theatre
TH 0142 – Theatre Technology
TH 0229 – Musical Theatre Diction
TH 0233 – Stage Makeup
TH 0240 – Stage Combat
TH 0241 – Acting I
TH 0242 – Theatre Movement I
TH 0251 – Business for Performing Artist
TH 0341 – Acting II
TH 0351 – Directing I
TH 0373 – Musical Theatre Styles I
TH 0374 – Musical Theatre Styles II

Dance – 14 credits

TH 0215 Ballet 1
TH 0216 Jazz 1
TH 0217 Tap 1
TH 0415 Tap 2
TH 0416 Jazz 2
TH 0417 Hip Hop
TH 0418 Musical Theatre Dance

Music – 32 credits

MUS 0202, 0302 – Musical Theatre Performance (2 credits total)
MUS 0111 - Music Theory I (4)
MUS 0240 - Recital Attendance – 6 semesters
MUS 0350 - Junior Recital (1)
MUS 0451 - Senior Recital (1)
MUS 121 (4) & MUS 321 (4) – Choir (8)
MUS 123, 323 OR 161, 361 – Chamber Ensemble (4)
Various Private Study (12)

Total credits 80

General Education Core 42 Requirements: 39 Hours

Institutional Degree Requirement: 1 Hour

Total Hours: 120

APPROVED

_____ Date: _____ Date: _____
Department Chair School Dean

For office use only. Dates Approved: School Curriculum Oversight Committee _____

Academic Policies _____ Faculty Senate _____ Board of Governors _____