Undergraduate Course Descriptions

TA 1004*: PERFORMING ARTS FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE A common experience course required of all new Theatre & Cinema students. Restricted to majors only.

TA 2014[*]: INTRODUCTION TO THEATRE Appreciation and understanding of theatre through historical perspectives, comparison with other art forms, and primary acquaintance with practices and techniques of script interpretation, producing, directing, acting, and all aspects of design. Open to majors and non-majors.

TA 2024: INTRODUCTION TO ACTING The course is designed to lead the non-theatre arts major to an awareness and appreciation of acting, both as a participant (actor) and as an observer (audience). Emphasis is placed on improvisation, ensemble, and scene work. This class is for non-majors.

CINE 2054[*]: INTRODUCTION TO CINEMA Introduction to film as a medium for artistic communication. Sophomore standing required. Open to majors and non-majors.

CINE 2064: INTRODUCTION TO CINEMA PRODUCTION Introductory filmmaking course. Thematic conception and story construction, writing, producing, directing, cinematography, sound recording, and editing. Sophomore standing required. Open to majors and non-majors.

TA 2104*: FUNDAMENTALS OF THEATRE AND PRODUCTION Introduction to theatre vocabulary and understanding of the theatrical process, theatre aesthetics, theatrical modes of expression, basic script analysis, production analysis, theory and practice of collaboration, theatre organizations, and history and operations of professional theatres. Theatre & Cinema majors and minors only.

TA 2114*: SCRIPT ANALYSIS Understanding of drama as an element of theatre with focus on the process of script analysis for theatrical production. Writing intensive course.

TA 2134*: ACTING LAB An introduction to the process of acting, through a variety of laboratory experiences, beginning with basic performance skills and culminating in the performance experience. Emphasis is placed on vocal and movement training, as well as improvisation and scene work. Limited to Theatre & Cinema majors.

TA 2135*-2136: THEATRE DESIGN LAB An introduction to the processes, technologies, and aesthetics of the visual design of theatrical productions. Emphasis is placed on costume design and scenography. Must have completed 2135 to register for 2136.

TA 2144: FOUNDATIONS OF MOVEMENT AND VOICE An introduction to the process of acting, through a variety of laboratory experiences, beginning with basic performance skills and culminating in the performance experience. Emphasis is on various methods of performance style and analysis, theatre movement and body conditioning, and vocal awareness and production. Limited to majors only. Pre: 2134.

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**TA 2204: CREATIVE DANCE** Study of the expressive elements of movement and dance and practice designing learning experiences for K-12 students. Open to majors and non-majors.

**TA 2224: INTERMEDIATE PERFORMANCE INTENSIVE** This course provides the Theatre & Cinema major, who desires a rigorous exploration of acting, a forum for application of the techniques and skills learned. These skills will be strengthened and applied through observation of and participation in scene and monologue work. Focus will be placed on basic skills and concepts necessary to creative, truthful, and believable performance of selected scenes, including use of voice and body, imagination, relaxation, sense and emotion memory, and script analysis. Pre: 2134, 2144

**TA 2414: STAGE AND LIGHTING TECHNOLOGY** A practical study of technologies and specialized equipment employed in the construction, rigging, and running of theatrical production; the planning and organization involved in mounting these productions; the tools, materials, and techniques used to realize theatrical design and build scenery; and the fundamentals of stage lighting.

**TA 2604 (MUS 2604): INTRODUCTION TO ARTS MARKETING** An introduction to the theories and practice of marketing and building community engagement as applied to arts activities and professional not-for-profit arts organizations through a survey of standard marketing approaches, examination of current practices in the field, and direct hands-on experience. Open to both majors and non-majors.

**TA 2964: FIELD STUDY** Variable credit course.

**TA 2974: INDEPENDENT STUDY** Variable credit course.

**TA 2984: SPECIAL STUDY** Special topics of theatre or cinema study in any area. Topics vary each semester. Variable credit course.

**TA 3014*: THEATRE PRODUCTION LAB** Production experiences in the areas of performance, design and theatre technology, management, and writing. May be repeated for a maximum of nine credits. Variable credit course.


**TA 3105*, 3106*: HISTORY OF DRAMA AND THEATRE** History of drama and theatre from primitive ritual to the present day and its relationship to the social, economic, and political forces from age to age. 3105: primitive, Greek, Roman, Medieval, Renaissance, and Asian. 3106: Restoration, eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries. Junior standing required. Pre: 2114 or permission of instructor.

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**TA 3114: SCENOGRAPHY TOPICS** Rotating topics in stage and set design. May be repeated for credit up to a maximum of 9 hours. Variable credit course. Pre: 2135, 2136.

**TA 3124: COSTUME TOPICS** Rotating topics of costume design and costume technology. Designed for advanced theatre majors who have foundational training in all areas if theatre design. May be repeated for credit up to a maximum of 9 hours. Variable credit course. Pre: 2135, 2136.

**TA 3134: LIGHTING TOPICS** Rotating topics in lighting design and technology. Designed for advanced theatre majors who have foundational training in all areas if theatre design. May be repeated for credit up to a maximum of 9 hours. Variable credit course. Pre: 2135, 2136, 2414.

**TA 3144: THEATRE DESIGN TOPICS** Rotating topics in design and theatre technology, including individual design studios. May be repeated for credit up to a maximum of 9 hours of credit. Variable credit course. Pre: 2135, 2136.

**TA 3154: ACTING TOPICS** Rotating topics in performance skills and theories. Designed for advanced theatre majors who have foundational training in acting, voice and movement. May be repeated for credit up to a maximum of 9 hours. Variable credit course. Pre: 2144, 2224.

**TA 3164: VOICE & SPEECH TOPICS** Rotating topics in vocal techniques and dialects. Designed for advanced theatre majors who have foundational training in acting, voice and movement. May be repeated for credit up to a maximum of 9 hours. Variable credit course. Pre: 2144, 2224.

**TA 3174: MOVEMENT TOPICS** Rotating topics in theatre movement, dance for the theatre and theories of physical expression in the performing arts. Designed for advanced theatre majors who have foundational training in acting voice and movement. May be repeated for credit up to a maximum of 9 hours. Variable credit course. Pre: 2144.

**CINE 3184: CINEMA PRODUCTION TOPICS** Rotating topics on advanced cinema production techniques. May be repeated for credit up to a maximum of 9 hours. Variable credit course. Pre: 2064, 3214 or 3224.

**CINE 3214: FICTION CINEMA PRODUCTION** Intermediate-level fiction film production course. Foundational cinema production skills, dramatic storytelling techniques, intermediate directing, team-based ownership and responsibility, and project management. Pre: 2054, 2064 (or 3005).

**CINE 3224: DOCUMENTARY CINEMA PRODUCTION** Intermediate-level, non-fiction, film production course for students seeking non-fiction documentary film production skills and experience. Emphasizes the application and advancement of foundational skills, the ethics of documentary filmmaking, story development and project management. Pre: 2054, 2064 (or 3005).

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TA 3315-3316 (ENG 3315-3316): PLAYWRITING A workshop course in the craft and art of playwriting which emphasizes the development of craft and the nurturing of vision and art. 3315: primary focus is on the writing of original scripts with additional attention paid to the work of influential playwrights and critics. 3316: workshop with a primary focus on the creative process of developing a play with the collaborative influences of a director, actors, designers, and other theatre professionals. Pre: for 3315 - ENG 1106 or 1204H or COMM 1016 and consent of instructor; Pre: for 3316 - 3315.

CINE 3444 (AFST 3444, SOC 3444): AFRICAN AMERICAN IMAGES IN FILM A cross-listed course taught through the Africana Studies program in Sociology.

CINE 3514: AMERICAN CINEMA GENRES Close visual and cultural study of classic film genres with emphasis on cinematic styles and narrative conventions which unify the genre and which are found in representative films; exploration of genre films as symbols of American culture and society. Specific thematic content is variable. Course may be repeated with different course content for up to 9 credits. Pre: 2054.

CINE 3524: THE CINEMA DIRECTOR Close thematic and visual analysis of the films of a single director. Directorial style assessed in terms of recurring visual and thematic patterns. Development and evolution of the director's style, and comparison with filmmakers whose work lacks a unifying "signature." Directors studied include Alfred Hitchcock, Charlie Chaplin, and Orson Welles. Taught alternate years. Pre: 2054.

CINE 3534: AVANT-GARDE CINEMA Visual and cultural study of the avant-garde and experimental tradition in the first half century of American and European cinemas; emphasis on interrelations of cinema with avant-garde movements in other arts, including literature, music, dance, theatre, painting, and photography. Pre: 2054.

CINE 3544 (ENG 3544): LITERATURE AND CINEMA Works of literature and the films into which they have been transformed; emphasis on differences between media.

TA 3604: ARTS MANAGEMENT The development of the not-for-profit arts organization, structures and characteristics of boards of directors, artistic missions and goals, funding, fiscal control, and community support. Junior standing required. Open to both majors and non-majors.

TA 3624: STAGE MANAGEMENT The systems, procedures, forms, and duties of the stage manager in the professional, academic, and community theatre are explored in relationship to the production process and other theatre artists. Pre: 2014.

TA 3954: STUDY ABROAD Variable credit course.

TA 4014: CONTEMPORARY THEATRE SEMINAR Issues and concerns in contemporary theatre: production philosophies and approaches, employment opportunities, career options, and preparation of portfolio and resume materials. Junior standing and permission of instructor required.

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CINE 4084: CINEMA HISTORY Aesthetic, economic, social, and technological history of world cinema; film theory as it relates to the history of cinema. Junior standing required. Taught every third semester. Pre: 2054.

CINE 4144: CINEMA STUDIES TOPICS Selected topics in advanced cinema studies; emphasis on critical analysis and application. May be repeated for credit up to a maximum of 9 credit hours with different content. Pre: 2054.

TA 4304: THEATRE OUTREACH Participation in theatre projects or activities that focus on community and social issues. May be repeated for a maximum of six credits. Junior standing and instructor consent required. Variable credit course.

TA 4315*, 4316: DIRECTING Script analysis, theories, techniques, and practical applications of theatrical direction. 4315: Theories and aesthetics of directing, functions of the director, script analysis, basic principles and techniques of staging. 4316: Rehearsal techniques, style determination, realism, and non-realism. Junior or Senior standing required.

CINE 4534: UNDERGROUND CINEMA AND CULTURE Close visual and cultural study of underground cinema and culture from the 1940s through the 1970s; emphasizes the interrelations of cinema with countercultural movements in other arts, including literature, music, dance, theatre, painting, and photography; focuses on the post-war avant-garde, the emergence of film societies, the neorealist and new wave cinemas, challenges to censorship laws, and the emergence of cult and "midnight movies." Pre: 2054.

TA 4704: PROFESSIONAL THEATRE INTERNSHIP Internship of one semester in acting, directing, management, design, or technical theatre with a professional equity company for selected advanced students; classroom, workshop, and production experiences. Minimum 9 credits, maximum 15 credits. Consent required. Variable credit course.

TA 4964: FIELD STUDY Pass/Fail only. Variable credit course.

TA 4974: INDEPENDENT STUDY Variable credit course.

TA 4984: SPECIAL STUDY Variable credit course covering specific topics in theatre or cinema. See current timetable for specific topics.

TA 4994: UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH Variable credit course

To determine current semester offerings, check the Virginia Tech Timetable of Classes.

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