

UMW THEATRE



Studio 115 is dedicated to the investigation of theatrical texts by students in an environment conducive to exploration and learning. With a deliberate focus on the performance process, projects in Studio 115 offer opportunities for theatre students to build knowledge, skills, and competencies. Studio 115 provides performance opportunities for student actors, a lab for student directors to hone their skills, a space for student playwrights to develop their work, and a laboratory theatre that nurtures growth and maturity in the art and craft of theatre.

The Department of Theatre and Dance entrusts the Studio 115 Committee to be the attentive steward of the space and wholly committed to fulfilling its mission.

Studio Lab

A Studio Lab provides an opportunity for students to develop new work and to explore texts that may be unconventional and experimental in nature. Studio Lab projects might be readings, staged readings, scenes, and/or monologues. A Studio Lab project does not require a public performance.

- Project proposals are accepted from theatre majors, musical theatre minors, and arts administration minors.
- Maximum of 10 weekly hours of rehearsal over two weeks.
- No technical rehearsals.
- Access to the Studio limited to one week.
- Lighting limited to work lights.
- Costumes limited to street clothes.
- Essential sound cues should be described by the director or some designated individual, i.e., "doorbell," "telephone ring," "thunder."
- Scenic support limited to acting blocks, chairs, music stands, as approved by the department.
- No stage management support.
- If the project includes a performance, maximum of two performances followed by a talkback after each performance, if appropriate and desired.
- Directors must submit a ground plan to the Studio 115 Committee prior to staging, using the standard configuration of the playing space and audience seating. This ground plan is subject to approval by the department.
- Directors must submit a personnel list, preliminary rehearsal and production schedule to the Studio 115 Committee prior to first rehearsal.

Studio Workshop

A Studio Workshop provides the opportunity for students to begin physicalizing the text to the stage with the support of actors and minimal design elements. A Workshop may serve as the next step of development for a new play following a staged reading through Studio Lab or as an appropriate mechanism for students who wish to explore staging text.

- Project proposals are accepted from theatre majors.
- Maximum of 12 weekly hours of rehearsal over three weeks.
- Access to the Studio limited to two weeks.
- Rehearsals include up to six hours technical rehearsal over two days.
- Lighting support limited to essential needs, not to exceed 12 cues.
- Sound support limited to essential needs, not to exceed 6 cues.
- Scenic support limited to acting blocks, essential furniture, critical props, as approved by the department.
- Costume support for essential needs only from personal wardrobes first, and department stock as necessary, as approved by the department.
- Studio 115 Committee provides staffing for limited support in lighting and sound.
- Stage management support in technical rehearsals and performances only.
- Up to three performances.
- Directors must submit a ground plan to the Studio 115 Committee prior to staging, using the standard configuration of the playing space and audience seating. This ground plan is subject to approval by the department.
- Directors must submit a personnel list and preliminary rehearsal and production schedules to the Studio 115 Committee prior to first rehearsal.

Studio Production

A Studio Production is appropriate for published plays or for new works that have proceeded to this stage through the developmental process. This is an opportunity for a director to work with a company of actors over a longer rehearsal period to realize the potential of the work. The focus of a Studio Production is on process and performance and design and technical support is implemented because it is essential to the text.

- Project proposals are accepted from theatre majors.
- Maximum of 18 weekly hours of rehearsal over five weeks.
- Access to the Studio limited to three weeks.
- Rehearsals include up to 12 hours of technical rehearsals over three days.
- Up to three performances.
- Lighting support limited to essential needs, not to exceed 24 cues.
- Sound support limited to essential needs, not to exceed 12 cues.
- Scenic support limited to acting blocks, essential furniture, critical props, as approved by the department.
- Costume support for essential needs only from personal wardrobes and department stock, as approved by the department.
- Studio 115 Committee provides staffing for limited support in lighting and sound.
- Stage management support in technical rehearsals and performances only.
- Strike of all scenery, costumes, props, lighting, and sound must be complete by 5 pm on the day following the final performance. If extenuating circumstances exist, the department chair will consider a request for an extension.
- Actors and directors will receive faculty critique in a post-mortem gathering.
- Directors must have completed THEA 431: *Directing*.
- Directors must register for THEA 432: *Directing*, THEA 491 / 492: *Individual Study* or THEA 482: *Senior Project* in the semester of the Studio Production.
- Directors must submit a script analysis to the faculty supervisor prior to casting.
- Directors must submit a ground plan to the faculty supervisor and the Studio 115 Committee prior to staging, using the standard configuration of the playing space and audience seating. This ground plan is subject to approval by the department.
- Directors must submit a personnel list, preliminary rehearsal and production schedule to the faculty supervisor and the Studio 115 Committee prior to first rehearsal.

VERY IMPORTANT FINE PRINT

- Academic classes and productions in Klein Theatre are the priority of the Department of Theatre and Dance. If at any time a student makes choices that may jeopardize their academic success or subvert the primacy of departmental productions, the student may be removed from the Studio 115 project.
- Studio 115 participation is not an acceptable excuse to miss class or any other academic responsibility. Students should not make commitments to work in Studio 115 if the production schedule conflicts with any course responsibilities, including class attendance.
- Studio 115 is a laboratory theatre that exists to provide experiential opportunities for theatre students. The Department expects that all members of a production (designers, director, stage managers, house managers, actors) are availing themselves of theatre classes to strengthen their skills. The Studio 115 Committee will not approve productions where the lead positions (directors and designers, especially) are not theatre majors or who are not *very active* and known non-major students.
- The use of stage weapons is strongly discouraged in Studio 115. If a weapon is essential to the text, a request to use a weapon must be made to the department chair at least five weeks prior to the first technical rehearsal or the production will not be allowed to proceed with weapons in rehearsal or performance. All weapons safety procedures will apply.
- Smoking and the use of atmospheric effects are prohibited in Studio 115.
- Evening performances start at 7:00 pm. Matinee performances start at 2:00 pm. Special afternoon performances may begin at 12:00 pm or 4:00 pm. Intermissions are limited to five minutes.
- There is no work on Studio projects between 11:45 pm and 7:00 am.
- Actors are limited to one performance project each semester unless approved by the department chair.
- Students working in Studio 115 are obliged to work with the department chair to apply for undergraduate research funding to support the expenses of the project to ensure a funding stream for scripts, royalties, and production expenses. A student who fails to submit an undergraduate research application will be responsible for all production expenses, including scripts, licensing fees, and materials. The production budget for a Studio Productions (beyond scripts and licensing) is limited to \$100. In rare circumstances, an exception may be made by the department chair but is not guaranteed. Students producing a Studio Production must propose a title that can be scaled to the available budget. All purchasing must adhere to university and departmental rules and procedures.