

Form E-1-A for Boston College Core Curriculum: 2023-2024

Department/Program: Theatre Department

Acting Chair: Luke Jorgensen

**NEW PRACTICES-** After a discussion regarding best practices of data collection with Dean Kalscheur and Associate Dean Brian Gareau, I have met with Jessica Greene to plan our next area of data collection and self-study. As it pertains to the CORE the department has met and will commence the following self-study.

We will begin a three-year study of learning outcome A

AY24-25

Learning outcome: (A) Analyze dramatic texts, theatrical events, and experimental forms with critical intelligence, as it relates to the core.

Data collection population: Student who take the core course: DRAMATIC STRUCTURES AND THEATRICAL PRACTICE.

Data collection tool: Faculty will use a rubric to assess students in key areas.

Summer 2025

Data will be reviewed and analyzed in preparation for fall 2025 discussion

AY25-26

Fall 2025, faculty will meet and review results -- potential changes to curriculum will be identified and, depending on scope, implemented.

RUBRIC

Rubric for evaluation

1. Understands the analytical principles essential for the study of plays as performed events. -- BARELY ADEQUATELY EXCELLENTLY

2. Develops a basic vocabulary pertaining to theater practice, stage conventions, theater architecture and personnel, and the rehearsal-and-production process. -- BARELY ADEQUATELY EXCELLENTLY

3. Demonstrates an understanding of how a play's plot, characters, and setting combine to create a meaningful dramatic event. -- BARELY ADEQUATELY EXCELLENTLY

4. Engages in the processes of theatrical collaboration and creation. -- BARELY ADEQUATELY EXCELLENTLY

1) **Have formal learning outcomes for the department's Core courses been developed? What are they?** (What specific sets of skills and knowledge does the department expect students completing its Core courses to have acquired?)

a. To serve the University as a Fine Arts Core requirement:

i. Description of University Arts Core: (<http://www.bc.edu/sites/core/requirements/arts.html>)

“The need to make, experience, and comprehend art has been one of the essential, defining human activities since history began. The arts are thus integral to human experience and expression, the development of critical interpretive skills, an understanding of creative processes, and the fostering of imagination and empathy. The critically engaged practice of the arts, arrived at through rigorous training, uniquely nurtures creativity and innovation. Anchored in experimentation and creative problem-solving, the arts challenge students to make connections across traditional disciplinary boundaries.

Three credits of coursework in art history, studio art, film, music or theater are required and will address some combination of the following criteria: students will acquire a greater understanding of the technical skills required to create works of art; students will gain knowledge of the aesthetic questions raised by works of art; and students will understand the historical contexts in which such works were created. As a result, students will be able to engage meaningfully with art through creative work and/or to articulate their understanding of art in oral and written expression.”

b. Departmental goals for Theatre Core courses:

- i. To inform students about the value and nature of theatre in and of itself in the hope that they will be able to enjoy theatre in the future; it is also to encourage them as playgoers and future supporters of the arts in general.
- ii. To learn to approach variety of types of plays from a theatre perspective analytically, introduce students to the fundamentals of theatre practice, all with an eye toward providing a foundation upon which more advanced theatre classes can be built.
- iii. To build an audience for our own Theatre Department productions via Intro student attendance at our productions.
- iv. To encourage non-theatre students to take additional theatre courses here, perhaps even consider pursuing theatre as a major or minor.

2) **Where are these learning outcomes published? Be specific.** (Where are the department's expected learning outcomes for its Core courses accessible: on the web, in the catalog, or in your department handouts?)

[www.bc.edu/core](http://www.bc.edu/core) for university goals

These Core Theatre Department outcomes are not published but the overall learning outcomes are published at <https://www.bc.edu/bc-web/schools/mcas/departments/theatre/about/learning-outcomes.html>

### **Learning Outcomes:**

A graduating Boston College Theatre major will be able to:

analyze dramatic texts, theatrical events, and experimental forms with critical intelligence;



students were required to take a semester or two of a class called HISTORY of THEATRE. In an effort to decolonize our curriculum (the course was very Eurocentric as taught) and to give students a more in-depth exposure to theatre- we eliminated that course and restructured so that students have a choice of periods to