

## **Theater Arts 293, Performance Research Project (10 units)**

THEA 293 is a professional internship project required of all MA students. Students may take THEA 293 in any quarter in the academic year. We strongly advise students to complete their internships the summer before taking the coursework for the MA. This allows the students to focus on the internship experience without having to balance a full courseload and possible teaching duties as TAs. If the internship is taken in the summer *following* the academic year, the student will need to enroll in a 10-unit Graduate Independent Study class and pay associated fees (see <http://summer.ucsc.edu/courses/special-programs/field.html>).

The course involves an internship with a professional theater company in the student's area of emphasis. This work will have a significant academic component, supervised and assessed by a Theater Arts faculty member during the quarter it is taken. Each student's work will normally be evaluated by that student's mentor in that area of expertise.

Depending on the project, the student would work with a professional company and be in regular contact with a faculty member who guides the work, assesses the student's performance, and grades a final paper. The particular requirements of the final paper—typically 10-12pp—will be determined by the faculty member and student according to the project's need.

Internships may include performance, literary management, or assistant positions in directing, dramaturgy, design, stage management, arts administration, or choreography. Examples of local companies to work with include Santa Cruz Shakespeare, ODC, the Magic Theater, the Aurora Theater, American Conservatory Theater, California Shakespeare Theater, and Berkeley Repertory Theater. Students may intern at any professional company approved by faculty, including internships abroad, or at national theaters such as Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Arena Stage, or Williamstown Theatre Festival. If not covered by the producing company, all transportation and housing costs are the student's responsibility.

Students focusing on dramatic literature, theory, or dramaturgy may choose to do their Performance Research Project in an approved language program.

This course requires a minimum of 300 hours of work, including a final paper. This work may be done in one or two quarters.

Syllabus (Subject to change based on the student's internship)

Week 1: Outline/Proposal of Project. **5-page statement of goals and expected outcomes of the work.** Reading that covers the basis of the project. Begin internship.

Weeks 2-4: Project continues. Student and faculty meet to discuss weekly reading and ongoing assignments, such as production journal or design sheets.

Week 5: Project continues. MIDTERM CHECK-IN on goals of project, with a **short paper.**

Weeks 6-9: Project continues. Student and faculty meet to discuss weekly reading and ongoing assignments, such as production journal or design sheets.

Week 10: Project continues. Assessment of project's goals and accomplishments. **10-12pp paper.**

Weeks 11-20: Follow the same pattern as above: Weekly meetings, ongoing production work and documentation, reading, and mid-term presentations.

Assessment: Written work: 30%; production work: 70%.

The faculty member will assess the student's production work as well as all written assignments, providing feedback, grades, and further avenues for research and development along the way.