UNDERGRADUATE DIRECTING AT THE SCHOOL OF DRAMA

Undergraduate Directing is designed to provide both majors and non-majors the opportunity to study the art of stage direction. Given the central role of the director in 20th century world theatre, a study of this kind must be broad-based. It pre-supposes an interest not only in the craft of directing, but also in the multiplicity of subjects related to directing, such as acting, design, theatre history, music and visual art.

Traditionally, School of Drama undergraduates have entered the directing sequence in the fall of their senior year. In many cases, this is a pragmatic decision based on transfer status, completion of requirements, and scheduling conflicts. However, for students who have completed the requirements prior to their senior year, enrollment in the Directing Program is strongly encouraged as it will enhance the student’s readiness to direct one-act plays and other projects in subsequent quarters.

Drama 460: The undergraduate directing sequence covers two quarters of study. Drama 460 is an Introduction to Directing and is normally taught by the Head of the Directing Program. It is offered in the fall quarter and may occasionally be offered in the spring quarter as well. The primary objective of this course is to introduce students to the history and fundamental skills of directing plays. Students will begin to develop and actively apply the vocabulary and critical skills essential to the work of the director. Particular focus will be given to improving the students’ ability to accomplish 2 key elements of directing: staging and working with actors. Among the areas covered are: preparation, composition, picturization, rhythm, tempo and mood.

Drama 461: The second quarter of undergraduate directing (Drama 461) is offered in the winter and builds on the work from the previous quarter. It is intended to deepen and more actively apply the practical and critical skills essential to the work of the director. The course in-class direction of at least two different scenes and is augmented by visits from guest professional and/or faculty directors whose productions are performing in the winter quarter subscription
APPLICATION FOR UNDERGRADUATE DIRECTING SEQUENCE:
DRAMA 460, 461

NAME:

MAJOR(S):

YEAR IN THE PROGRAM:

UW EMAIL:

Prerequisites: Drama 201 Plays and Styles, Drama 252 Acting, One design course, Drama 290 Crew. Drama 460 Introduction to Directing is a prerequisite for Drama 461 Directing.

If you don’t meet prerequisite requirements, please email the instructor to discuss eligibility. Priority is given to Drama majors in their senior or junior years.

Briefly outline your theater experience to date including workshops, onstage, backstage, in the classroom, etc.

Describe a theatre experience that you have admired, whether it be a performance, a performer, a playwright, a director, a particular production, or a totally non-traditional event of great theatricality. How has it influenced your thinking?

Please submit your application to Caitlin Goldbaum at goldbauc@uw.edu by November 15th. Students will be notified as soon as decisions are made and will receive an add code at that time.