DEPARTMENT OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

The Department of Visual and Performing Arts is an interdisciplinary department that offers students the opportunity to study the history, theory and practice of art, design, theater, game design and music. The visual arts programs foster the development of creative processes for the creation of innovative works of art and design while situating the work in the broader contexts of history and culture. The performing arts programs include courses in the history of the disciplines and techniques of performance, which are enriched by an active theater production program and performing ensembles.

Programs in the Department of Visual and Performing Arts offer students a foundation in creative thinking that is recognized as critical to problem-solving and conceptualization, qualities increasingly valued by leaders and organizations in all areas of society.

The Department of Visual and Performing Arts at Quinnipiac University is committed to providing our students with the opportunity to develop creative thinking skills through experiential learning as a part of their general education and in pre-professional programs. By studying the practice, theory and history of: music, theater, visual art, and game design, we provide an opportunity for students to explore their creative abilities in a hands-on environment.

Bachelor’s Degrees

- Bachelor of Arts in Game Design and Development (http://catalog.qu.edu/arts-sciences/visual-performing-arts/game-design-development-ba/)
- Bachelor of Arts in Theater (http://catalog.qu.edu/arts-sciences/visual-performing-arts/theater-ba/)

Dual-Degrees

- Accelerated Dual-Degree BA in Theater/MBA (3+1) (http://catalog.qu.edu/arts-sciences/visual-performing-arts/theater-31-ba-mba/)

Minors

- Minor in Fine Arts (http://catalog.qu.edu/arts-sciences/visual-performing-arts/fine-arts-minor/)
- Minor in Game Design and Development (http://catalog.qu.edu/arts-sciences/visual-performing-arts/game-design-development-minor/)
- Minor in Music (http://catalog.qu.edu/arts-sciences/visual-performing-arts/music-minor/)
- Minor in Theater (http://catalog.qu.edu/arts-sciences/visual-performing-arts/theater-minor/)
- Performing Arts Workshop (http://catalog.qu.edu/arts-sciences/visual-performing-arts/performing-arts-workshop/)

Art (AR)

AR 101. Introduction to Art.
This course is a study of major art forms and a probe into the nature of the creative process and public response. The course combines art history with hands-on activities. It is intended for students who plan to take only one art course.
Offered: As needed
UC: Fine Arts

AR 102. Art History: Ancient Through Medieval.
This introductory course considers art as seen in its cultural and historical context from prehistory through the medieval period. Students explore the stylistic elements that make great works typical of their era.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

AR 102H. Honors Art History I.
This introductory course considers art as seen in its cultural and historical context from prehistory through the medieval period. Students explore the stylistic elements that make great works typical of their era.
Offered: As needed
UC: Fine Arts

AR 103. Art History: Renaissance Through Contemporary.
This introductory course considers art as seen in its cultural and historical context from the Renaissance through the contemporary era. Students explore the stylistic elements that make great works typical of their era.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

AR 104. Survey of Non-Western Art.
Participants study the major themes and forms of non-Western arts from East Asia, South Asia, Africa, the Pre-Columbian Americas and Oceania, with emphasis on their cultural, philosophical and religious contexts. Students define works of art both formally and within the framework of their method of manufacture, audience and cultural value. They also explore aspects of various non-Western religions, cultural considerations and influences in relation to the works. Students with little experience of or no prior courses in art history learn the basic terminology and methodology of the field.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

This course serves as an introduction to the history of art in the United States from the pre-colonial period to the present. The curriculum includes a careful analysis of representative works reinforced by visits to area art galleries.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

AR 115. Drawing for Anime, Games.
Offered: Every year, All

AR 140. Basic Visual Design.
This course exposes students to the basics of two-dimensional design. Topics include the elements of design, the principles of order and how these basics combine to create exceptional composition in various forms of art.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts
AR 158. Photography I.  3 Credits.
This beginning course in still photography is designed to teach basic photographic techniques. Additional topics include lighting, advertising, fashion and portrait photography. Students must provide a fully adjustable digital camera or Digital Single Lens Reflex (DSLR) camera.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

AR 175. Special Topics in Art History.  3 Credits.
This group of courses introduces art history by way of particular themes. Each covers at least three eras or movements in art history, exploring imagery, sculpture, architecture and decorative arts. Topics include: The Art and Architecture of Health and Medicine; Art and Propaganda; The Art and Imagery of Weaponry and War; Art and Love; Art and Death; and The Image of the Divine.
Offered: As needed
UC: Fine Arts

AR 175H. Honors -Special Topics in Art History.  3 Credits.
This group of courses introduces art history by way of particular themes. Each covers at least three eras or movements in art history, exploring imagery, sculpture, architecture and decorative arts. Topics include: The Art and Architecture of Health and Medicine; Art and Propaganda; The Art and Imagery of Weaponry and War; Art and Love; Art and Death; and The Image of the Divine.
Offered: As needed
UC: Fine Arts

AR 200. Special Topics Course.  3 Credits.

AR 210. The Creative Process.  3 Credits.
This course introduces students to the creative process in the visual arts. Students learn to evaluate and critique their personal artwork as well as the work of others to develop a working process that enables them to go from initial ideas, the proper use of a sketchbook, looking at and evaluating famous works of art, and how to know when a work of art is finished.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

AR 240. Graphic Design.  3 Credits.
Students gain practical experience in the creation of pictorial devices used to disseminate product information, including drawing, painting, illustration and typography.
Prerequisites: Take AR 140.
Offered: As needed
UC: Fine Arts

AR 241. Color Theory.  3 Credits.
This course introduces students to the basics of color theory in design. Participants explore different topics through a series of short in-class projects and longer out of class assignments. Topics include the use of the grey scale, color mixing, color harmonies and discord, among others.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

AR 242. Cartooning.  3 Credits.
This course provides an overview of the history of the comic and cartoon arts, and explores a variety of cartooning techniques. While studying the techniques of the masters, students plan, and eventually execute their own original cartoons. This class is open to absolute beginners as well as students with previous drawing, painting and cartooning experience.
Offered: As needed
UC: Fine Arts

AR 250. Studio Art: Special Topic.  3 Credits.
Students gain hands-on experience in creative art. The medium varies from year to year and from section to section.
Offered: As needed, All
UC: Fine Arts

AR 251. Studio Art: Drawing.  3 Credits.
This studio course serves as an introduction to basic drawing skills.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

AR 252. Studio Art: Painting.  3 Credits.
This studio course serves as an introduction to basic painting skills. Coursework includes specialized painting techniques, color theory and assignments based on both traditional and contemporary styles. All work is completed in acrylic painting media with some mixed media components.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

AR 253. Studio Art: Sculpture.  3 Credits.
This studio course introduces students to sculpture and three-dimensional design using a variety of materials. Students gain an understanding and appreciation of basic techniques and processes involved in creating sculpture and learn how a three-dimensional object impacts its environment.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

AR 254. Studio Art: Printmaking.  3 Credits.
This studio course serves as an introduction to the many processes used in printmaking. Techniques studied include those used in woodcut and linoleum cut, etching and drypoint, monotype and monoprint, embossment and lithography.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

AR 257. Ap Studio Art Introduction to Studio Methods.  3 Credits.
This eight-week accelerated course introduces students to basic studio methods. Both traditional and contemporary techniques are explored through a series of short in-class projects and longer out-of-class assignments. Coursework includes techniques and materials for a variety of media, including drawing, painting, watercolor, sculpture and printmaking.
Offered: As needed
UC: Fine Arts

AR 258. Photography II.  3 Credits.
This course is a continuation of Photography I (AR 158). From daguerreotypes to digital, photography's history and future are discussed through slide lectures and hands-on activities. Each student must provide an adjustable digital or film 35 mm. camera, and photo processing.
Prerequisites: Take AR 158.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts
AR 262. Studio Art: Watercolor. 3 Credits.
This course introduces students to the basics of watercolor. Participants explore different topics through a series of short in-class projects and longer out-of-class assignments. Topics include specialized watercolor painting techniques, color theory and assignments based on both traditional and contemporary styles. All work is completed in watercolor with some mixed media components.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

AR 263. Studio Art: Collage. 3 Credits.
This hands-on studio course enables students to explore materials and techniques involved in the art of making a collage. This course looks at various ways to incorporate pre-made materials into more elaborate finished projects. Participants use a variety of materials including both manmade and natural objects as well as various painting, drawing and sculpture media.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

AR 299. Independent Study. 3 Credits.
Offered: As needed, All

AR 300. Special Topics in Art History. 3 Credits.
Upper-level special topics courses in studio art or art history. Prerequisites vary by section.
Prerequisites: Take AR 102 or AR 103 or AR 104 or AR 105.
Offered: As needed, All
UC: Fine Arts

AR 303. Studio Art: Advanced Drawing. 3 Credits.
This advanced drawing class expands on knowledge gained in an introductory level drawing course. Topics include both traditional and contemporary techniques and advanced composition. Work is completed in various drawing materials, including charcoal, pencil, conte and ink.
Prerequisites: Take AR 251.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

AR 304. Studio Art: Advanced Painting. 3 Credits.
This advanced painting class enhances knowledge gained in an introductory level painting course. Specialized painting techniques include expanded color theory as well as an introduction to contemporary techniques. All work is completed in acrylic paint with some mixed media components.
Prerequisites: Take AR 252.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

AR 305. Special Topics in Studio Art. 3 Credits.
Offered: As needed
UC: Fine Arts

AR 317. Art of the Italian Renaissance. 3 Credits.
This course covers the period from c.1350-1600 in Italy. Participants study the painters, sculptors and architects of the period, including their artistic techniques, styles and use of symbolism. Topics include the writings by artists of the time as well as an examination of those artists and artistic movements that served as precursors to this compelling period of art history. Students further study the political, religious, economic and scientific advances of the period, including opportunities for women and the influence of regional geography on the arts.
Prerequisites: Take AR 102, AR 103, AR 104 or AR 105.
Offered: As needed
UC: Fine Arts

AR 325. Women Artists (WGS 315). 3 Credits.
This art history course focuses on the lives and artwork of women such as Hildegard von Bingen, Mary Cassatt, Frida Kahlo and Georgia O'Keeffe. Prerequisites: Take one of the following: AR 102, AR 103, AR 104 or AR 105.
Offered: As needed
UC: Fine Arts

AR 335. Digital Photography. 3 Credits.
This course is designed to help students learn digital camera operation, as well as computer-based image correction and manipulation through the use of Adobe Photoshop. Participants explore relevant topics through class lectures, demonstrations, in-class exercises and out-of-class assignments. Topics include the methods and techniques used to create, edit and critically judge digital images.
Prerequisites: Take one of the following: AR 140, AR 158 or AR 255.
Offered: As needed
UC: Fine Arts

AR 360. Innovation in the Arts and Sciences. 3 Credits.
This course reviews science and art practices to explore how innovations occur. Because discovery and invention go hand in hand, students consider the ethics of constructing according to needs, imagination and a sense of what the world should be. Particular attention is paid to the values of diversity, from disciplines to cultures. Junior or senior status is required.
Offered: As needed
UC: Fine Arts

AR 380. Interactive Art. 3 Credits.
This course presents an interdisciplinary examination of the functions in art, literature and theater through readings and discussions of selected creative and critical works. Topics include self-organization, open systems, emergence, complexity, pragmatism and play. Students use the final project to demonstrate a practical understanding of interactive processes. Junior or senior status is required.
Offered: As needed
UC: Fine Arts

AR 499. Independent Study. 3 Credits.
Advanced independent studio work in painting, printmaking, graphic design, photography.
Offered: As needed, All
GDD 110. Introduction to Visual Design for Games. 3 Credits.
This foundation course prepares students for upper-level coursework by introducing critical, analytical and problem-solving strategies for researching and developing graphics for games. Topics include layout, color theory, font management, logo design, and user interface design. Practical hands-on methods include visual research, design journals, thumbnail sketches, concept art, pixel art, storyboarding and 2D development tools. Completed artwork is then integrated into game engines.
Offered: Every year, Fall

GDD 140. Creativity and Computation. 3 Credits.
This course teaches software literacy within the visual arts and visual literacy within technology. Students develop basic coding expertise and the confidence necessary to create interactive artwork and games. The course teaches essential 21st-century skills including computational and systems thinking, along with quantitative reasoning coupled with creative problem solving and generative visual aesthetics. No previous experience with programming necessary.
Offered: Every year, Fall
UC: Fine Arts

GDD 175. Special Topics in Game Design. 3 Credits.
Courses of particular interest to game design students offered on an occasional basis. These courses have no prerequisite. See the Special Topics Bulletin on the Registrar’s website for specific course descriptions.
Offered: As needed

GDD 200. Introduction to Game Development. 3 Credits.
This course provides a practical, hands-on overview of game development. Students learn how to make games from scratch by using a game engine to code behaviors and manipulate assets. Individual game development concepts are introduced incrementally. Students are required to demonstrate their understanding of these concepts through creative project work. Some programming experience is required.
Prerequisites: Take GDD 140 or CSC 110 or equivalent college level programming course.
Offered: Every year, Spring

GDD 201. Professionalism Practice for Game Design. 3 Credits.
In this course, students practice the skills necessary for professional work in game development. They develop a portfolio that showcases their skills and work using HTML, CSS, and Javascript and create polished game design process documentation. Topics include: researching and applying game analysis and theory to creative practice, brainstorming, prototyping, and playtesting game pitches.
Offered: Every year, Fall

GDD 202. Game Art I. 3 Credits.
This course introduces students to the basic skills and pipeline for creating 2D and 3D assets for games and animation. Topics include: lighting, modeling and textures. Artwork is integrated into 3D game engines and optimized for performance.
Prerequisites: Take GDD 102 or GDD 110 or permission of the program director.
Offered: Every year, Fall

GDD 207. Digital Music Composition for Games. 3 Credits.
This course covers the fundamentals of audio creation and implementation for games using a variety of software and digital tools. Readings on theory are integrated with group discussions and critique of student work. Classwork is project-based and students are encouraged to design audio for projects being developed in other classes.
Offered: As needed

GDD 210. Game Lab I: Team Projects. 3 Credits.
This is the first of a two-course sequence focusing on game production, coding, prototyping and playtesting. In Game Lab I, students work individually and in teams to define and develop game concepts, research content, develop game mechanics, create game assets and build working prototypes.
Prerequisites: Take GDD 200.
Offered: Every year, Fall

GDD 211. Game Lab II: Team Projects. 3 Credits.
This course is a continuation of GDD 210. Students continue to work in teams to build working prototypes while learning about the game development process, project management, play testing and usability testing. Prerequisite may be waived with permission of the program director.
Prerequisites: Take GDD 210.
Offered: As needed

GDD 215. eSports Management. 3 Credits.
This course is designed to teach students how to recruit, retain, develop and manage eSports teams. Students also explore the eSports industry, its rise and growth, trends in the space and where the field is likely to go. Finally, students discuss the business of eSports and look at possible opportunities that may arise from the growth of this new competitive space, including impacts on student athletes and colleges, professional teams, the world of sports (including the Olympics), and sponsorships.
Prerequisites: Take GDD 101.
Offered: As needed

GDD 250. Interactive Storytelling and Narrative (EN 207). 3 Credits.
This course explores the craft and purpose of interactive storytelling. Course content will cover both the creation and analysis of various interactive texts. Students in this class will combine basic coding language with creative writing principles to produce a complex interactive narrative. The interactive narrative will serve as a semester-long project that emphasizes autonomous characters, a responsive setting, and meaningful story branches navigated by a user. Students will also develop a theoretical understanding of interactive media.
Offered: As needed

GDD 290. Internship. 1-3 Credits.
Under the supervision of a faculty member and a participating private company, corporation, institution or community organization, students gain real-world experience working in the field of game design or related fields. For majors or minors in game design and development. Requires permission of the program director.
Offered: Every year, All

GDD 301. Game Design Tools and Processes. 3 Credits.
Students examine games from different perspectives and investigate how those perspectives affect the design process. Project work encourages students to consider the physical, cognitive and narrative potential in games. Students use a number of game-making tools that support these perspectives.
Prerequisites: Take GDD 210.
Offered: Every year, Spring

GDD 302. Game Art II. 3 Credits.
Students continue working with software tools required for designing and building 2D and 3D assets such as characters, costumes, props, levels, environments and worlds.
Prerequisites: Take GDD 202.
Offered: Every year, Spring
GDD 303. The Art of Audio Narrative (FTM 380 EN 303). 3 Credits.
This course is about storytelling. Students learn the basics of multi-track audio recording and mixing. They write and produce fiction and nonfiction audio narratives. Each project is shared in a stimulating and mutually supportive workshop environment. Students read and listen widely to gain a sense of the history and theory of radio art. Participants also spend time identifying target audiences and looking at ways to distribute student work to the larger world of public and independent radio. Prerequisite may be waived with permission of program director.
Prerequisites: Take GDD 101.
Offered: Every other year, Fall

GDD 310. Game Lab III: Team. 3 Credits.
Game Lab III builds upon the experience of game design and prototyping gained in Game Labs I and II. Students work in teams to develop and playtest working prototypes. Prerequisite may be waived with permission of the program director.
Prerequisites: Take GDD 211.
Offered: Every year, Fall

GDD 311. Game Lab IV: Team Projects. 3 Credits.
This Game Lab provides students with an experiential learning opportunity by building a game for a client or for publication. Students work in teams to build working prototypes and manage the life cycle of the game development process including troubleshooting, playtesting, usability testing and revisions. Prerequisite may be waived with permission of the program director.
Prerequisites: Permission of instructor.
Offered: Every year, Spring

GDD 314. VR/AR Development for Games. 3 Credits.
This course is an exploration into the potentials of Augmented and Virtual Reality in play and games. Students learn the skills to design and develop Virtual Reality applications for dedicated headsets and Augmented Reality applications for smartphones in Unity.
Prerequisites: Take GDD 200.
Offered: Every year, Spring

GDD 316. Advanced Topics in Game Development. 3 Credits.
Modern games rely on a range of algorithms and mathematical techniques to generate compelling dynamic game mechanics. This course develops advanced topics through mediated examples, playtesting and collaborative projects. Students build working prototypes that leverage applied math to generate complex game mechanics. The course will review basic mathematical tools for game physics, transforms, trajectory and mesh generation. More complex behaviors and movements are addressed through algorithms for procedural generation, agents, artificial intelligence, swarms and dynamic surfaces.
Prerequisites: Permission of instructor.
Offered: Every year, Spring

GDD 350. Board Game Design. 3 Credits.
This course provides an introduction to the design of tabletop and board games. Board games share many ideas with digital games but utilize different game mechanics. Designing for board games explores the practice of alternate approaches to game design, and the skills learned in this class can be applied to both. Topics include design, history, manufacturing and different genres such as classic board games, deck-building games and card-based strategy games.
Offered: As needed

GDD 370. Acting and Directing for Game Design. 3 Credits.
This course provides an introduction to the craft of directing and acting for game production. Topics include story analysis and interpretation, director’s concept, and the history and theories of directing. Students learn the basic principles of acting, including scene analysis, motivation, intention and character work. They perform exercises, monologues and scenes. Additional topics include methods of actor coaching, rehearsal techniques and working with the creative game design team.
Offered: As needed

GDD 380. The Business of Games. 3 Credits.
This course helps students gain an understanding of how to develop and run a successful video game business. Students look at existing businesses and new businesses as models and cautionary tales. Topics include developing financials, how to market a business, building a strong company culture, how to crowdfund and how to incorporate.
Offered: As needed

GDD 390. Internship. 1-3 Credits.
Under the supervision of a faculty member and a participating private company, corporation, institution or community organization, students gain real-world experience working in the field of game design or related fields. For majors or minors in game design and development. Requires permission of the program director.
Offered: Every year, All

GDD 394. History of Video Games. 3 Credits.
Video games are an interactive medium grounded in step-by-step innovation in console and computer systems combined with parallel development in software capabilities. This course examines the cultural, social and educational aspects of games and considers how they changed over time in response to market pressures, societal concerns about content and technological development. Students play and analyze historical games, learn how to write game reviews and research new phenomenon in game development.
Prerequisites: Take GDD 101 or permission of the program director.
Offered: Every year, Spring

GDD 395. Critical Game Studies Seminar (PL 395). 3 Credits.
In this course, students address topics in game studies, ludology or play theory to develop critical, conceptual and cultural understandings of narrative, meaning and identity in games. The course also addresses the design and development of serious and meaningful games and the aesthetic, social and technological implications of new emerging forms. Prerequisite may be waived with permission of the program director.
Prerequisites: Take GDD 101 or PL 101.
Offered: Fall

GDD 396. Games, Learning & Society. 3 Credits.
This course addresses the design, use, and assessment of serious and meaningful games in education. The class has both theoretical and applied components. Students will conduct literature reviews to understand current practice in a specific area of applied games, i.e. outcomes assessment, data collection, games for physical therapy, games for diabetes management, games to train surgeons, etc. and then produce a research paper on their area of focus. Students will then design, prototype, and test an applied game that addresses an actual societal need. Partnership with outside individuals and institutions is encouraged and supported.
Offered: As needed
GDD 399. Independent Study. 1-6 Credits.
Under the supervision of a faculty member, students pursue self-directed research and in-depth study in a subject that is not covered by the existing curriculum.
Offered: As needed

GDD 402. Game Art III. 3 Credits.
Students continue with more advanced work using software tools required for designing and building art assets. Topics include techniques of advanced 3D modeling, rigging, texturing, lighting, motion capture and animation, scene planning, virtual camera angles, rendering, editing and compositing.
Prerequisites: Take GDD 302.
Offered: Every year, Fall

GDD 405. Game Audio Design. 3 Credits.
This course covers sound design for games while exploring techniques of digital sound synthesis, recording, sampling and editing. Prerequisite may be waived with permission of program director.
Prerequisites: Take GDD 200.
Offered: As needed

GDD 410. Game Lab V: Team Projects. 3 Credits.
Game Lab V and VI form a two-course sequence that builds upon the knowledge and skills of prior courses. With a focus on the process of iteration, this course extends the experience of game production, coding, prototyping and playtesting gained in previous Game Labs. Students learn the basics of agile development and how to put it into practice. For game design and development majors.
Prerequisites: Take GDD 211 and senior status or permission of the program director.
Offered: Every year, Fall

GDD 411. Game Lab VI: Team Projects. 3 Credits.
This course is a continuation of Game Lab V. At the end of the semester, teams present a working game and provide documentation of their design and development process. Prerequisite: For game design and development majors.
Prerequisites: Take GDD 410 and senior status or permission of the program director.
Offered: Every year, Spring

GDD 490. Internship. 1-3 Credits.
Under the supervision of a faculty member and a participating private company, corporation, institution or community organization, students gain real-world experience working in the field of game design or related fields. For majors or minors in game design and development. Requires permission of the program director.
Offered: Every year, All

GDD 495. Senior Project and Seminar I. 3 Credits.
This course is the senior capstone in the major. Students reflect on how their academic experience and extracurricular activities during their undergraduate years have shaped their personal goals and aspirations. Students refine and polish their portfolio, produce a resume and other professional materials and prepare for their careers after graduation.
Prerequisites: Requires senior status and a major or minor in game design and development.
Offered: Every year, Spring

GDD 499. Independent Study. 1-6 Credits.
Under the supervision of a faculty member, students pursue self-directed research and in-depth study in a subject that is not covered by the existing curriculum. Prerequisite: Junior or senior standing.
Prerequisites: GDD tutorial courses required for graduation are offered as needed.
Offered: As needed

Music (MU)

MU 110. Private Music Lessons. 1 Credit.
Music lessons give Quinipiac students the opportunity to study the piano, guitar, voice, violin, viola or woodwind instruments with a highly skilled professional artist. In private music lessons, students develop an understanding of the fundamental elements of playing a musical instrument including: musical notation, proper technique, music theory and performance. No prior musical training is required as lessons are tailored by the instructor to be appropriate for any level of study. Students may choose to perform in program recitals that are held each semester, if they choose to do so.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

MU 130. Understanding Music. 3 Credits.
Students study elements of musical form and style in an effort to discover how music works. This course investigates the most important figures from the history of Western music as well as some world music and contemporary composers.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

MU 130H. Honors Understanding Music. 3 Credits.
Students study elements of musical form and style in an effort to discover how music works. This course investigates the most important figures from the history of Western music as well as some world music and contemporary composers.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

MU 150. American Popular Music: From the Blues to Hip Hop. 3 Credits.
This course investigates the musical and cultural history of American popular music. The course looks at many different styles of music including Jazz, Blues, Rock n Roll, Country and Hip-Hop. The course studies the musical style and the social, cultural, political and historical contexts from which American popular music emerged.
Offered: Every year, Fall and Spring
UC: Fine Arts

MU 150H. Honors: American Popular Music: From the Blues to Hip Hop. 3 Credits.
This course investigates the musical and cultural history of American popular music. The course looks at many different styles of music including Jazz, Blues, Rock n Roll, Country and Hip-Hop. The course studies the musical style and the social, cultural, political and historical contexts from which American popular music emerged.
Offered: Every year, Fall and Spring
UC: Fine Arts

MU 175. Special Topics in Music. 3 Credits.
Offered: As needed
UC: Fine Arts
MU 190. Quinnipiac University Singers. 1 Credit.
This workshop in music is devoted to the study, singing and presentation of choral music from a variety of periods. The course focuses on specific vocal and ensemble techniques. Students of every experience and ability level are encouraged to attend.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

MU 191. Quinnipiac Chamber Orchestra. 1 Credit.
Students perform chamber music and orchestral compositions. A wide variety of styles including classical, film and popular music are performed. All instruments are used and students of every experience and ability level are encouraged to attend.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

MU 194. Jazz Ensemble. 1 Credit.
Students explore and perform literature written for big band and smaller ensembles. A wide variety of styles, composers and arrangers are covered. Students of every experience and ability level are encouraged to attend.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

MU 200. Special Topics. 3 Credits.
Offered: As needed, All
UC: Fine Arts

MU 211. History of Jazz. 3 Credits.
This course investigates the origins and history of Jazz from its beginning in the early twentieth century through present avant-garde forms. Jazz literature is surveyed with an analysis of important soloists, small jazz groups and large ensembles.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

MU 211H. Honors History of Jazz. 3 Credits.
This course covers the origins and history of the jazz idiom from its beginning in the early twentieth century through present avant-garde forms. Jazz literature is surveyed with an analysis of important soloists, small jazz groups and large ensembles.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

MU 213. Music of the 20th Century. 3 Credits.
This course examines the transformations that took place in art music from the late romantic era to the end of the twentieth century. The course presents a diverse spectrum of musical styles and explores how popular forms of music, world music, and changes in society have impacted musical culture here and abroad.
Prerequisites: Take 3 credits from subject MU.
Offered: As needed
UC: Fine Arts

MU 230. Music Theory I. 3 Credits.
This course is designed to give students a solid and practical basis for appreciation or participation of musical experiences. Emphasis is placed on study of the basic elements of music theory including rhythm, melody, harmony, modes, scales, key signature, and intervals.
Offered: Every year, Fall
UC: Fine Arts

MU 250. Music and Disabilities. 3 Credits.
This course explores how specific disabilities contributed to the formation of a composer or performer’s musical identity. This course places special emphasis on how disabilities influence creative and performance standards within a culture. Students discuss musicians from many different genres, including classical, jazz and pop music.
Offered: Every year, Fall and Spring
UC: Fine Arts

MU 280. Music and Our Life’s Work. 4 Credits.
The objective of this course is to empower students with information to help them understand and appreciate various genres of music and their connection to our life’s work. Utilizing a group cooperative learning approach, students engage in directed listening activities and investigation of select Western Art Music examples. They explore the societal and historical influences that have contributed to the development of music, as well as the effect of music on our daily lives. For their culminating project, “Music and Your Major,” students articulate the relationship of music to the work that they do.
Offered: As needed
UC: Fine Arts

MU 299. Independent Study. 1-3 Credits.
By special arrangement with instructor and with approval of department chair.
Offered: Every year, All

MU 300. Music Directed Study. 1-3 Credits.
Offered: As needed

MU 330. Music Theory II. 3 Credits.
This course studies the range, timbre, transposition and uses of various instruments in consort. Fundamental techniques of arranging, vocal and instrumental are considered.
Prerequisites: Take MU 230.
Offered: Every year, Spring
UC: Fine Arts

MU 399. Independent Study. 3 Credits.
By special arrangement with instructor and with approval of department chair.
Offered: Every year, All

Theater (DR)

DR 101. Understanding Theater. 3 Credits.
This course presents an introduction to the practices and purposes of theater through attending plays, readings in theater history, dramatic theory and stage production work.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

DR 140. Stagecraft. 3 Credits.
Stagecraft is a practical, semester-long workshop on the process of transforming a design concept into a workable end. This course provides an introduction to the theory, techniques, materials and equipment of theater technology with an emphasis on the ways in which practical considerations inform the process and product of theater making. Areas of study include set and costume construction, scene painting, lighting, projection and sound. The course incorporates extensive practical work both in and outside of class; and students are required to complete 28 hours of technical production work for the mainstage production season.
Offered: Every year, Fall and Spring
UC: Fine Arts
DR 150. Performance Fundamentals. 3 Credits.
This course provides an introduction to the basic vocal, physical and improvisational skills necessary for successful performance in a variety of areas. Skills to be emphasized include vocal support and projection, physical relaxation and focus, diction, articulation and improvisational techniques. Students interested in broadcast journalism, newscasting, public relations and advocacy, as well as more theatrical areas of public performance, learn to work effectively in front of an audience while maintaining focus and energy.
Offered: Every year, Fall and Spring
UC: Fine Arts

DR 160. Acting I. 3 Credits.
Students are introduced to the basic principles of acting, including scene analysis, motivation, intention and character work. Students perform exercises, monologues and scenes.
Offered: Every year, Fall and Spring
UC: Fine Arts

DR 181. Improvisational Acting. 3 Credits.
This course introduces students to long-form improvisational theater. In this form, actors build scenes from scratch with only a one-word suggestion from the audience. This course is an introductory course and is suitable for students with or without prior performance experience. The semester culminates with a class performance for an invited audience.
Offered: Every year, Fall and Spring
UC: Fine Arts

DR 191. Theater Practice I. 1 Credit.
Students complete a minimum 40 hours of production work or related professional experience. Students must obtain approval from the theater program director before beginning their work. Approval is not automatic. Students are expected to articulate how the proposed experiential learning aligns with their post-graduation goals.
Offered: Every year, Fall and Spring
UC: Fine Arts

DR 199. Independent Study. 1-3 Credits.
A student may, in collaboration with an instructor, create course which focuses on specific area of dramatic study. Internships and work on university theater program productions are possible areas of focus.
Offered: As needed

DR 200. Special Topics. 3 Credits.
This course focuses on a specialized area of theater study. Past topics have included scenic and lighting design and special topics in theater history and dramatic literature. Course may be repeated for credit.
Offered: As needed
UC: Fine Arts

DR 220. Voice and Movement. 3 Credits.
This course covers practical laboratory work in vocal production and movement, utilizing developmental techniques of Kristen Linklater, Alexander Feldenkrais, Jerzy Grotowski, Michael Chekhov, with special emphasis on individual coaching and problem solving. Studio work also may include techniques of characterization, including neutral and character mask exploration, work with classical texts, and acquisition of dialect skills.
Offered: Every year, Fall
UC: Fine Arts

DR 221. Voice and Diction. 3 Credits.
Speaking clearly is a valuable skill that serves the individual in any facet of her/his post-university life. A dynamic speaking voice can convey emotion, captivate an audience and propel a career forward regardless of whether your goal is to become an actor, an on-air personality, a businessperson, a doctor, a social worker, a teacher or a lawyer. Perfecting the skills offered by Voice & Diction helps the student excel in all areas of life in and beyond university. No prior performance experience is necessary. Students who would like to improve their public speaking and communication skills find great benefits from this course.
Offered: Every year, Spring
UC: Fine Arts

DR 230. Directing I. 3 Credits.
This course serves as an introduction to the craft of the theatrical director. Topics include play analysis and interpretation, director’s concept, visual composition and the history and theories of directing. Also included: methods of actor coaching, rehearsal techniques and working with the creative team of designers, dramaturges and production staff. As a final project, each student directs a scene that is presented in a student workshop performance at the end of the semester.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

DR 257. Design for the Theater. 3 Credits.
This course provides an introduction to theatrical design history, process and implementation. Students explore the concept of design and what it is in the theater. They read first- and second-hand accounts of historic designers and movements in theatrical design. They examine the design process and apply it to class projects. They also reflect and evaluate on their personal process. These topics are presented through readings, lectures and discussions, and applied through group and individual assignments. Although the main focus is scenic, lighting and costume design, all aspects of theater are explored. This course is suitable for students with or without prior theater experience.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

DR 260. Acting for Film/Tv. 3 Credits.
This is an intermediate studio course in which students gain experience in the specialized performance skills demanded by the film and television mediums. Students work on monologues and scenes that emphasize truth and emotional reality and receive training in the techniques of Stanislavski, Lee Strasberg and Sanford Meisner. When scheduling permits, students collaborate with a mass communications video production class in filming/taping acting scenes.
Offered: Every year, All
UC: Fine Arts

DR 261. Auditioning for the Actor. 3 Credits.
In this course, students learn how to excel at all aspects of the audition process. From how to select and perform audition appropriate monologues, to mock interviews and self-presentation tips, students learn how to succeed. All students are required to complete the course with a headshot and resume as well as two audition-ready monologues. This course is open to all students regardless of major. No prior acting experience is necessary. Students who would like to improve their public speaking, interview and interpersonal skills find great benefits from this course.
Offered: Every year, Spring
UC: Fine Arts
DR 270. World Theater History and Dramatic Literature I. 3 Credits.
In this course, students integrate a multicultural history of world theater with the study of performance traditions and dramatic literature. Participants study the ritual foundations of theater through the theater of the early Renaissance period, emphasizing the importance of historical and literary research in devising actual production concepts for period plays. Students apply their knowledge in active and creative projects. Does not have to be taken in sequence with DR 275.
Offered: Every year, Fall
UC: Fine Arts

DR 270H. Honors World Theater History and Dramatic Literature I. 3 Credits.
This course covers the historical development of European theater covering the Classical, Medieval and Early Modern periods. It also examines various types of non-Western performance traditions with a focus on India, Africa, Japan and China. Plays from each time period are read and placed within their historical, political and cultural contexts. The historical development of theater architecture, stage craft, acting theory, and the changing status of the theater artist also is explored. Students apply their knowledge in scholarly and creative projects. Does not have to be taken in sequence with DR 275.

DR 275. World Theater History and Dramatic Literature II. 3 Credits.
This course traces the development of European theater from the Renaissance through the late 19th century and the beginning of modern drama. It also examines non-Western performance traditions in India, China, Japan and Africa. Students learn the importance of locating dramatic literature within its cultural, political and historical contexts. The historical development of theater architecture, stage craft, acting theory, and the changing status of the theater artist also is explored. Students apply their knowledge in scholarly and creative projects. Does not have to be taken in sequence with DR 270.
Offered: Every year, Spring
UC: Fine Arts

DR 286. Script Analysis. 3 Credits.
Students learn methods of script analysis that can be used to successfully interpret dramatic texts for performance & production. This skill is essential for all theater practitioners and can be useful to any student who wishes to sharpen his or her analytical and interpretive skills.
Offered: Every year, Fall
UC: Fine Arts

DR 290. Acting for Classical Stage. 3 Credits.
This intermediate studio course emphasizes the performance skills necessary to execute a classical role. Students work on monologues and scenes drawn from the plays of the Greek tragedians, Shakespeare, Moliere and the writers of the English Restoration. Students acquire the techniques necessary to speak verse and to physically embody a classical character.
Offered: Every year, Fall
UC: Fine Arts

DR 291. Theater Practice II. 3 Credits.
Students complete a minimum 120 hours of production work or related professional experience. Students must obtain approval from the theater program director before beginning their work. Approval is not automatic. Students are expected to articulate how the proposed experiential learning aligns with their post-graduation goals.
Offered: Every year, Fall

DR 299. Independent Study. 1-6 Credits.
This intermediate level tutorial course stresses independent investigation of a topic in theater/drama selected in consultation with the instructor. One conference weekly; oral and written reports. Course may be repeated for credit.
Offered: As needed, All

DR 305. Theater for Young Audiences. 3 Credits.
This seminar course allows students to explore various aspects of creating theater for young audiences. Performance skills in improvisation and creative dramatics, adaptation of fairy tales, folklore and other children's literature for plays, and the integration of drama into classroom curriculum are emphasized. Students conduct enrichment workshops at participating area schools and/or perform for young audiences in staged readings, workshops and/or fully mounted productions. Community outreach and service learning are emphasized. Requires permission of instructor. This course may be repeated for credit.
Offered: Every other year, Spring
UC: Fine Arts

DR 306. Lighting Design for the Theater. 3 Credits.
This course provides hands-on experience with the technical and design elements of stage lighting. Students use equipment and techniques directly relating to the theatrical productions scheduled in a given semester, using an artistic and collaborative approach and working with lighting systems in a theater.
Prerequisites: Take DR 140 or DR 257.
Offered: Every other year, Spring
UC: Fine Arts

DR 335. Musical Theater Performance. 3 Credits.
In this studio course, students gain expertise in the special skills and techniques necessary to perform in the musical theater style. Each student performs solo, duet and trio musical theater selections with CD accompaniment. (Music is provided; however, students may choose a different solo piece, provided they have the accompaniment track or access to a pianist.) As a culminating exercise, students select pieces drawn from the semester's performance exercises, and these pieces are performed with appropriate costumes, props and choreography in a public cabaret setting.
Offered: Every year, Spring
UC: Fine Arts

DR 340. Scenic Design. 3 Credits.
This class provides an introduction to the world of scenic design. Through discussion, reading, lecture and demonstration, participants explore the theory and practice of designing for the stage. Using this as a base, students research, sketch, paint and model designs for two plays. By investigating the design process in both an academic and hands-on manner, students gain knowledge in the area of scenic design as well as generally improving their problem-solving skills. Students are expected to purchase materials for sketching and model making.
Prerequisites: Take 1 DR course.
Offered: Every other year, Fall
UC: Fine Arts

DR 341. Lighting Design for the Theater. 3 Credits.
This course provides hands-on experience with the technical and design elements of stage lighting. Students use equipment and techniques directly relating to the theatrical productions scheduled in a given semester, using an artistic and collaborative approach and working with lighting systems in a theater.
Prerequisites: Take DR 140 or DR 257.
Offered: Every other year, Spring
UC: Fine Arts
DR 342. Costume Design.  
This course provides an introduction to the theory, techniques, materials and equipment of costuming. Participants focus on costume construction, fabric, fasteners, sewing machine use, dyeing techniques and costume design. Extensive practical work is completed on an individual student basis. Students participate in costume construction for two productions during the semester.  
Offered: Every other year, Fall  
UC: Fine Arts

DR 345. Dance for the Musical Theater.  
Students learn musical theater dance styles and choreography through studio performance. As a culminating exercise, students select dance pieces to perform with appropriate costumes, props and choreography in a cabaret setting open to the public.  
Offered: Every year, Fall  
UC: Fine Arts

DR 350. Playwriting I.  
This course centers on the 10-minute play. Students develop their own unique styles and strategies for writing plays while exploring the diverse techniques employed by the playwrights who have already established a foundation for the craft. In addition to writing their own plays, students complete a series of writing exercises designed to develop specific skills. The semester culminates with a public reading of each student’s best work.  
Offered: Every year, All  
UC: Fine Arts

DR 360. Acting II.  
In this studio course, student actors use exercises in acting technique to deepen and refine their ability to create reality on stage. Students explore the skills necessary to create a sense of truth on stage, beginning with scene analysis and enhanced by weekly in-class scene showings. Discussions on reading written by industry leaders focus on how to apply performance techniques to students’ individual scenes and daily lives.  
Prerequisites: Take DR 160.  
Offered: Every year, Spring  
UC: Fine Arts

DR 370. Internship, Conservatory or Professional Experience.  
Senior theater majors are required to complete a minimum of 120 hours at an internship, conservatory or professional experience in theater or a related field. Students must obtain approval from the theater program director before beginning their work. Approval is not automatic. Students are expected to articulate how the proposed experiential learning aligns with their post-graduation goals.  
Prerequisites: Senior status required.  
Offered: Every year, Fall

DR 375. History and Dramatic Literature of the Contemporary Theater.  
This advanced seminar class encompasses a socio-historical study of dramatic literature and theory from the beginnings of the modern era to the present with an emphasis on relevance to contemporary performance techniques. The course examines such movements as realism, naturalism, futurism, symbolism, expressionism, surrealism, constructivism and absurdism, studying the texts, artists and critics of the modernist and post-modernist movements in an attempt to locate contemporary theater within its social, historical and political contexts.  
Offered: As needed  
UC: Fine Arts

DR 380. Theater Administration.  
Students explore the economic, legal and managerial aspects of professional theater. The course examines the roles of producers, managers, agents, house managers and box office managers as well as the responsibilities of marketing, programming, touring, public relations, strategic planning and fundraising.  
Offered: Every other year, Fall  
UC: Fine Arts

DR 391. Playwriting II.  
This course centers on the full-length play. Students develop their own unique styles and strategies for writing plays while exploring the diverse techniques employed by the playwrights who have already established a foundation for the craft. The semester culminates with a public reading of each student’s best work.  
Prerequisites: Take DR 350.  
Offered: As needed

DR 410. Senior Seminar.  
This seminar is required for all senior theater majors. Students engage in a culminating project. During their junior year, students work with an adviser to prepare and submit a detailed proposal outlining their project. Approval is not automatic. Projects are reviewed by a faculty committee and students may be asked to submit revisions or alternative proposals.  
Offered: Every year, Spring