



Test Framework

Theater (816)

December 2024

Multiple Choice

Subarea	Range of Objectives	Approximate Percentage of Test Score
I. Playwriting, Performance, and Direction of Dramatic Works	0001–0003	30%
II. Design, Production, and Management of Dramatic Works	0004–0005	15%
III. Theater History and Dramatic Literature	0006–0009	25%
IV. Theater Education	0010–0011	10%
Total	0001–0011	80%

Open Response

Subarea	Range of Objectives	Approximate Percentage of Test Score
V. Integration of Knowledge and Understanding	0012	20%

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PLAYWRITING, PERFORMANCE, AND DIRECTION OF DRAMATIC WORKS

0001: Understand principles and fundamental skills related to playwriting and principles of dramatic structure.

- Demonstrate knowledge of principles and skills involved in writing and adapting a play for the stage.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the use of various techniques (e.g., methods of research/information gathering, playmaking, self-scripting, improvisation) for generating ideas for stories, actions, characters, and dramatic environments.
- Understand ways of structuring a script to communicate ideas and feelings (e.g., plot, characters, setting, theme, mood).
- Recognize the use of various dramatic styles, forms, and genres in playwriting.

0002: Understand principles and fundamental skills related to acting.

- Identify methods and characteristics associated with classical and contemporary forms of actor training.
- Understand techniques for developing actors' tools (i.e., voice, body, and mind).
- Understand characterization techniques in acting.
- Demonstrate knowledge of uses and techniques of improvisation.

0003: Understand principles and fundamental skills related to directing.

- Understand effective collaboration with cast, production staff, and community.
- Demonstrate knowledge of preparing a production (e.g., selecting a play, background research, script analysis, concept/design decisions).
- Understand the casting and rehearsal processes (e.g., auditions, casting, schedule planning, blocking).
- Demonstrate knowledge of integrating elements for performance (e.g., technical and design elements, continuous critique and revision from multiple sources involved in the production).

DESIGN, PRODUCTION, AND MANAGEMENT OF DRAMATIC WORKS

0004: Understand principles and fundamental skills related to producing and managing theatrical performances.

- Demonstrate knowledge of roles and responsibilities of individuals involved in theatrical production (e.g., stage manager, company manager, production manager, producer, technical director).
- Identify factors and considerations involved in selecting a play for theatrical production and legal issues (e.g., royalties, copyrights, liability, contracts) related to theatrical producing.
- Demonstrate knowledge of procedures for scheduling, budgeting, planning, promoting, and managing theatrical productions and for managing personnel (e.g., designers, choreographers, music director).

0005: Understand principles and fundamental skills related to set, costume, makeup, lighting, and sound design.

- Demonstrate essential design principles and elements as they relate to theater (e.g., space, color, line, shape, texture, repetition, balance, emphasis, contrast, unity).
- Understand fundamentals of stagecraft (e.g., set, costume, property, and mask construction; hang/focus of lighting instruments; sound production; makeup).
- Demonstrate knowledge of health and safety guidelines related to technical theater and design.
- Analyze the use of principles of design and production in the context of the script and historical/cultural considerations of the play's setting.

THEATER HISTORY AND DRAMATIC LITERATURE

0006: Understand the development, analysis, and history of drama and theater.

- Demonstrate knowledge of the various purposes of theater throughout history.
- Understand the development of basic elements of theatrical performance and production throughout history.
- Identify types and characteristics of various dramatic forms.
- Understand the relationship of cultural, economic, political, and other social factors to theater.
- Understand the fundamentals of the analysis and critique of works of theater and dramatic literature.

0007: Understand significant British and other European dramatic literature from ancient times to the present.

- Understand major themes, characteristics, and developments in British and European theater and dramatic literature from ancient times to the present.
- Identify major British and European playwrights and their works.
- Demonstrate knowledge of prominent developments in British and European theatrical performance and production.

0008: Understand significant dramatic literature of the United States.

- Understand major themes, characteristics, and developments in American theater and dramatic literature throughout history.
- Identify major American playwrights and their works.
- Identify prominent individuals and understand developments in American theatrical performance and production.

0009: Understand significant dramatic literature from other global cultural traditions.

- Understand major themes, characteristics, and developments in the theater and dramatic literature of other global cultural traditions.
- Identify major playwrights and prominent individuals in the theater of other global cultural traditions.

THEATER EDUCATION

0010: Understand principles and fundamental skills related to theater education for children and adolescents.

- Demonstrate knowledge of teaching methods and practices in theater arts education.
- Understand the creative development of children and adolescents in the theater arts.
- Recognize criteria for evaluating various aspects of theatrical performance at different age levels.
- Demonstrate knowledge of theater for young audiences and dramatic literature for children's theater.

0011: Understand the interdisciplinary nature of theater.

- Understand theater in connection to related arts (e.g., opera, puppetry, mime, music, dance, visual arts, radio, television, video, film, digital media).
- Demonstrate knowledge of theater in connection to other academic disciplines and the humanities.

INTEGRATION OF KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

0012: Prepare an organized, developed analysis on a topic related to one or more of the following: playwriting, performance, and direction of dramatic works; design, production, and management of dramatic works; theater history and dramatic literature; theater education.

- (Refer to objectives 0001 through 0011 and associated descriptive statements.)