

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Academic and Student Affairs

AGENDA ITEM: 7 – D
DATE: August 2-4, 2022

SUBJECT

New Program Request – BHSU – Minor in Theatre

CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY

[BOR Policy 2:23](#) – Program and Curriculum Approval

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

Black Hills State University (BHSU) requests authorization to offer a minor in Theatre. The proposed minor will provide a student-centered learning environment focusing on cultivating the collaborative skills, creativity, and professionalism necessary to pursue a wide variety of careers. Currently, theatre is offered as an emphasis within the Speech and Speech-Teaching minors at BHSU. Within those minors, if students wish to pursue theatre, the number of credit hours exceeds 18. By breaking Theatre out into its own minor, the number of credit hours will be reduced to 18, and it will improve the discipline's visibility to students search for a minor. Additionally, the newly created Communication and Media major will no longer include theatre curriculum, and the Communication Studies and Theatre major has been terminated. This minor will ensure that theatre courses and curriculum are still available to BHSU students.

IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATION

BHSU plans to offer the minor in Theatre on campus. BHSU does not request new state resources, and no new courses will be required. BHSU estimates 18 students enrolled and 6 graduates by the fourth year of the program.

Board office staff recommends approval.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment I – New Program Request Form: BHSU – Minor in Theatre

DRAFT MOTION 20220802_7-D:

I move to authorize BHSU to offer a minor in Theatre, as presented.



SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS

New Baccalaureate Degree Minor

Use this form to propose a new baccalaureate degree minor (the minor may include existing and/or new courses. An academic minor within a degree program enables a student to make an inquiry into a discipline or field of study beyond the major or to investigate a particular content theme. Minors provide a broad introduction to a subject and therefore develop only limited competency. Minors consist of a specific set of objectives achieved through a series of courses. Course offerings occur in a specific department or may draw from several departments (as in the case of a topical or thematic focus). In some cases, all coursework within a minor proscribed; in others cases, a few courses may form the basis for a wide range of choices. Regental undergraduate minors typically consist of 18 credit hours. Proposals to establish new minors as well as proposals to modify existing minors must recognize and address this limit. The Board of Regents, Executive Director, and/or their designees may request additional information about the proposal. After the university President approves the proposal, submit a signed copy to the Executive Director through the system Chief Academic Officer. Only post the New Baccalaureate Degree Minor Form to the university website for review by other universities after approval by the Executive Director and Chief Academic Officer.

UNIVERSITY:	BHSU
TITLE OF PROPOSED MINOR:	Theatre
DEGREE(S) IN WHICH MINOR MAY BE EARNED:	BS., BA., BSED
EXISTING RELATED MAJORS OR MINORS:	Speech and Speech-Teaching
INTENDED DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION:	Fall 2022
PROPOSED CIP CODE:	50.0501
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	School of Arts and Humanities
BANNER DEPARTMENT CODE:	BSAH
UNIVERSITY DIVISION:	College of Liberal Arts
BANNER DIVISION CODE:	6A

☒ Please check this box to confirm that:

- The individual preparing this request has read [AAC Guideline 2.8](#), which pertains to new baccalaureate degree minor requests, and that this request meets the requirements outlined in the guidelines.
- This request will not be posted to the university website for review of the Academic Affairs Committee until it is approved by the Executive Director and Chief Academic Officer.

University Approval

To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.



President of the University

Click here to enter

5/11/22

Date

Note: In the responses below, references to external sources, including data sources, should be documented with a footnote (including web addresses where applicable).

1. Do you have a major in this field (*place an "X" in the appropriate box*)?

☒

Yes

☐

No

2. If you do not have a major in this field, explain how the proposed minor relates to your university mission and strategic plan, and to the current Board of Regents Strategic Plan 2014-2020.

Links to the applicable State statute, Board Policy, and the Board of Regents Strategic Plan are listed below for each campus.

BHSU: [SDCL § 13-59](#) [BOR Policy 1:10:4](#)

DSU: [SDCL § 13-59](#) [BOR Policy 1:10:5](#)

NSU: [SDCL § 13-59](#) [BOR Policy 1:10:6](#)

SDSMT: [SDCL § 13-60](#) [BOR Policy 1:10:3](#)

SDSU: [SDCL § 13-58](#) [BOR Policy 1:10:2](#)

USD: [SDCL § 13-57](#) [BOR Policy 1:10:1](#)

[Board of Regents Strategic Plan 2014-2020](#)

3. What is the nature/purpose of the proposed minor? Please include a brief (1-2 sentence) description of the academic field in this program.

This minor will provide a student-centered learning environment focusing on cultivating the collaborative skills, creativity, and professionalism necessary to pursue a wide variety of careers. The minor will also provide students with a well-rounded liberal arts education with the opportunity to pursue theatre as a specific field of inquiry. The curriculum offers a course that introduces students to the theatre and courses in acting, stagecraft, makeup, fundamentals of design, and directing. The minor will be vital to theatre's impact at Black Hills State. Theatre at BHSU provides continuous support for regional (S.D. and Wyoming) high schools and arts organizations throughout the Black Hills. The Theatre Minor will replace the Theatre Emphasis within the Speech and Speech-Teaching minors. This most collaborative field of art forms will prepare the student to explore the human condition. It also will allow the student to connect to a global and diverse community and embark on a career of risk-taking and self-discovery.

Currently, the Speech Minor has 24 required credits, and the Speech-Teaching Minor has 27. This minor will reduce the number of credits in theatre to 18. Unlike the Theatre Emphasis

within the Speech and Speech-Teaching minors, students will not take a 300/400 level elective in Theatre nor take the Theatre Practicum.

Having a minor with "Theatre" in the title will be essential to improving the discipline's visibility to students searching for a minor. For example, a student who sees *Speech* and *Speech-Teaching* as a minor is not likely to realize that the study of theatre is an option. Improving the program's visibility is especially important because the Communication Studies and Theatre major will soon be terminated and replaced by the new Communication and Media degree. This new degree will not include theatre as an emphasis or specialization.

4. How will the proposed minor benefit students?

The program provides a student-centered learning environment that focuses on cultivating several skills that build a solid foundation for many career fields: oral and interpersonal communication, presentation, collaboration, creative and improvised problem-solving, creative thinking, project management, empathy, and professionalism. These skills are all transferable to a wide range of careers. The minor also prepares students for graduate school and a career in theatre or to prepare education students to teach theater in a K-12 setting. For a student who wants to improve their presentation skills and confidence speaking in front of others, the Theatre Minor complements any major a student is pursuing.

5. Describe the workforce demand for graduates in related fields, including national demand and demand within South Dakota.

The Theatre Minor will develop and sharpen many marketable skills that will serve students well in the workforce. The Theatre Minor will improve a student's oral presentation skills, which are vital in most professions. The Theatre Minor also helps students develop the collaborative and interpersonal communication skills essential for project work and team building in a professional setting. The courses students will take in the Theatre Minor also help students think critically, logically, and creatively, which are essential to problem-solving within one's chosen career field. It is also worth noting that a theatre student acquires specific skills—acting, directing, makeup, carpentry, and editing.

The many career opportunities for theatre majors and minors are because many of the skills they cultivate are the "soft skills" employers are looking for. For example, the infographic "20 Key Soft Skills that All Students Need" within the *South Dakota Workforce Services* website lists several of the skills a theatre student would acquire, including those in the top five: "communication," "teamwork," "problem solving," "critical thinking," and "using technology."¹

The skills students receive from the Theatre Minor will prepare students for many careers. The more apparent jobs include actor, director, producer, theatre teacher, scenic artist, voice-over artist, costume designer, and stage manager. However, a theatre minor can also help prepare students for at least four of the 30 most in-demand careers for 2018-2028, according to South Dakota's Labor Market Information Center:

¹ https://dlr.sd.gov/workforce_services/individuals/career_launch/toolkit_documents/4-9-2_20_soft_skills_infographic.pdf

- Elementary School Teachers (11th on the list): there are an estimated 349 annual openings, with an average salary of \$44,783. A theatre minor helps to improve confidence in students preparing for the teaching possession, and theatre training helps to animate their presentation skills. Furthermore, an elementary school teacher with a theatre background is attractive to principals and superintendents looking for faculty who can direct the school play and other theatrical productions.
- Secondary School Teachers (15th on the list): there are an estimated 275 annual openings, with an average salary of \$45,810. As with elementary-level teachers, a theatre minor helps improve students' confidence, and theatre training helps to animate their presentation skills. Additionally, like with elementary teachers, a secondary school teacher with a theatre background is attractive to principals and superintendents looking for faculty to direct the school play and other theatrical productions. This ability is needed because there are very few full-time theatre teachers in K-12 schools in South Dakota and nationwide.
- Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing (4th on the list): there are an estimated 655 annual openings, with an average wage of \$65,925. Within the Theatre Minor curriculum, Introduction to Acting and Directing are classes that help students improve their ability to communicate in front of groups of people and develop interpersonal communication skills. These skills are especially beneficial to the sales profession.

Other careers for which a theatre minor can help prepare students include the following: product support services, arts administration, development director, marketing director, property designer, publicist, booking agent, artist's agent, community organizer, manager, box office manager, and community arts director. It is also worth mentioning that someone with a theatre minor is prepared for various roles within the entertainment and sports industry. Between 2020 and 2030, The U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics projects a 22% growth in this industry. Designers of special exhibits, sets for film, video television, and theatre productions are projected to grow at 9 percent from 2020 to 2030.² Employment of broadcast, sound, and video technicians is projected to grow 21 percent from 2020 to 2030, much faster than the average for all occupations.³

6. Provide estimated enrollments and completions in the table below and explain the methodology used in developing the estimates (*replace "XX" in the table with the appropriate year*).

<i>Estimates</i>	Fiscal Years*			
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th
	F.Y. 2023	F.Y. 2024	F.Y. 2025	F.Y. 2026
Students enrolled in the minor (fall)	6	9	13	18
Completions by graduates	0	1	3	6

*Do not include current fiscal year.

7. What is the rationale for the curriculum? Demonstrate/provide evidence that the curriculum is consistent with current national standards.

² <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/entertainment-and-sports/actors.htm>.

³ <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/media-and-communication/broadcast-and-sound-engineering-technicians.htm>

Collectively, the courses cover all the major areas of theatre. Theatre core requirements include acting, directing, design, and technical theatre classes. These courses reflect current theatre performance and technology trends.

A summary of the standards set by The National Association of Schools of Theatre⁴ reports that minors will learn to think conceptually about a text, performance, and production. They also will understand the playwriting process, be acquainted with a wide selection of theatre repertoires, and develop and defend informed judgments. In addition, students need to display competence in one or more theatrical specializations in creation, performance, scholarship, or teaching.

Black Hills State's coursework is designed to fulfill NAST standards. Analysis and concept are covered in Introduction to Theatre, Fundamentals of Design, Directing, and Makeup. From concept to final draft, playwriting is covered in Introduction to Theatre. Students must read and analyze a wide range of plays, from classical to modern, in Intro to Theatre, Fundamentals of Design, Directing, and Makeup. Stagecraft offers students the opportunity to develop technical theatre competencies in set construction, sound technology, and lighting design. It is also worth mentioning that all coursework is supplemented by equally important production experience. Theatre education has historically implemented an experiential approach to learning. For example, the Theatre Minor provides students with many hours of on-stage time and behind-the-scenes. Experience in the theatre is the best teacher. Students at BHSU learn by doing.

8. Complete the tables below. Explain any exceptions to Board policy requested.

Minors by design are limited in the number of credit hours required for completion. They typically consist of eighteen (18) credit hours, including prerequisite courses. In addition, minors usually involve existing courses. If the curriculum consists of more than eighteen (18) credit hours (including prerequisites) or new courses, please provide explanation and justification below.

A. Distribution of Credit Hours

[Insert title of proposed minor]	Credit Hours	Percent
Requirements in minor	18	100%
Electives in minor	0	0%
.Total	18	100%

B. Required Courses in the Minor

Prefix	Number	Course Title (add or delete rows as needed)	Prerequisites for Course	Credit Hours	New
--------	--------	--	-----------------------------	-----------------	-----

⁴ <https://nast.arts-accredit.org/>

			<i>Include credits for prerequisites in subtotal below.</i>		(yes, no)
THEA	100	Introduction to Theatre (offered every Fall and Spring)		3	No
THEA	131	Introduction to Acting (offered every Fall and Spring)		3	No
THEA	241	Stagecraft (offered every odd Fall)		3	No
THEA	243	Makeup (offered every odd Fall)		3	No
THEA	344	Fundamentals of Design (Offered every even Fall)		3	No
THEA	351	Directing (offered every odd Spring)		3	No
Subtotal				18	

9. Elective Courses in the Minor: List courses available as electives in the program. Indicate any proposed new courses added specifically for the minor. None

A. What are the learning outcomes expected for all students who complete the minor? How will students achieve these outcomes? Complete the table below to list specific learning outcomes—knowledge and competencies—for courses in the proposed program in each row. Label each column heading with a course prefix and number. Indicate required courses with an asterisk (*). Indicate with an X in the corresponding table cell for any student outcomes that will be met by the courses included. All students should acquire the program knowledge and competencies regardless of the electives selected. Modify the table as necessary to provide the requested information for the proposed program.

Individual Student Outcome (Same as in the text of the proposal)	Program Courses that Address the Outcomes					
	THEA 100	THEA 131	THEA 241	THEA 243	THEA 344	THEA 351
Demonstrate knowledge of the diversity of values, beliefs, and ideas embodied in the human experience;	X	X				
Identify and explain the basic concepts of the selected disciplines within the arts and humanities	X	X				
Identify and explain the contributions of different cultures from the perspective of the selected disciplines within the arts and humanities	X					
Demonstrate creative and aesthetic understanding	X	X				
Explain and interpret formal and stylistic elements of the literary or fine art	X	X				

Demonstrate a basic working knowledge of technical theatre			X			
Demonstrate technical theatre skills related to makeup				X		
Demonstrate the techniques of directing, including composition, movement, tempo-rhythm, script analysis, and screen presentation						X
Demonstrate techniques in scenic, costume, lighting and sound design					X	

Modify the table as necessary to include all student outcomes. Outcomes in this table are to be the same ones identified in the text.

10. What instructional approaches and technologies will instructors use to teach courses in the minor? .

Courses are designed to teach the basic skills, concepts, methods, and theories through play readings, lectures, videos, projects, and live productions to acquaint students with theatrical art history and techniques.

The production experience offers the student the chance to implement the classroom experience into practical application through an experiential approach.

Current technologies that will be utilized in the minor include, but are not limited to, computer light boards, LED lighting, stage mechanics, visualization software, CAD, and digital and analogue sound technology. These technologies will keep the student up to date with trends in the theatre. Current trends in acting, directing, and design are constantly being introduced in the classroom.

11. Delivery Location

Note: The accreditation requirements of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) require Board approval for a university to offer programs off-campus and through distance delivery.

- A. Complete the following charts to indicate if the university seeks authorization to deliver the entire program on campus, at any off campus location (e.g., USD Community Center for Sioux Falls, Black Hills State University-Rapid City, Capital City Campus, etc.) or deliver the entire program through distance technology (e.g., as an online program)?**

	Yes/No	Intended Start Date
On campus	Yes	Fall 2022

Yes/No	If Yes, list location(s)	Intended Start Date
--------	--------------------------	---------------------

Off campus	No		Choose an item. Choose an item.
-------------------	----	--	---------------------------------------

	Yes/No	<i>If Yes, identify delivery methods</i> <i>Delivery methods are defined in</i> <i>AAC Guideline 5.5.</i>	<i>Intended Start Date</i>
Distance Delivery (online/other distance delivery methods)	No		Choose an item. Choose an item.
Does another BOR institution already have authorization to offer the program online?	No	If yes, identify institutions:	

- B. Complete the following chart to indicate if the university seeks authorization to deliver more than 50% but less than 100% of the minor through distance learning (e.g., as an online program)? This question responds to HLC definitions for distance delivery.**

	Yes/No	<i>If Yes, identify delivery methods</i>	<i>Intended Start Date</i>
Distance Delivery (online/other distance delivery methods)	No		Choose an item. Choose an item.

- 12. Does the University request any exceptions to any Board policy for this minor?**
Explain any requests for exceptions to Board Policy. If not requesting any exceptions,
enter "None."

None

- 13. Cost, Budget, and Resources: Explain the amount and source(s) of any one-time and continuing investments in personnel, professional development, release time, time redirected from other assignments, instructional technology & software, other operations and maintenance, facilities, etc., needed to implement the proposed minor. Address off-campus or distance delivery separately.**

This minor will not result in any additional costs because each course in the curriculum is already offered regularly. The minor is currently being offered under a different name—Speech, with an emphasis on Theatre. Furthermore, the courses that would be offered within the Theatre minor are currently being offered within the Theatre emphasis. Moreover, as stated in section three, the minor will have two fewer course requirements.

- 14. New Course Approval: New courses required to implement the new minor may receive approval in conjunction with program approval or receive approval separately. Please check the appropriate statement (place an "X" in the appropriate box).**

☐ YES,

the university is seeking approval of new courses related to the proposed program in conjunction with program approval. All New Course Request forms are included as Appendix C and match those described in section 7.

☒ NO,

the university is not seeking approval of all new courses related to the proposed program in conjunction with program approval; the institution will submit new course approval requests separately or at a later date in accordance with Academic Affairs Guidelines.

- 15. Additional Information:** *Additional information is optional. Use this space to provide pertinent information not requested above. Limit the number and length of additional attachments. Identify all attachments with capital letters. Letters of support are not necessary and are rarely included with Board materials. The University may include responses to questions from the Board or the Executive Director as appendices to the original proposal where applicable. Delete this item if not used.*