

**University of Florida  
School of Theatre and Dance  
THE 4970: BA Senior Project**

**BA Theatre Coordinator:** Charlie Mitchell

**Instructor:** To Arrange

**Meeting Times:** To Arrange

**Office Hours:** Varies with Instructor of Record

**Credits:** 1

**Prerequisites:** Senior BA student, Approval of Project Advisor or BA Faculty Coordinator

**Course Description:**

Senior project for Bachelor of Arts Theatre majors. Completion of a research project and/or preparation of a dramaturgical project to be undertaken with advisor's consent in the final semester.

**Purpose Of Course:**

The Senior Project in the BA is designed as a capstone project for the Bachelor of Arts in Theatre track. Students enroll in THE 4970, usually during the last semester of their senior year.

**Description of Projects:**

The Senior Project shall consist of a significant piece of work that will demonstrate the students' expertise in both the academic and practical fields of the theatre, resulting in a document of substantial length (usually 10-20 pages).

**Possible choices are:**

- dramaturgical work on a production, yielding a dramaturge's protocol;
- stage management work on a production;
- a major research paper on a topic of practical/scholarly importance (some successful proposals have included an investigation into Black Male Identity as revealed in plays written during the Obama Presidency, an investigation of the use of robots as actors in live performance, and an investigation of Latinx theatre through the plays of Maria Irene Fornes and Carmen Rivera);
- an archival research project using resources such as the Belknap Collection or the School's own archives and primary documents.

The BA Senior Project will not usually be a performance project.

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Senior project for Bachelor of Arts Theatre majors. Completion of a research project and/or preparation of a dramaturgical project to be undertaken with advisor's consent in the final semester.

**In this course students will:**

- Identify and refine a research question or problem for investigation;
- Develop an appropriate methodology for researching and responding to the research question;
- Clarify the approach and topics to be addressed in the paper (create a paper outline);
- Conduct a review of pertinent literature that supports this research project

- Integrate the knowledge acquired through a practical project and/or research
- in a paper that documents the findings, methodology and implications of the project.

**Coordinator/Instructor of Record:**

The Undergraduate Theatre Coordinator will be the default instructor of record for THE 4970 and the default faculty supervisor for all BA Senior Projects. However, every student is free to choose an alternate faculty member as the Project Advisor.

**REQUIREMENTS**

**Senior Project Proposal Form:**

A BA Senior Project Proposal Form is required that describes a rationale for the project, goals or questions that guide its development, a proposal of related literature, methodology, discussion, and potential conclusions. The Project Advisor must approve the rationale and goals and the form must be signed by the Project Advisor and submitted to the SoTD Academic Advisor.

**Basic Requirement/Expectations:**

**The student will:**

- Provide a written proposal to his/her Academic Advisor and senior Project Advisor that must be approved prior to the start of his/her research, no later than two weeks into the semester;
- Consult with his/her Project Advisor on a regular basis to discuss the status of the research project;
- Establish meeting times and deadlines for drafts and final submission of the paper;
- Submit the paper for review according to predetermined deadlines.

**Scheduled Meeting Times:**

Meetings are to be arranged between the BA Student and the Project Advisor. The student is responsible for keeping the Project Advisor up-to-date on his/her progress. In the case of a project connected to a production (e.g., dramaturgy), the Project Advisor will attend rehearsals or performances - within reason - upon the student's request.

**Grading:**

The project grade is assessed by the Project Advisor, based primarily on the quality of the written work submitted. Credit toward graduation is granted only if the student's work results in the grade of "B" or better.

**Grading Scale:**

Passing Grade	% Equivalency	Grade Points
A	100-94	4.0
A-	93-90	3.67
B+	89-87	3.33

Passing Grade	% Equivalency	Grade Points
B	86-84	3.0
B-	83-80	2.67
C+	79-77	2.33
C	76-74	2.0
C-	73-70	1.67
D+	69-67	1.33
D	66-64	1.0
D-	63-60	.67
E	59-0	0

### **Academic Honesty Policy:**

UF students have the responsibility to conduct themselves in an honest and ethical manner while pursuing their studies. They are expected to abide by the UF Academic Honesty Policy, which defines an academic honesty offense as "the act of lying, cheating, or stealing academic information so that one gains academic advantage." In the context of this course, this includes conducting original research and properly citing sources for any materials (both printed and online) used in writing the supporting research paper. Submitting work that has been plagiarized will result in a failing grade.

For more information on the UF Academic Honor Code see:

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code>.

**Accommodations for students with disabilities:** Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with the instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester

<https://disability.ufl.edu/get-started/>

### **Campus Resources:**

#### Health and Wellness

- *U Matter, We Care:* If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu), 352-392-1575, or visit U Matter, We Care website (<https://umatter.ufl.edu/>) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- *Counseling and Wellness Center:* Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website ([counseling.ufl.edu](http://counseling.ufl.edu)) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
- *Student Health Care Center:* Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the

- care you need, or visit the Student Health Care Center website (<https://shcc.ufl.edu/>).
- *University Police Department*: Visit UF Police Department website (<https://police.ufl.edu/>) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
  - *UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center*: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website (<https://shcc.ufl.edu/>).
  - *GatorWell Health Promotion Services*: For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the GatorWell website (<https://gatorwell.ufsa.ufl.edu/>) or call 352-273-4450.

#### Academic Resources

- *Writing Studio*: <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/> --2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. For help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.
- *Library Support*: <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
- *E-learning technical support*: Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).

#### **Course Evaluations:**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>.