

# THEA A189: STAGE COMBAT

Item	Value
Curriculum Committee Approval Date	12/08/2021
Top Code	100700 - Dramatic Arts
Units	2.5 Total Units
Hours	63 Total Hours (Lecture Hours 36; Lab Hours 27)
Total Outside of Class Hours	0
Course Credit Status	Credit: Degree Applicable (D)
Material Fee	No
Basic Skills	Not Basic Skills (N)
Repeatable	No
Grading Policy	Standard Letter (S)

## Course Description

Fundamentals of stage combat emphasizing such weapons as quarterstaff, foil, epee, sabre, broadsword, rapier, and dagger. Such stunt techniques as fist fighting and falls are included. Strongly recommended for acting majors and theatre arts teachers. Transfer Credit: CSU; UC.

## Course Level Student Learning Outcome(s)

1. Realistically and safely perform stage combat.
2. Understand and follow safety procedures for stage combat.

## Course Objectives

- 1. Performance realistic combat scenes in plays and film.
- 2. Achieve body control and physical conditioning.
- 3. Demonstrate safety in performance. Protect self, fight partners, and audience.
- 4. Relate historical development of styles of combat and weaponry.
- 5. Learn staging of combat scenes.
- 6. Achieve mental and physical discipline.

## Lecture Content

1. Safety- Eye contact before making moves, spatial awareness, creating illusion without endangering 2. Falls- Side falls, back falls, front, fainting, shoulder rolls, backward rolls 3. Hand-to-hand combat - slaps, hair pulls, ear pulls, nose pulls, punches, jabs, stomach, uppercut, kicks, stomach, face, throws, Irish whip 4. Broadsword- stance, footwork, parry and attack system, combination routines 5. Quarterstaff - stance, parry and attack system, combination routines 6. Competitive foil fencing - footwork, grip, parts of foil, equipment, parries, attacks, rules of fencing 7. Rapier and dagger - footwork, stance, grip, parry and attack system, kills 8. Fight choreography - notation, utilizing set, cast safety, masking blows and cuts, performing a fight to demonstrate a combination of techniques

## Lab Content

Lab Content: Rehearse and perform in-class projects. Hours Arranged/  
Other Content: Research, observe, and create projects related to subject.

## Method(s) of Instruction

- Lecture (02)
- Lab (04)

## Instructional Techniques

Lectures/demonstration, in-class practice, view videos of stage combat techniques, peer evaluation

## Reading Assignments

Instructor handouts Students should spend 1.25 hours per week reading and reviewing, totalling 20 hours per semester.

## Writing Assignments

Notations of moves in stage fight Students should spend a total of 2 or more hours notating and writing combat moves during the semester.

## Out-of-class Assignments

Out-of-Class Assignments: Memorization and practice of combat moves, rehearsing projects and presentations. Students should spend 3 hours per week working independently or with others rehearsing and practicing combat techniques, totalling 50 hours per semester.

## Demonstration of Critical Thinking

Instructor evaluation of in-class scenes Student demonstration of techniques Performance of final scene created by student utilizing combination of techniques and oral examinations of safety rules

## Required Writing, Problem Solving, Skills Demonstration

Notations of moves in stage fight

## Eligible Disciplines

Theater arts: See drama/theater arts Masters degree required.

## Other Resources

1. Selected handout materials to be provided and distributed by the instructor.