



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND BALTIMORE COUNTY

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

**STUDENT THEATRE LABORATORY**

~MODUS OPERANDI~

Studio 3 is an integrated part of the UMBC Theatre Production Season designed to provide students with an opportunity to apply their theatre training and learn their craft in the process of creating live theatre.

The focus of Studio 3 will be placed on learning the work of the theatre artist in collaborative theatre making. Filling production positions, students will serve as Directors and Designers in the process of mounting a fully-realized, Department supported One-Act play in the Black Box Theatre. Please keep in mind that One-Act plays are not full-length plays which have been written to play without an intermission. They are in the range of 25 to 45 minutes in length.

Student artists will work with faculty mentor/advisors throughout the research, design, and production processes—including: play selection; script preparation and analysis; design meetings; production meetings; scenic, costume, and properties procurement and construction; management, publicity, programs, and front of house; auditions and rehearsals; and tech, dress, performance, and strike.

### **Operating Guidelines**

As a vital part of the Department's four-show production season, Studio 3 will operate under the guiding principles, policies and procedures established by the Department for production, and will be mounted during the third production slot (early spring) each year.

Studio 3 directors and their productions will be selected from the pool of applications each fall and announced to the student body by September 15<sup>th</sup>, the semester prior to production. Depending on the size, running time, technical requirements, projected costs, and the number and strength of production proposals each year, it may be possible for Studio 3 to accommodate more than one One-Act during a given season.

Studio 3 productions will take place in the Black Box Theatre in proscenium configuration and will be facilitated and supervised by the Department's production faculty and staff as part of the Department's four-show production season. Studio productions will utilize FA 318 for rehearsals and will follow all Department procedures and production calendar timelines.

Studio 3 will have a limited production budget and will rely on the use of stock materials and other 'like' items to realize the production's design elements. Studio 3 designers will have access to the Department's stock of costume, set, and properties pieces under the supervision of, and with assistance by, the appropriate Shop Managers.

Fully realized drawings of the costume, scene, and prop designs—as they were conceptualized by the designers, along with any dramaturgical information from the director or designers, will be displayed on the exterior Black Box display board wall for the audience to see prior to the performance.

ADOPTED 3/23/15

Studio 3 auditions will be part of the Department's regularly scheduled spring auditions. In keeping with Department policy, all audition, call-back and final casting announcements will be made simultaneously with the Department's other spring production. However, Studio 3 casting will occur following the completed casting of the Department's spring faculty production.

### **Eligibility**

Studio 3 student directors and designers must be Theatre majors in good standing, Junior level or above (completed Department coursework) and have performed admirably or exceptionally in academic work and in at least two prior production capacities.

Preference will be given to worthy students who have had prior (and/or advanced) preparation in their coursework, who have exhibited the skills and dispositions required of a collaborative theatre artist, and whose dedication to learning their craft has been previously demonstrated in the classroom and in their undertaking of production assignments as part of the Department's Production Season.

Students interested in directing in the Studio should have completed Directing I and have served as an Assistant Director and/or Dramaturge on at least one Department faculty production.

Students interested in designing in the Studio should have completed the Design I course in their area of concentration, and have served as an Assistant Designer and/or Associate Designer on a Department faculty production.

Students who do not meet the above eligibility requirements but remain interested in directing or designing for the Studio, can petition for participation in the Studio at the level of their interest by completing a 'Petition for Exception.' Petition for Exceptions should be submitted to the Studio 3 Faculty Advisor along with the 'Application to Direct' (or Design) accompanied by the appropriate, aligned supporting materials.

### **Application**

Students interested in directing in the Studio should submit an 'Application to Direct' along with supporting materials to the Studio 3 Advisor no later than 12:00 noon Friday at the end of the first week of fall classes (early applications are welcome and encouraged). Applications must be complete at the time of submission and should outline the director's selection of and approach to the production along with a list all technical and production requirements, any special considerations, and a copy of the script.

Students selected to direct in the Studio will need to register for the following sequence of classes: THTR 470 (Drama Seminar: Directing) during the fall, the semester prior to the production and THTR 390 (Theatre in Production) during the spring, the semester of production. Students must successfully complete THTR 470 in order to direct in the Studio the following spring.

Students interested in designing in the Studio should submit an 'Application to Design' and a portfolio of work to the Studio 3 Advisor no later than 12:00 noon Friday at the end of the first week of fall classes. Applications must be complete at the time of submission and should list all prior production and design experience along with any other special considerations.

Students selected to design in the Studio will need to register for the following sequence of classes: THTR 432 (Design Seminar) during the fall, the semester prior to the production and THTR 390 (Theatre in Production) during the spring, the semester of production. Students must successfully complete THTR 432 in order to design in the Studio the following spring.

Students with an interest in Directing or Designing as part of the following season's Studio 3 should attend the Studio 3 Interest Meeting in April and set up a meeting with the Studio 3 Faculty Advisors to discuss their project ideas and the Studio Application prior to end of the spring semester.