2019-2020 Program Review

Program Review - Theatre and Cinema Arts

2019 - 2020

1. Department Goals - Current Progress: Goal #1
- Bring new Film AD-T and Certificate online.
  Progress: Courses have been written and catalogued under the new to FLC TAFILM designator, including TAFILM 299, 300, 303, 304, 330, 360, 365 499. Other TAFILM classes in the curriculum process include TAFILM 320, 337, 342. Plans to write new TAFILM courses are underway including 307 Diversity in American Film and 343 Motion Graphics for Video.

Goal #2
Continue to improve Technical Theatre instruction and evaluation for special populations through the use of industry standard technology and equipment, activities of sufficient size and scope and professional development opportunities for faculty and staff.
  Progress: Perkins and Strong Workforce funds have been spent to purchase industry current equipment to serve our technical theater special student populations. Additional equipment will be purchased this year to continue to increase activities of sufficient size and scope.

Goal #3
Continue to increase engagement with secondary school programs through the Lenaea High School Theatre Festival and Youth Summer School offerings.
  Progress: The department successfully hosted the Lenaea High School Theatre Festival, and successfully conducted the 2nd annual week long Summer Youth Arts Academy for Theatre during Summer 2019. We plan on continuing the Theatre Academy during summer 2020, and possibly adding a film academy as well.

2. Department Goals - Future: Goal #1
Finish bringing the new Film AD-T online.

Goal #2
Continue to improve Technical Theatre instruction and evaluation for special populations through the use of industry standard technology and equipment, activities of sufficient size and scope and professional development opportunities for faculty and staff.

Goal #3
Continue to increase engagement with secondary school programs through the Lenaea High School Theatre Festival and Youth Summer School offerings.

Goal #4
Work with College Administration and the Harris Center to continue to improve the MOU negotiation and implementation process.

3. Special or Long Term Projects: (Film) Cinema Arts
Long term planning in Department of Theatre and Cinema includes expanding Film Production and Film Studies course offerings and finish bringing the Film AD-T online. Shared use of the Recording Studio for TA-Film courses in Acting for the Camera, Film Making, and Audio Production. (Perkins Requirements: 1,3,4,5,6,7,8,9)

Improve Technology
T&CA will continue to invest in current technology in equipment and supplies to provide the highest quality instruction to special populations and the student body as a whole. (Perkins Requirements: 1,3,4,5,6,7,8,9).

EDC Productions
The department will work to support and expand Theatre and Cinema Arts classes and productions at the El Dorado Center.
4. Department/Discipline Plans - Curriculum and Course Sequencing:

1. Curriculum Review

Curricular review is underway for TA 350 and 351. All other courses are up to date.

2. Curriculum Development

TAFILM courses are in development for the Film AD-T. Courses have been written and catalogued under the new to FLC TAFILM designator, including TAFILM 299, 300, 303, 304, 330, 360, 365 499. Other TAFILM classes in the curriculum process include TAFILM 320, 337, 342. Plans to write new TAFILM courses are underway including 307 Diversity in American Film and 343 Motion Graphics for Video.

In the past year, distance education course offerings by TA have increased significantly. The department now provides more DE offerings in Theatre studies courses such as TA 300, 302 and 303 than in-person offerings.

Department currently offers a two-year course sequence, across-modality platforms, to ensure completion of both the Certificate and the AA-T.

5. Program Development & Revision:

Department continues to matriculate students in its third full year offering Theatre Arts: Technical Certificate.

Department of Theatre and Cinema is writing the AD-T Film. Additions to curriculum, as mentioned above, along with increases in ftet, expanded use of facilities, and purchase of instructional equipment, will be required for the program to be created.

6. Percent of SLOs assessed:

The department of Theatre and Cinema Arts offers 61 courses over the TA, TAP and TAFILM designators. 44 courses have ongoing assessment for a percentage of 72%. Some courses in need of review such as TA 304 Women in Theatre and TA 356 Acting for the Camera are being offered during fall 2019 and will be assessed this semester. ALL of the other courses in need of review have not had any enrollments and so have been unable to have their SLO assessed. These courses are all course combined TAP courses with 4 levels each. For many of the TAP courses, there have not been any enrollments in the third and fourth levels, leaving these courses unassessed. As the department continues to grow, we anticipate enrollments in the upper TAP levels, and will asses SLOs when possible.

7. Course SLOs - Synopsis:

A theme in SLO assessments from the most current period identify student to tool/equipment ratio as place for improvement. This is to ensure base competency for design and technical theatre students using the equipment and tools necessary to safely and proficiently complete the TA: Technical Certificate. The SLO results is increased access to industry standard equipment for students to train on in technical theatre.

Another SLO need identified is better library research aid for online students.

8. Course SLOs - Strategies for Improvement/Maintenance:

Faculty will continue their professional practices outside of FLC to maintain discipline currency for students. The department plans on continuing to invest in industry current equipment and technology, and push for greater access to Harris Center spaces.

9. Program SLOs - Synopsis:

Less than 5 students who graduated with the Theatre AA-T or Technical Theatre Certificate completed the graduate exit survey, so no individual program/certificate PSLO report was generated for Theatre Arts. Theatre Arts faculty conducted their own informal survey of graduate students using a google form based on the questions asked in the college wide graduate exit survey.

10. Program SLOs - Strategies for Improvement/Maintenance:

To improve student performance, the department plans on continuing to invest in industry current equipment and technology, and push for greater access to Harris Center spaces.

11. Improving Course and Program Success Rates - Data Analysis:

The college as a whole has a success rate of 74.1%. The TA designator has a similar success rate of 74.3% and the TAP designator has a significantly higher success rate of 97.5%. In the TA designator, the only student group with a success rate significantly below the TA's average is African Americans with a success rate of 66%. While this group has a below average success rate for the department, it is worth noting it is higher than the college wide success rate for African Americans of 59.5%. Barriers to success for African American and other students are most likely similar to those encountered in other departments campus wide. This gap in student success is unacceptable. However, when looking at student success of African American students in TA courses more recently (Fall 2018 and Spring 2019) the success rate is greatly improved at 73.7%. With support and mentoring from faculty, we hope this trend will keep improving.

12. Improving Course and Program Success Rates - Strategies and Resources Needed:

Facilities--lack of access to labs

Student success rates might be positively affected if the following suggestions by faculty were implemented:

In studio acting classes, rehearsal and performance classes, and technical production classes, limited access to studios and venues is a real physical barrier to student success. Faculty again requests full access to PAC - 1140 (Stage Two) without restrictions as a full Instructional space managed by the VAPA dean.

The Department’s storage space is currently at capacity. The Department requires additional storage space for small hand props.
and costumes. This space does not necessarily need to be located in the Harris Center (however that would be helpful). We require at least an additional 500 sq ft of space for storage. Additionally, a 20’ shipping container (perhaps placed in the Harris Center loading dock or at the far ends of the parking lot) would also help provide storage space. Long term, the Department requests that a second level be constructed over part of the Scene Shop and over the Scene Shop storage area to increase storage and workspace capacity.

Because the department is expanding the film offerings and degrees, the department will eventually need a film studio and editing suites.

The department is requesting Folsom Lake College to hire an Accessibility Specialist. We are interested in improving the experiences and the scores of our DSPS students in our onground, online, and partially online classes. Because of the vast and complex accessibility requirements, we believe that hiring an Accessibility Specialist will help us to be more knowledgeable about creating coursework that meets the needs of our DSPS students, while removing barriers that may impede their success. In addition, hiring an Accessibility Specialist may very well result in higher levels of student success, as well as greater clarity for students along their college pathways.

13. Suggestions for Improving the ADP/PR process: Question number 17 and 18 have no question mark button to click to receive additional directions in answering the questions. Question 16 seems slightly out of date since the OIR has put a hold on out of discipline pre-req validation studies as most of the pre-reqs are no longer being offered or are changing significantly in terms of course content.

14. Is your ADP complete and ready for review by the Dean and Vice President?: Yes

Program Review Questions (skip if not completing program review)

15. Mission Statement: Department of Theatre and Cinema Arts offers rigorous academic programs in theatre and cinema arts studies and practicum for completion and transfer with our Theatre Arts Associates Degree for Transfer. The department also provides training in theatre and cinema arts trades to enhance employment and career skills leading to a Technical Theatre Certificate. The performance and production program also provides excellent opportunities for lifelong learning and enrichment. The Theatre and Cinema Arts Department is a collaborative and innovative environment that promotes personal interaction as the foundation of learning; champions equity, diversity and social justice; cultivates sustainability; and encourages civic engagement.

16. Pre-Requisite and Co-Requisite Validation: Currently, the Theatre Dept does not currently have any co-requisites. Current discipline internal prerequisites have been validated by the department and align to CID course requirements as dictated by the AA-T model curriculum. We are currently awaiting direction concerning out of discipline prerequisites from the State Chancellor’s Office. We will then deliberate if we plan on adopting their recommendations.

17. Maintaining Program Currency: Department faculty maintain teaching currency by continuing to practice in the professional field of their discipline. The joint Folsom Lake College and Sierra College Technical Theatre advisory board meets twice annually and provides valuable feedback to faculty in ways to maintain program currency. Entertainment industry professionals on the advisory board have repeatedly recommended the department purchase industry current equipment and technology. On that advice, over the last several years, the department has invested in tools and equipment in the areas of scenery construction, entertainment lighting, audio engineering, video/projection design, and automation. Continued investment in state of the art technology will increase student success and prepare students with the skills needed to join the workforce.

18. Evidence of Program Relevancy: Our Theatre Arts AA-T prepares our students for transfer to 4 year institutions. The degree classes enjoy current articulation agreements with CSUs and UCs. Our Technical Theatre Certificate completers have found employment in a variety of places, from right on campus as theater technicians at the Harris Center, as a lighting designer and master electrician at B street Theatre in Sacramento, or as a production stage manager at Universal Studios Hollywood theme park. Our TAP production courses, in addition to meeting course requirements for students working towards their AA-T or certificate, provides lifelong learning opportunities for our students and many members of the larger community. Enrollment in TA courses and and the number of declared TA majors has steadily increased over the last several years, indicating a continued future demand for the program’s offerings. The joint Folsom Lake College and Sierra College Technical Theatre advisory board has continued to stress the importance of the FLC Theatre program in preparing students to join the local entertainment arts workforce.