MUSICAL THEATRE, B.F.A.
Requirements

The B.F.A. in Musical Theatre provides pre-professional training in voice, acting, dance, and music theory as a foundation to a career in musical theatre. The program also offers opportunities for advanced study in each area. Students majoring in Musical Theatre are required to take the following:

| Theatre, Music, and Dance courses | 67 credits |
| Electives | 21 credits |
| General Education courses | 34 credits |
| Total required for graduation | **122 credits** |

Recommended Course Sequence

### First Semester Credits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>[FYF-101]</td>
<td>First-Year Foundations</td>
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<tr>
<td>[ENG-101]</td>
<td>Composition</td>
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<tr>
<td>[THE-121]</td>
<td>Stagecraft I</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>[THE-132]</td>
<td>Voice &amp; Diction I (OPO)</td>
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<td>[MUS-100]</td>
<td>Voice</td>
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<td>Studio Class</td>
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<td>[MUS-102]</td>
<td>Music Fundamentals (can be waived with permission of the instructor)</td>
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<td>[MUS-125]</td>
<td>University Chorus</td>
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<tr>
<td>[THE-190]</td>
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### Second Semester

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<td>[MUS-125]</td>
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<td>[THE-233]</td>
<td>Voice &amp; Diction II</td>
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<tr>
<td>[THE-131]</td>
<td>Acting I</td>
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### Third Semester

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<td>Studio Class</td>
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<td>[THE-190]</td>
<td>Theatre Laboratory</td>
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<tr>
<td>[THE-232]</td>
<td>Acting II</td>
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<td>[THE-214]</td>
<td>Script Analysis</td>
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<td>[THE-216]</td>
<td>Design for the Theatre</td>
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<td>[MUS-200]</td>
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<td>[MUS-219]</td>
<td>Studio Class</td>
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<td>[THE-190]</td>
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Fifth Semester

Distribution Requirement: 6

- [[MUS-300]] Voice: 1
- [[MUS-319]] Studio Class: 0
- [[THE-211]] Theatre History I: 3
- [[THE-190]] Theatre Laboratory: 1
- [[THE-331]] Acting III: 3
- [[DAN-250]] Classical Ballet: 3

Total Credits: 17

Sixth Semester

Electives: 3

- [[DAN-230]] Jazz Dance I: 3
- [[MUS-300]] Voice: 1
- [[MUS-319]] Studio Class: 0
- [[THE-311]] Theatre History II: 3
- [[THE-234]] Directing I: 3
- [[THE-190]] Theatre Laboratory: 1

Total Credits: 14

Seventh Semester

Electives: 9

- Distribution Requirement: 3
- [[MUS-400]] Voice: 1
- [[MUS-419]] Studio Class: 0
- [[THE-190]] Theatre Laboratory: 1
- [[THE-493]] Senior Capstone: 1

Total Credits: 15

Eighth Semester

Electives: 9

- [[THE-394]] The Business of Theatre/Auditions: 3
- [[THE-190]] Theatre Laboratory: 1
- [[MUS-400]] Voice: 1
- [[MUS-419]] Studio Class: 0

Total Credits: 14

THE. THEATRE ARTS

THE-100. APPROACH TO THEATRE
Credits: 3

Attention will be directed to the importance of the dramatic imagination in reading and viewing plays, with the objective of developing a critical appreciation of the theatre. Lecture, discussion, demonstration, films, college, and professional theatre performances.

THE-121. STAGECRAFT I
Credits: 3

Terms Offered: Fall

An exploration of the many physical facets of theatrical production by introducing the student to the process of translating the concept of a design into physical actuality and of adapting a production to the requirements of a stage. Class and workshop.

THE-131. ACTING I
Credits: 3

Basic acting techniques. Creating a variety of characters for the stage through the use of vocal interpretation, physical movement, improvisation, and theatre games.

THE-132. VOICE AND DICTION I
Credits: 3

Applied course introducing voice and speech training that combines practical vocal exercises with a method of analyzing and correcting speech problems. The expectation of the course is improvement in the voice and speech work of the individual student, as well as increased body awareness.

THE-190. THEATRE LABORATORY
Credits: 1-3

The production aspect of theatre including rehearsals, performances, scene shop, costume shop, lighting shop, propshop, stage management and box office. Required of Theatre Arts and Musical Theatre majors every semester.

Click here for course fees.

THE-191. -291-391-491 DEPARTMENT PRACTICUM IN THEATRE PRODUCTION
Credits: 1-3

Credits can be awarded for a major contribution to Theatre Program productions. Approval required from the Director of Theatre.

THE-198. -298-398-498 TOPICS
Credits: 1-3

A study of topics of special interest not extensively treated in regularly offered courses.

THE-211. THEATRE HISTORY I
Credits: 3

A survey of the historical development and background of theatrical art from ancient times through the seventeenth century.

THE-214. SCRIPT ANALYSIS
Credits: 3

An approach to dramatic literature for the theatre artist to read, interpret, and analyze dramatic texts for production and performance values.

THE-216. DESIGN FOR THE THEATRE
Credits: 3

This class will explore through lecture and practical exercises the skills and concepts needed to produce scenic, lighting, and costume designs for the theatre.

THE-217. AUTOCAD FOR THE STAGE
Credits: 3

This class will develop familiarity with using AutoCAD as a tool for generating drawings for the stage. Offered every other year.
THE-219. SOUND DESIGN
Credits: 3
This class develops the knowledge base and skills necessary to execute the Sound Design of a live theatrical performance. Topics include a basic working knowledge of sound equipment, sound itself, and industry-standard show control software. Offered every other year.

THE-220. STAGECRAFT II
Credits: 3
Advanced exploration of the many physical facets of theatrical production in order to refine the process of translating the concept of a design into physical actuality and of adapting a production to the requirements of a stage. Class and workshop.

THE-222. LIGHTING DESIGN
Credits: 3
An introduction to designing lighting for theatre. Emphasis on the development of visual skills, idea development (script and image), and notation. Production work is required.

THE-224. RENDERING FOR THE THEATRE
Credits: 3
An introduction to drawing skills, rendering and visual communication for theatre.

THE-225. HISTORIC SCENIC STYLES
Credits: 3
A survey of art through design projects for the theatre.

THE-226. SCENIC PAINTING
Credits: 3
An introduction to scene painting techniques, methods, approaches and applications used by the scenic artist.

THE-227. COSTUME DESIGN
Credits: 3
An introduction to the basic elements of Costume Design including: Line, Mass, Form, Balance, Hue, and Chroma. Class projects provide an opportunity for the student to render costume sketches, analyze plays, research costume history, and construct basic pattern shapes. Offered every other year.

THE-228. STAGE MAKEUP
Credits: 3
This course offers students the opportunity to learn and apply the fundamental principles of standard, character and special effects stage makeup. Offered every other year.

THE-230. STAGE MANAGEMENT
Credits: 3
An introduction to the art of stage managing a live theatre performance. Offered every other year.

THE-232. ACTING II
Credits: 3
An introduction to the major theories, aims, and styles of acting through performing various roles and monologues in selected dramatic scenes.

Pre-Requisites
[[THE-131]].

THE-233. VOICE AND DICTION II
Credits: 3
An applied course that continues the refinement of vocal expressiveness and interpretation exploring colloquial and complex texts for purposes of oral communication of the written texts.

THE-234. DIRECTING I
Credits: 3
An introduction to the principles of directing, including play selection, composition, casting, blocking, and rehearsing. Class and workshop.

Pre-Requisites
[[THE-131]] or departmental permission.

THE-311. THEATRE HISTORY II
Credits: 3
A survey of the historical development and background of theatrical art from the eighteenth century to the present.

THE-321. SCENIC DESIGN
Credits: 3
Introduces through practical exercises concept development and skills needed to produce scenic designs for the theatre.

THE-331. ACTING III
Credits: 3
Attention to special problems in acting in terms of classical style. Continued self-discovery through improvisation, kinesthetic awareness, and other basic acting techniques learned in [[THE-232]] are expanded upon.

Pre-Requisites
[[THE-131]], [[THE-132]], [[THE-232]], or permission of the instructor.

THE-334. DIRECTING II
Credits: 3
A study of special problems in directing. Students will prepare a prompt book, critique productions, and direct a one-act play.

Pre-Requisites
[[THE-234]].

THE-394. THE BUSINESS OF THEATRE/AUDITIONS
Credits: 1-3
Discussion of information and preparation to navigate the theatrical and entertainment industries.

THE-395. -396 INDEPENDENT RESEARCH
Credits: 1-3
Independent study and research for advanced students in theatre under the direction of a faculty member. A research paper at a more substantial level beyond a term paper is required.

Pre-Requisites
Approval of the department chairperson.
Musical Theatre, B.F.A.

THE-399. COOPERATIVE EDUCATION
Credits: 1-6
Professional cooperative education placement in a private or public organization related to the student’s academic objectives and career goals. In addition to their work experience, students are required to submit weekly reaction papers and an academic project to a Faculty Coordinator in the student’s discipline. (See the Cooperative Education section of this bulletin for placement procedures.)

Pre-Requisites
Sophomore standing, minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA, consent of academic advisor, and approval of placement by the department chairperson.

THE-431. ACTING IV
Credits: 3
Scene study, analysis, and development of acting theories for a sophisticated preparation of audition material and rehearsal technique for the working actor.

Pre-Requisites
THE-131], 132, 232, 331, or permission of the instructor.

THE-493. SENIOR CAPSTONE
Credits: 1-3
Individual performance project intended to inspire students to take on responsibility for self-governance and, through effort, create a meaningful expression of their aesthetic.

MUS. MUSIC

MUS-100. - 400. APPLIED PERFORMANCE
Credits: 1 or 2
Individual instruction offered in all keyboard, band, and orchestral instruments, guitar, and voice.
MUS 100 - Freshman level
MUS 200 - Sophomore level
MUS 300 - Junior level
MUS 400 - Senior level
Click here for course fee for 1 credit.
Click here for course fee for 2 credits.

Pre-Requisites
Permission of the instructor.

MUS-101. INTRODUCTION TO MUSIC I
Credits: 3
An introduction to the materials of music and their interrelationships, with an emphasis on developing active listening skills, recognizing and comparing the elements of differing musical styles, and exploring cultural contexts and differing functions of music in diverse groups. Three subtopic areas are offered:
  • Western Art Music – An exploration of the traditional Western classical music canon.
  • Music in the United States – A broad approach that examines both American vernacular music (blues, jazz, folk, rock, pop, etc.) and the Western classical music canon.

MUS-102. MUSIC FUNDAMENTALS
Credits: 3
This course gives students a solid grounding in the fundamentals of reading and performing music. No previous experience with music is required. Offered every fall.

MUS-103. MUSIC THEORY I
Credits: 3
This course presents fundamental materials and structures of music theory. Theoretical, aural, and keyboard skills are developed through practice and study of music examples. Offered every spring.

Pre-Requisites
Familiarity with music notation or [MUS-102].

MUS-104. MUSIC THEORY II
Credits: 3
A continuation of [MUS-103] (Music Theory I). This course presents materials and structures of music theory. Theoretical, aural, and keyboard skills are developed through practice and study of music examples.

Pre-Requisites
[MUS-103] or placement by a diagnostic exam.

MUS-119. - 419. VOICE STUDIO CLASS
Credits: 0
Voice Studio Class provides students a structured environment in which to present live performances of vocal repertoire in collaboration with an accompanist. Students receive feedback on their presentations by the instructor, who delivers coachings in a masterclass format. Required for MUT majors.
MUS 119 - Freshman level
MUS 219 - Sophomore level
MUS 319 - Junior level
MUS 419 - Senior level

Co-Requisites
MUS 100/200/300/400

MUS-121. WILKES CIVIC BAND
Credits: 0 or 3
The Wilkes University Civic Band provides a large symphonic band experience, and is open to the University student community and qualified local community members, by audition. Literature is chosen from the standard band repertoire, and the ensemble performs a minimum of two formal concerts per year. May be repeated for credit.

Pre-Requisites
Permission of the instructor.

MUS-122. CHAMBER WINDS
Credits: 1
Students will study, rehearse and perform a variety of large and small ensemble works for chamber wind ensemble. May be repeated for credit.

Pre-Requisites
Permission of the instructor.
MUS-123. MARCHING COLONELS
Credits: 2
The Wilkes University Marching Colonels Marching Band provides an opportunity for rehearsal, study, and performance of a marching band field show presented at home football games and select on and off-campus performances. Members must commit to a one week band camp before classes commence, perform at all home football games, and attend all rehearsals. May be repeated for credit. Offered every fall.

MUS-125. UNIVERSITY CHORUS
Credits: 0-3
The Wilkes University Chorus is a large mixed choral ensemble in which students develop musical skills and artistry through the regular rehearsal, discussion, and performance of a wide variety of choral repertoire. Membership open to all members of the University and surrounding community, by audition. May be repeated for credit.

Pre-Requisites
Permission of the instructor.

MUS-126. CHAMBER SINGERS
Credits: 0.5
The Wilkes University Chamber Singers provides students an opportunity to practice advanced ensemble skills through the regular rehearsal and performance of a wide variety of primarily a cappella choral repertoire. Membership is open to any student member of the University Chorus. May be repeated for credit.

Pre-Requisites
Permission of the instructor.

MUS-127. JAZZ ENSEMBLE
Credits: 0 or 3
Open to all members of the University community. The ensemble rehearses and presents performances of literature encompassing a wide range of jazz styles and techniques. May be repeated for credit.

Pre-Requisites
Permission of the instructor.

MUS-128. CHAMBER PERFORMANCE
Credits: 1
Students will study and publicly perform chamber literature appropriate to their instruments. Coaching and supervision by faculty members, as assigned. May be repeated for credit.

Pre-Requisites
Permission of the instructor.

MUS-132. CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
Credits: 0 or 3
Students will study, rehearse and perform a variety of large and small ensemble works for chamber orchestra. May be repeated for credit.

Pre-Requisites
Permission of the instructor.

MUS-135. FLUTE ENSEMBLE
Credits: 1
Students will study, rehearse and perform a variety of large and small ensemble works for flute ensemble. May be repeated for credit.

Pre-Requisites
Permission of the instructor.

MUS-138. PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE
Credits: 1
Students will study, rehearse and perform a variety of large and small ensemble works for percussion ensemble. May be repeated for credit.

Pre-Requisites
Permission of the instructor.

MUS-198. TOPICS
Credits: 3
A study in topics of special interest not extensively treated in regularly offered courses.

MUS-210. MUSIC HISTORY I: ANCIENT THROUGH BAROQUE
Credits: 3
A study of the history of music and the genres, styles, and forms of the stylistic periods of musical composition, Ancient through Baroque, and the movements, eras, and themes associated with these periods. Offered in alternate years, in the fall.

Pre-Requisites
[[MUS-103]] or permission of the instructor.

MUS-211. MUSIC HISTORY II: CLASSICAL THROUGH TWENTIETH CENTURY
Credits: 3
A study of the history of music and the genres, styles, and forms of the stylistic periods of musical composition, Classical through 21st Century, and the movements, eras, and themes associated with these periods. Offered in alternate years, in the fall.

Pre-Requisites
[[MUS-103]] or permission of the instructor.

MUS-395. - 396 INDEPENDENT RESEARCH
Credits: 1-3
Independent study and research for advanced students in music under the direction of a faculty member. A research paper at a more substantial level beyond a term paper is required.

Pre-Requisites
Approval of the department chairperson.

DAN. DANCE

DAN-100. DANCE APPRECIATION: COMPREHENSIVE DANCE FORMS
Credits: 3
This course provides a general introduction to classical ballet, modern dance and jazz dance. It is designed to provide a structured, personal engagement in dance whose objective is the acquisition, at each individual student's pace, of the qualities of grace, physical stamina, muscular and ligament flexibility, and movement musicality.

DAN-120. TAP DANCE
Credits: 3
In this course, students will acquire and develop tap dance technique through drills and exercises, and will develop an appreciation of the rich history of tap dance in America through lectures, videos, demonstrations and readings.
DAN-210. MODERN DANCE I  
**Credits:** 3  
This course provides the student with the fundamentals of modern dance based on the methodology of Lester Horton. It is designed to provide an experimentation structure and professionally-informed exploration of the art of modern dance. Its objective is the acquisition, at each individual student's pace, of the qualities of grace, physical stamina, muscular alignment, flexibility, and movement musicality. This course also introduces fundamentals of contemporary dance allowing the student to investigate how this genre of dance has pulled elements of movement from classical, modern and jazz styles.

DAN-211. MODERN DANCE II  
**Credits:** 3  
This course is the sequel to DAN-210, providing the truly committed student with the opportunity, at an intermediate level, for an even more substantive and diversified participatory engagement in modern and contemporary dance. It engages the student-dancer in highly individualized movements based on personalized, multi-faceted, and changing artistic standards.

**Pre-Requisites**  
[[DAN-210]] or permission of instructor.

DAN-220. ADVANCED TAP  
**Credits:** 3  
In this course, students will acquire and develop advanced tap dance technique through drills and exercises, and will develop an appreciation of the rich history of tap dance in America through lectures, videos, demonstrations and readings.

**Pre-Requisites**  
[[DAN-120]] or permission of instructor.

DAN-230. JAZZ DANCE I  
**Credits:** 3  
The first course involving an intensive and progressively challenging engagement in jazz technique and performance utilizing a fusion of methodologies all of which are ballet based. This course is designed for the student with limited dance experience, still having a basic understanding of ballet terminology and body placement. Core skills as well as body conditioning are emphasized, investigating different genres within the context of the jazz discipline. Classical Jazz, Musical Theatre Jazz, Video Style Jazz, and Lyrical Styles of Jazz will be introduced.

DAN-231. JAZZ DANCE II  
**Credits:** 3  
The second in the progressively demanding courses in the four-semester sequence in which students are intensively engaged in learning and executing jazz techniques and performance skills by utilizing a fusion of methodologies, all of which are ballet based. Through the study of jazz dance techniques as systematized using various methods, students are encouraged to perceive the nature of dance movement and to acquire some proficiency in its application to stage performance and achieve greater awareness of body structure and function. Select choreographers, directors, and teachers will play a significant role in the material chosen for this course.

**Pre-Requisites**  
[[DAN-230]] or permission of instructor.

DAN-250. CLASSICAL BALLET I  
**Credits:** 3  
The first course in the study of the theory and techniques of Russian classical ballet, as pursued in the curricula of the schools of the Bolshoi and Kirov Ballets and derived from the methodology devised by Agrippina Vaganova and Cecchetti.

DAN-251. CLASSICAL BALLET II  
**Credits:** 3  
This course is designed to build on the foundation acquired in [[DAN-250]] for an intensive intellectual, emotional, and physical engagement in the study of the theory and techniques of Russian classical ballet, as pursued in the curricula of the schools of the Bolshoi and Kirov Ballets and derived from the methodology devised by Agrippina Vaganova and Cecchetti.

**Pre-Requisites**  
[[DAN-250]] or permission of instructor.

DAN-310. MODERN DANCE III  
**Credits:** 3  
This is an advanced course in modern dance, affording the student the opportunity to engage, experientially, in some of the more technically and choreographically demanding and innovative aspects of modern dance. In the exploration of these movement elaborations, the aesthetic vision of the choreographers may be perceived, especially in terms of how they adapted much of the disciplined technique of classical ballet in an exciting syncretic fusion.

**Pre-Requisites**  
[[DAN-211]] or permission of instructor.

DAN-311. MODERN DANCE IV  
**Credits:** 3  
An advanced level course in Modern Dance technique. In addition to continued study of the concepts from [[DAN-310]], specific contemporary styles will be explored.

**Pre-Requisites**  
[[DAN-310]] or permission of instructor.

DAN-320. DANCE COMPOSITION  
**Credits:** 3  
An introduction to the craft of making dance works. Class emphasis is on developing movement material, structuring solid dance works and documenting the creative process. A writing component is required.

**Pre-Requisites**  
Permission of instructor.
DAN-330. JAZZ DANCE III  
Credits: 3  
Jazz Dance III is third in the progressively demanding courses in the four-semester elective sequence in which students are intensively engaged in learning and executing jazz techniques and performance skills using various methodologies, all of which are ballet based. Students at this level are expected to have a greater understanding of ballet terminology and body placement. Emphasizing a blending of theory and practice, this course is intended to encourage students to explore another dimension of personal fulfillment while cultivating realistically their potential as physically coordinated, aesthetically sensitive, poised, and graceful persons, with a deeper understanding of dance as recreation vs. dance in a professional environment relating to theatre studies. Within this course, the student will investigate the intent of the choreographer and director as well as experience the choreographic process itself. Creativity, logic, and reasoning skills will be enhanced, with the intention of aiding the student in transferring these aspects to their chosen major. Select choreographers, directors, and teachers will play a significant role in the material presented, with the expectation of the student delving more deeply into the creative process of dance.  

Pre-Requisites  
[DAN-231] or permission of instructor.

DAN-331. JAZZ DANCE IV  
Credits: 3  
The fourth level in the progressively demanding courses in the four-semester elective sequence in which students are intensively engaged in learning and executing jazz techniques and performance skills per various methodologies, all of which are ballet based. At this level, the student is expected to have an adequate knowledge of ballet terminology, body placement, and body conditioning, with a focus on transferring these skills to choreography, improvisation, class structure, and the creative process itself. This course is intended to take the dance student to a higher level of physical and creative awareness. A greater understanding of physics, as it relates to dance, kinesiology, anatomy, and the processing of more intricate exercises and combinations are a major focus. Once again, select choreographers, directors, and teachers, will play a significant role in the material presented. A deeper understanding of a person’s creative potential will be investigated, using life experiences of selected persons.  

Pre-Requisites  
[DAN-330] or permission of instructor.

DAN-350. CLASSICAL BALLET III  
Credits: 3  
This course is designed to build on the foundation laid in [DAN-251]. Course presentation will employ lecture, demonstration, and studio exercises designed to explore the movement dynamics that are especially appropriate to the classical dance genre. The objective of this course is the continued individually paced development of the qualities of grace, physical stamina, muscular and ligament flexibility, and movement musicality, especially via direct and active engagement in classical dance technique.  

Pre-Requisites  
[DAN-251] or permission of instructor.

DAN-351. CLASSICAL BALLET IV  
Credits: 3  
This course is designed to continue to build on the foundation laid in [DAN-350]. Special emphasis will be given in this course to the development of sound classical ballet technique (per a modified Vaganova methodology) as the foundation for the cultivation of poise, stage presence, kinetic flexibility, and physical stamina.  

Pre-Requisites  
[DAN-350] or permission of instructor.