I. Catalog Description and Credit Hours of Course:

The course emphasizes safety, methods of staging, falling and rolling, unarmed stage fighting, and basic stage swordplay. (3)

II. Prerequisite(s):

TH 115; TH 120; or consent of instructor

III. Purposes or Objectives of the Course:

A. Students will demonstrate mastery of safety principles and their applications.
B. Students will demonstrate expertise in basic techniques and their applications.
C. Students will demonstrate expertise in basic staging principles and practices.
D. Students will demonstrate understanding of basic fight notation.
E. Students will demonstrate understanding of basic text analysis.
F. Students will demonstrate enhanced knowledge of the central processes of acting.

IV. Expectations of Students:

A. Students will model college-level discipline and deportment with regards to assignments, exercises, participation, and attendance.
B. Students will read-for-mastery all reading assignments.
C. Students will dress appropriately for full participation in physical exercises.
D. Students will prepare, rehearse, and perform scheduled fight-exams, 5 short research/analysis papers and a final exam-performance.

V. Course Content or Outline (Indicated number of class hours per unit or section):

Unit 1: (1 week): Introduction to stage combat and orientation to the course of study. Discussion, definitions, and demonstrations.

A. Theatrical Violence: The Problem
B. Orientation: The Nature of the Course
C. Safety Principles: Foundations of Practice
D. Staging Principles: Structures of Practice
E. Practical Matters: Equipment and Equipment Maintenance

Unit 2: (8 weeks): Introduction to unarmed stage combat techniques.
   A. Falling and Rolling
   B. Knaps
   C. Slaps
   D. Punches
   E. Hair Pulls
   F. Chokes
   G. Gun Safety

Unit 3: (6 weeks): Medieval Weaponry
   A. Quarterstaff
   B. Broadsword & Shield
   C. Two-hand and Hand-and-a-half Swords

Unit 4: (2 weeks): Rehearsal workshop and final fight preparations.

VI. Textbooks and Other Materials or Equipment:
   One pair well-fitting work gloves or fencing gauntlets

VII. Basis for Student Evaluation:
   A. Participation and Attendance. (25%)
   B. 5 Research and Analysis Papers (25%)
   C. Basic Unarmed Fight & Basic Medieval Fight (25%)
   D. Combined Unarmed and Medieval Final Performance Fight (25%)