

505-3-.46. Drama Education Program

Discussion:

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-3-.46 Drama Education Program dated August 15, 2023, be REPEALED and that a new rule with the same number and title be INITIATED. The new rule incorporates standards adapted from the standards published in 2025 by the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST).

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving initial educator preparation programs that prepare individuals to teach drama in grades P-12, and supplements requirements in GaPSC Rule [505-3-.01 REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS](#) and in GaPSC Rule [505-3-.03 FOUNDATIONS OF READING, LITERACY, AND LANGUAGE](#).

(2) Requirements.

- (a) To receive approval, a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following standards adapted from standards published in 2025 by the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST).

1. Production.

- (i) The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate competence in basic acting skills and techniques.
- (ii) The program shall prepare candidates who can direct performances, including playwriting, analyzing scripts, blocking, and casting.
- (iii) The program shall prepare candidates who can produce theatre productions, including creating and using scenery, lights, hair and make-up, sound properties, costume, props, special effects, and multimedia.
- (iv) The program shall prepare candidates who can evaluate and assess productions.
- (v) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the public relation aspect of theatre and that theatre is a business.
- (vi) The program shall prepare candidates who can promote and publicize activities or productions.
- (vii) The program shall prepare candidates who can demonstrate technical skills for artistic self-expression in at least one major area of production (for example, acting, design/technology, playwriting, directing).

2. Repertory.

- (i) The program shall prepare candidates who are familiar with theatre literature of various historical periods, cultural sources, and modes of presentation.
- (ii) The program shall prepare candidates who acquire experience with specific repertoires through performance, academic study, and attendance at productions.

3. Theoretical and Historical Studies.
 - (i) The program shall prepare candidates who understand theatre as a social and aesthetic experience.
 - (ii) The program shall prepare candidates who understand (a) contending philosophies of theatre, (b) the development of past and contemporary theatre forms, (c) major styles and periods of theatre history and dramatic literature, (d) theories of criticism, and (e) the fundamental and integral relationships of all these to the theatre performance.
4. Technology. The program shall prepare candidates that have acquired a working knowledge of applicable technologies and equipment related to their area(s) of specialization in theatre education.
5. Synthesis. The program shall prepare candidates with knowledge and the working application of the function of theatre in school and society, including content appropriateness, and legal and ethical issues.
6. Teaching Competencies.
 - (i) Candidates will be able to teach drama at various levels to different age groups and in a variety of classroom, studio, and ensemble settings that include effective classroom, studio, and rehearsal management.
 - (ii) Candidates will understand child growth and development and principles of learning as they relate to drama.
 - (iii) Candidates will be able to assess, adapt, and plan educational programs for the aptitudes, experiences, socio-cultural backgrounds, and orientations to meet the needs of all learners.
 - (iv) Candidates will be knowledgeable of current methods, materials, and repertoires available in various fields and levels of drama education appropriate to the teaching specialization.
 - (iv) Candidates will understand and apply the principles and methods of developing curricula and the sequence of methods and units to comprise them.
 - (v) Candidates will understand assessment tools for formative and summative assessments.
- (b) The program shall prepare candidates who meet the P-12 standards for the teaching of reading as specified in GaPSC Rule [505-3-.03 FOUNDATIONS OF READING, LITERACY, AND LANGUAGE](#) (paragraph (3) (g)).