Certification Requirements for Secondary School Classroom Theatre Teachers

Dorothy Begalka

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CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL
CLASSROOM THEATRE TEACHERS

BY

DOROTHY BIGILKA

A thesis submitted
in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the
degree Master of Arts, Major in
Speech, South Dakota
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1982
CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL
CLASSROOM THEATRE TEACHERS

This thesis is approved as a creditable and independent investigation by a candidate for the degree, Master of Arts, and is acceptable for meeting the thesis requirements for this degree. Acceptance of this thesis does not imply that the conclusions reached by the candidate are necessarily the conclusions of the major department.

Wayne E. Hoogstraat
Thesis Adviser

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Head, Department of Speech
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God has richly blessed me with the opportunity, the capacity, and the support to complete this study. For that I am very grateful.

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To my parents--Leon and Liz Begalka--goes a debt of love I will never be able to repay. Thanks for trusting me. Tim and Kathy--I love you.

Colossians 3:17.

DDB
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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Origin of the Study

Some of the students who study theatre at the college level intend to enter the field of education. Noting this, the investigator became interested in the field of theatre education. It was assumed that certain certification requirements would have to be met in order to teach theatre courses in each of the fifty states and the District of Columbia. A resource containing comprehensive data about these requirements would be helpful for college students as they select coursework throughout their college careers.

An investigation was made to determine if such a resource had been written which enumerated the certification requirements one must meet to be certified as a secondary theatre teacher. That investigation yielded four articles on the topic of theatre education. They include:

"Guidelines for Speech Communication and Theatre Programs in Teacher Education," *Speech Teacher*, November 1975. 2

"A Performance-Based Teacher Education in Speech and Drama," *Speech Teacher*, January 1975. 3

"The Identification and Analysis of Theatre Competencies Needed by High School Theatre Teachers in Texas," a 1977 Doctrinal Dissertation. 4

These works are primarily concerned with specific competencies which various people have felt were needed by a theatre teacher. They also dealt with competency-based teacher education and guidelines for teacher training. Although these resources have valuable information about theatre education, they do not address the issue of certification.

The National Education Association periodically publishes *A Manual on Standards Affecting School Personnel in the United States*. 5 This manual is a collection of information on certification and accreditation. The most recent copy was surveyed by the investigator, who discovered two inadequacies in this source. The manual was published in 1974 and has not been updated since. Also, it does not cover theatre specifically but rather addresses only the general field of speech arts. Therefore, it would be of
little use to someone who needed comprehensive current information concerning theatre certification.

The investigation, therefore, revealed no comprehensive informational source regarding theatre certification in all fifty states and the District of Columbia. If a theatre education student wanted to be prepared to teach in any combination of the fifty-one units, the student would face the impractical task of consulting each state or unit individually.

The motivation for the study was based on an apparent need to provide educators with comprehensive data on the requirements which must be fulfilled in order to teach theatre courses on the secondary level in each of the fifty states and the District of Columbia.

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of this inquiry was to determine the specific certification requirements one must meet to be a certified classroom theatre teacher at the secondary level. For purposes of this inquiry the term "certification requirements" was defined as those standards which must be met before one can be granted permission to teach. These standards included such items as the number of credit hours in theatre required, completion of specific coursework, possession of a major or minor, and completion of a program
of study accepted by the institution of higher learning from which the prospective teacher graduated.

For the purposes of the study, secondary schools were defined as those schools whose students are in ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade. Although some states have middle school, junior highs, or other school organizations which are recognized as secondary schools, this study focused on those schools commonly called high schools.

**Procedures**

In the process of completing this study, a number of steps were taken in the approximate order listed here.

1. Library resources published after 1974, the date of the last NEA manual, were examined to determine if any similar studies had been undertaken. The following guides were examined:


   Entries under the heading of Teacher(ing) Certification, Teacher Qualification, Credential, and Teacher Education were examined from 1975 to the present. The synopses of various educational studies revealed no material which pertained to certification requirements for teaching theatre courses at the secondary level.
Entries under the main categories of "Theatre," "Speech," and "Education, Secondary" and entries under the listing of "Certification" were examined. A review of pertinent abstracts revealed that no dissertations had been written in the time frame of the study that dealt specifically with certification requirements for secondary theatre teachers.


The Speech Teacher, quarterly issues, 1975.

A survey of the table of contents of each of these professional journals revealed no information concerning certification requirements necessary to teach theatre courses.

Only four studies on the topic of theatre education were discovered through the above resources. However, as has previously been noted, they did not pertain to the subject matter of this current study. No information was found which dealt specifically with the requirements which must be met to be certified to teach theatre courses in the secondary school.

2. Brief meetings were held with Dr. Lois Widvey and with Dr. Thomas Reifschneider, professors with the
Division of Education at South Dakota State University, Brookings, South Dakota. Both were quite certain that no similar study had been completed. Neither knew of any single comprehensive reference containing specific certification requirements for theatre instruction in the various states and the District of Columbia.

Dr. Reifschneider furnished the investigator with a copy of *A Manual of Standards Affecting School Personnel in the United States*. This manual, written by T. M. Stinnett for the National Education Association, was published in 1974. As indicated above, this manual does not contain current comprehensive material on the certification requirements necessary to teach theatre courses at the secondary level.

3. A letter was written and sent to the teacher certification agency of the Department of Education of each of the fifty states and the District of Columbia. The purpose of the letter was to solicit answers to specific questions concerning certification requirements for those secondary teachers who teach theatre courses.

Questions were asked about general teacher certification established in each state and, more specifically, about requirements one must meet to teach theatre courses. The agencies were also asked if theatre is recognized as a separate discipline or if requirements for theatre are
covered under a broader area such as English. A sample of the letter is found in Appendix A.

Resources were also solicited from the agencies. The resources received included letters, pamphlets, brochures, and handbooks which contained information about specific certification requirements.

4. Beginning one month after the initial mailing, those agencies which had not responded were sent an additional letter reminding them of the need for their input and of the importance of their prompt reply. Two states received a third letter after the second had gone unanswered for several months.

5. As responses were received, the investigator attempted to determine what information was still needed to complete the study. Agencies from which more complete data was needed were sent a letter specifically detailing the nature of the essential data and, as necessary, an explanation of the importance of the data to the entire study. Telephone calls were also utilized in the effort to procure information from those states which had not answered as specifically or as completely as the investigator deemed necessary.

6. When all state agencies had responded with adequate answers to the questions asked them, or the investigator had exhausted all reasonable approaches to
procuring the desired information, the collected data were organized. The following two categories constitute the primary divisions:

a. General requirements governing all who apply for secondary certification.

b. Requirements governing those who apply for certification as a secondary classroom theatre teacher.

Chapter II of this study, subdivided by state, contains a detailed account of these certification requirements. The requirements for each state or unit were organized to follow this pattern:

a. possession of specific degrees

b. completion of college or university-approved curriculum

c. other general certification requirements

d. acquisition of major or minor

e. number of credit hours required in theatre

f. other specific theatre certification requirements.

7. Conclusions were drawn concerning the nature and scope of certification requirements which must be met to teach theatre in secondary schools throughout the United States. Table 1, page 107, shows the requirements one must meet to gain secondary teacher certification in each of the fifty states and the District of Columbia.
Table 2, page 111, which deals with specific requirements for theatre certification, notes the subject field under which theatre instruction is classified and the minimum number of credit hours of theatre coursework required.
ENDNOTES


10Dr. Lois Widvey, Associate Professor, Division of Education, interview in Harding Hall, South Dakota State University, 1 October 1981.
Dr. Thomas Reifschneider, Associate Professor, Division of Education, interview in Harding Hall, South Dakota State University, 1 October 1981.
CHAPTER II

STATE-BY-STATE REQUIREMENTS FOR SECONDARY THEATRE CERTIFICATION

Purpose and Procedure

As noted in the preceding chapter, letters requesting information about secondary classroom theatre certification were sent to the education agency in the capital city of each of the fifty states and the District of Columbia. The information received from these agencies came in a variety of forms and in a range of complexity. All of the information was read thoroughly so that the data relevant to the current study could be extracted and organized for each state.

In several cases, the information received in response to the initial request was inadequate to answer the questions posed by the investigator. Therefore, an additional letter or letters of inquiry were sent. Phone calls to the state agencies were also made when additional requests for information concerning theatre certification were not adequately answered.

In other instances, information was needed to supplement the data provided by the state agencies. A Manual on Standards Affecting School Personnel in the
United States was often consulted for supporting data. Because this manual was published in 1974, care has been taken not to draw conclusions which may be outdated.

In several states, the responsibility for teacher preparation and determination of certification eligibility lies with the teacher training institution. In such cases, the current catalog from the state university was consulted (i.e., The University of Michigan and the University of Colorado). According to Harvey Johnson, Registrar, South Dakota State University, the university of the state is generally assumed to be the unofficial certifying institution and the "guiding institution" in each state. The requirements of the university, as opposed to those of public colleges or private universities and colleges, are generally the most rigid and specific.

The information gained from these additional sources has been utilized to provide complete and up-to-date information about each state. The certification requirements, unless otherwise noted, are for the 1981-82 academic year.

The data from each state is organized in the following way: (1) general requirements for secondary teaching certification in that state (These are initial entry-level requirements. Requirements for further levels of certification are not considered relevant to the current study); (2) general requirements for certification as a theatre
instructor in that state; and, (3) as applicable, specific requirements for certification as a theatre instructor in that state. Because of the diversity of requirements from one state to another, tables, organizing the data concerning specific requirements for certification, are included in the analysis section of this chapter.

In the following sections, the classroom theatre certification requirements of each state are discussed individually.

Alabama

A letter and a sheet of information titled "General Information Regarding Alabama Certification for Out-of-State Applicants" were received from the Alabama Department of Education.

Under present Alabama regulations, applicants for certification must complete an education program approved by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), or a state-approved teacher preparation program based on the standards of the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC), or must complete requirements of the Interstate Certification Project (ICP). ¹

"General Information" also states that certification applicants who complete their education outside of Alabama "are subject to the same provisions as in-state
graduates in regard to passing the state professional competency test(s) for certification.”

Because no other information was given concerning this testing, a phone call was made to the Alabama Department of Education. Barbara Fennell, department employee, stated that the tests were developed by the state of Alabama and are criteria-referenced. Although some exceptions presently exist, as of September 1, 1982, all applicants for Alabama certification will be required to complete the testing. Testing includes a portion covering Basic Professional Studies and one or more subject area examinations. Prospective theatre instructors would complete the test entitled Speech Communication/Theatre.

The general requirements for certification were stated in "General Information":

On July 12, 1977, the State Board of Education passed a resolution adopting the program-approval approach to certification. However, on September 16, 1981, the State Board of Education modified this policy and passed a resolution allowing individuals who have completed an approved teacher education program with a regionally accredited senior institution to contact the State Department of Education for an evaluation to obtain Alabama certification by meeting the minimum curriculum requirements and all other certification regulations, including those which apply to prior levels of certification, in effect at the time application is made.

According to A Manual on Standards Affecting School Personnel in the United States, the approved-program approach means that certification of a teacher applicant is
based largely upon a recommendation (sometimes accompanied by a copy of the applicant's credentials or transcripts) from an approved teacher training institution that the applicant has completed the approved program and is judged to be qualified, on the basis of preparation and other specified factors, to perform a specified teaching service according to the minimum prescriptions of the state.  

Specific reference to theatre was made by Martha N. Hester, Teacher Certification Coordinator and Certification Officer, Alabama Department of Education, in her letter. She wrote that "Speech Communication/Theatre is an area of certification in Alabama."  

It is assumed, from the information available, that in order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Alabama, one must complete a teacher education program approved by the Alabama Department of Education. One must also be recommended by the preparing institution as having completed an approved program of study in the area of Speech Communication/Theatre.

Alaska

The Department of Education of the State of Alaska furnished the investigator with two double-sided sheets of information dealing with Teacher Certification. They also sent a "Teacher Certification Application."
According to "Digest of Requirements for Teacher Certification in Alaska," obtaining a teaching certificate in Alaska requires completing an approved teacher education program, obtaining a bachelor's degree, and being recommended by the preparing institution.\(^7\)

Alaska endorses only in the applicant's major area(s) of teacher training. The endorsements are based upon verification from the training institution at which the applicant completed an approved program in teacher training.\(^8\)

It was also noted that on the "Teacher Certification Application," under the heading "Endorsements Requested," the applicant is to list majors only.\(^9\) However, in none of the information sent by Alaska was there any mention of approved or possible major fields.

Therefore, a phone call was made to the Alaska Department of Education on March 31, 1982. Miss Charlie Mae Moore verified the fact that certification is granted on the basis of institutional recommendation that the applicant has completed an approved program of study. The areas of study which Alaska endorses include drama.\(^10\)

In order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Alaska, one must be recommended by the preparing institution as completing major requirements in
the field of drama, in addition to completing general certification requirements.

Arizona

The Director of the Teacher Certification Unit of the State of Arizona replied by sending a letter, a page of general information, and a form used by Arizona to evaluate the college transcripts of applicants.

To qualify for a secondary certificate in Arizona, one must have a bachelor's degree from a nationally or regionally accredited institution and must complete forty-five semester hours in general education and twenty-two semester hours in professional preparation. An applicant must also take the Arizona Teachers Proficiency Examination and have at least one 30-semester-hour major in an academic subject field taught in public high schools in Arizona. Arizona recognizes two theatre-related majors, Drama and Speech/Drama, which can be affixed to a secondary teaching certificate. To qualify, an applicant must have thirty semester hours in the major area for which he/she is applying.

Therefore, in order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Arizona, one must complete a 30-hour major in Drama or Speech/Drama, in addition to completing general requirements established by the Arizona Department of Education.
Arkansas

The Coordinator of Teacher Education and Certification sent the investigator a cover letter and pages of information with the titles "How to Apply for an Arkansas Teaching Certificate," "Certification Reciprocity," "Requirements for Certification in Speech," and "National Teacher's Examination Information." An application for certification was also enclosed.

The general requirements one must meet in order to receive a standard secondary teaching certificate in Arkansas are: (1) complete an approved teacher education program at an accredited institution, (2) be recommended by the certifying officer of that institution for applicant's major area(s) of certification, and, (3) successfully complete the National Teacher's Examination.¹³

According to Austin Z. Hammer, Coordinator, Teacher Education and Certification, Arkansas does not provide certification in the field of theatre.¹⁴ For this reason, he sent the investigator a copy of the requirements for speech certification. To be certified as a speech instructor, one must complete twenty-four semester hours distributed as follows: six semester hours directed toward developing "competency and understanding in oral communication (rhetoric, public address, group processes, oral interpretation);" six semester hours preparation in
directing both theatre arts and forensics programs; six semester hours in speech improvement (phonetics and pathology); and six semester hours of electives in speech or drama.

Mr. Hammer had suggested that Mr. Olen Churchill, Coordinator of Secondary Education, Arkansas Department of Education, could be of more specific assistance. Since the information provided by Mr. Hammer was not adequate, the investigator contacted Mr. Churchill.

Mr. Churchill responded by saying that persons certified in either Speech or English may teach drama in Arkansas secondary schools if they have completed twelve hours of drama course work.

Therefore, in order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Arkansas one must fulfill general certification requirements established by the state, and must complete a minimum of twelve semester credits in drama. These credit hours are to be part of the major requirement in either speech or English since Arkansas does not provide certification in the field of theatre.

California

The following items were provided by the California Commission for Teacher Preparation and Licensing:

a. cover letter;
b. two fingerprint cards and instructions for their completion;

c. an Application for Credential Authorizing Public School Service (41-4);

d. bulletin titled "Placement Information;"

e. bulletin titled "Single Subject Teaching Credential;" and,

f. duplicate bulletins titled "Subsumed Subjects Added as Supplementary Authorization."

The most basic level of California certification is that called the Single Subject Teaching Credential. "A teacher with a single subject teaching credential is generally assigned to teach the specific subject(s) named on the credential in departmentalized classes in the junior and senior high schools in California."17

The requirements for the Preliminary Single Subject Credential are:

"1. Completion of a baccalaureate or higher degree . . .

"2. Completion of a single subject program of professional teacher preparation, including student teaching, taken at a regionally accredited institution approved by the Commission or by the state certification agency of the state in which the program was completed. . . .

"3. Completion of a two-semester unit course in the provisions and principles of the United States Constitution OR passage of an examination in the subject given by a regionally accredited institution.

"4. Completion of a course in the methods of teaching reading OR passage with a minimum score of 680 of the National Teacher Examination entitled 'Introduction to the Teaching of Reading.' . . .
5. Verification of subject-matter competence by obtaining a subject-matter waiver statement from a California college or university with a Commission-approved waiver program OR achieving a passing score on the appropriate subject-matter area examination given by National Teacher Examinations.

6. Verification of English writing proficiency by passing the College Level Examination Program (CLEP) examination entitled 'English Composition with Essay.' The passing score is 630 for all subjects except 'English,' and 680 for applicants seeking 'English' as a result of having passed the NTE.

The bulletin "Subsumed Subjects Added as Supplementary Authorization" lists the statutory single subjects recognized by the state of California. Theatre is not listed separately, but, rather, is found under the subject area English.

In order to verify subject-matter competency in English, the applicant must obtain a score of 620 on the English Language and Literature (04) portion of the National Teacher Examination.

It should be noted that a teacher authorized for single subject instruction (i.e. English) may be assigned, with his/her consent, to teach any subject in his/her authorized fields (i.e. Theatre) at any grade level; preschool; kindergarten and grades one through twelve, inclusive; or in classes primarily for adults.

A statement that the investigator found handwritten across the bottom of "Subsumed Subjects Added as Supplementary Authorization," verifies this authorization.
The author is unknown but is assumed to be an employee of the California Commission for Teacher Preparation and Licensing who prepared and sent the packet of materials. They wrote "teacher can be assigned by employer to any of the areas listed under the major he possesses."²²

The relevant major (single subject area), as already noted, is English. The following subject areas are listed under this major and thus may be taught by the teacher authorized in English: "composition, creative writing, debate, drama, forensics, humanities, journalism, language arts, literature, play production, public speaking, newspaper staff, speech (oral communication), theatre arts, writing, and other courses of which the content and prerequisites are related to English."²³

However, to supplement single subject teaching credentials, California has established supplementary authorization. According to Title 5, Section 80057.1,

The holder of a valid single subject teaching credential may have one or more of the subsumed subjects listed in California Administrative Code (Title 5) Section 80005 added as a supplementary authorization, with appropriate identification, when the candidate or an approved institution verifies completion of 20 semester hours or 10 semester hours of upper division non-remedial collegiate course work in a specific subsumed subject commonly taught in grades 7-12 with a scholarship record of C or better on a five point scale. . . . A subsumed subject which is already included in the applicant's statutory single subject will not be listed on the credential as a supplementary authorization. For example, if an applicant has the statutory single
subject of business listed on the credential, the subjects which are subsumed under business will not be listed on the credential as supplementary authorizations.

Therefore, if English is one's statutory single subject authorization, neither theatre, or any of the other subsumed subjects, can be used as supplementary authorizations. A teacher of another subject area, such as math or history, however, could gain supplementary theatre authorization by completing a minimum of ten upper-level semester hours in theatre.

In conclusion, in order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in California, one must possess a minimum of ten semester credits of upper division theatre coursework (if theatre is a supplement to authorization in a statutory single subject other than English) or a single subject authorization in English (which allows instruction in any of it's subsumed subject areas). English, and all other single-subject authorizations, are based upon National Teacher Examination scores and other general requirements for California Teacher Certification.

Colorado

In their reply to the investigator, the Colorado Department of Education included an "Application for Certification" and two double-sided pages of general information.
According to "Certification Types, Requirements, and Instructions--Types of Colorado Certificates,"

The general teacher certificate certifies that a person has been awarded a bachelor's degree from an accepted institution; has completed an approved program of teacher preparation in an accepted institution of higher education, which program includes a professional teacher education sequence including student teaching; has demonstrated thorough knowledge of the subject matter to be taught; and has the competencies essential to maintain and improve the quality of instruction in the public schools of the state.

Colorado teaching certificates are endorsed for the

. . . grade level, academic subject matter fields, or educational specialization included in the holder's preparation. The endorsement is suggested by the college or university in the institutional recommendation. Endorsements generally reflect the teacher's major field(s) or concentrations. The assignment of teachers is a local school district responsibility; however, districts are encouraged to place teachers in positions related to their endorsement areas.

According to the Department of Education guidelines, Colorado does recognize drama as a distinct subject field. To be endorsed in drama, an applicant must complete an approved program of professional education from an accepted institution of higher education and an approved program in drama. This program should develop knowledge and skills in the following areas:

"1. Theatre history, including western and non-western theatre.
"2. Dramatic literature, specifically: analysis and criticism, dramatic styles, reflection and impact of social implications, and developing aesthetic sensitivity."
"3. Acting, specifically: basic acting, acting styles, characterization, stage movement, performance, experience, and developing aesthetic sensitivity.

"4. Stage movement and dance, including choreography and movement fundamentals.

"5. Technical theatre, including make-up, lighting, stagecraft, costumes and publicity.

"6. Directing, specifically: basic techniques of directing, audience analysis, directing styles, and children's theatre.

"7. Methods of teaching theatre, specifically: creative drama, selection and production of theatre in the school, festival direction and participation, performance evaluation, simulation, and roleplaying."

Because certification is dependent upon institutional recommendation, and because state guidelines for coursework are stated in quite general terms, the investigator consulted the most recent catalog issued by the University of Colorado.

According to the University of Colorado 1981-1982 Catalog, theatre majors must complete a minimum of forty-five semester credits, as follows:

Acting 3
Stagecraft or Costuming 3
History of Theatre I 3
History of Theatre II 3
Practicum in Costuming 1
Practicum in Technical Theatre 1
Practicum in Management 1
Practicum in Acting 1
Directing 3
Electives in Theatre 11
Electives in Dance/and Interpretation 9
Electives in Dramatic Literature 6

In addition, those theatre majors desiring to qualify for teaching certification must also complete coursework in Methods of Teaching Theatre and Creative Dramatics. Of course, professional education requirements must also be fulfilled.

It is assumed that graduates from the University of Colorado's theatre curriculum will possess the knowledge and skills in the areas which the Colorado Department of Education feels are important to an approved program in drama education.

In order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Colorado, one must complete programs in professional education and drama as established by an approved institution of higher learning and be recommended by that institution as demonstrating thorough knowledge and skill in areas of drama outlined by Colorado's Department of Education.

Connecticut

A copy of "Connecticut Teacher Certification Regulations" and an "Application of Certification" (accompanied with instructions for completion) were sent
to the investigator by the Connecticut State Board of Education.

To receive a Provisional Secondary Certificate in Connecticut, a candidate must present evidence of meeting the following requirements:

a. Hold a bachelor's degree from an approved institution.

b. Have a minimum of forty-five semester hours credit in general education.

c. Have a minimum of eighteen semester hours credit in professional education.

d. Have the specified minimum credit in one or two fields of concentration appropriate for the particular subject endorsement sought.$^{30}$

In Connecticut, the English endorsement covers English, speech, and drama.$^{31}$ However,

not more than twelve semester hours of credit in speech and dramatics will be accepted as part of the thirty-hour requirement for the teaching of English. The thirty-hour requirement shall include at least three semester hours of credit in each of the following: (A) Advanced composition beyond the college level; (B) adolescent or young adult literature; and (C) the English language including such aspects as history and grammar of the language; phonology; morphology; syntax; semantics; social, regional and functional varieties of English usage; and familiarity with at least two grammar systems.$^{32}$

Therefore, in order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Connecticut, one must meet the general requirements stated above and have a subject
endorsement in the field of English. This involves at least eighteen hours of English coursework, divided between composition, literature, and grammar, and 0-12 hours in drama and/or speech. Thus, although there is not specific certification in theatre, one may take up to twelve semester hours of theatre coursework as partial requirement for an English endorsement, although no theatre coursework is mandatory.

**Delaware**

The Department of Public Instruction of Delaware responded by sending two sheets of information, one titled "Drama" and the other "Speech."

According to "Drama," the secondary drama teacher must first meet the requirements for the Standard Certificate. One must possess a bachelor's degree from an accredited college (including general education coursework) and must complete one of these options to fulfill professional education requirements: (1) completion of a program in teacher education in Drama or Drama and Speech Communication, or (2) completion of a minimum of fifteen semester hours including human development, methods of teaching, and clinical and/or field experiences including student teaching.
The applicant must also meet specific teaching field requirements. This can be done in one of three ways--

"1. Major in 'Drama' or 'Drama and Speech Communication' OR

"2. Completion of a program in teacher education in 'Drama' or 'Drama and Speech Communication' OR

"3. Minimum of thirty semester hours with at least one course in each of the following areas: history of the theatre, play direction, acting, stagecraft, play production, voice and diction, oral interpretation, and an elective in one of the following areas: speech, broadcasting (radio or TV), children's theatre, or creative dramatics, stage movement, make-up, costume, lighting, and literature (dramatic)."

Therefore, in order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Delaware, one may pursue any one of three options in theatre coursework, in addition to general professional education requirements.

District of Columbia

The Division of Personnel of the Public Schools of the District of Columbia sent the investigator a large variety of materials including a cover letter, a handbook titled "Certification Requirements for Education Personnel," and a "Teacher Employment Application."

According to "Application for Professional Certification," applicants for teacher certification must have a bachelor's degree from a regionally or nationally accredited college or university (NCATE approved) and
specific preparation for teaching in their specified area. 35

Specific eligibility requirements for the various licenses granted by the District of Columbia are listed in "Certification Requirements for Educational Personnel."

License III is granted to secondary school teachers who have satisfactorily completed a sequence of courses in preparation for teaching at the secondary level. This requirement includes completion of thirty semester credits in the subject area to be taught. 36

The handbook goes on to list the specific subject areas recognized by the District of Columbia and the coursework required in each area.

Theatre is not listed as a separate area but is, instead, listed under English. The requirements for English are:

"a. Not less than fifteen semester credits in literature. . . .

"b. Not less than twelve semester credits in the use of language taken from any two or more of the following courses: Composition; Creative Writing; Journalism, media or research; Nature and Structure of Language, Speech and Drama." 37

In order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in the District of Columbia, one must complete a thirty-semester hour program of study in the area of English, some of which may be in theatre, in addition to meeting general certification requirements.
Florida

The Florida Department of Education replied by sending a packet containing a cover letter; information about, and an application for, the Florida Teacher Certification Examination; an application for certification; and a list of school districts including a state map.

From the above information it was determined that an applicant for a Florida Teacher Certificate must complete an approved teacher education program and hold a bachelor's degree. One must also pass the Florida Teacher Certification Examination, a four-part test developed by the Florida Commissioner of Education.

However, the information sent by the Florida Department of Education did not address the issue of requirements for theatre certification. For this reason, an additional letter or request was written and sent. As of March 2, 1982, this second letter had not been answered. Another letter of request was sent to the Florida Department of Education. An answer was received on March 24 in the form of a letter and a duplicate sheet of information. The letter, from Mrs. Betty T. Davidson, Teacher Certification Specialist, stated that Florida State Board of Education Rules provide for certification in Drama only when it is a degree major. In order to teach theatre, a person must be certified in either Drama (grades 7-12) or Speech (grades 7-12). Since Drama can only be shown on a certificate when it is a degree major, there are no
specific courses that a person can complete in order
to add Drama to a certificate. However, certification
in Speech may be obtained through a degree major or
through a course by course evaluation.

The accompanying sheet of information listed
specific requirements for speech certification as follows:

"1. a bachelor's or higher degree with an under-
graduate or graduate major in speech, OR
"2. a bachelor's or higher degree with twelve
(12) semester hours in English and eighteen (18)
semester hours in speech including the areas specified
below:
"a. twelve (12) semester hours in English
"b. eighteen (18) semester hours in speech
including the areas specified below:
"(1) credit in fundamentals of speech
"(2) credit in discussion or debate
"(3) credit in dramatics or oral interpre-
pretation
"(4) credit in phonetics, OR
"3. a bachelor's or higher degree with certifica-
tion covering English (grades 7-12) and twelve (12)
semester hours in speech including the areas specified
below:
"a. credit in fundamentals of speech
"b. credit in discussion or debate
"c. credit in dramatics or oral interpretation
"d. credit in phonetics."

In order to be a certified theatre instructor in
Florida, one must possess either a Drama certification
(which requires completion of a drama major) or a Speech
certification (earned in one of several ways). General
certification requirements must also be met.

**Georgia**

The Georgia Department of Education responded to
the letter of inquiry by sending a packet of information
including "Requirements for Teacher's Provisional
Certificates Based on the Bachelor's and Master's Degrees," "Criteria for Programs for Drama Specialists," and certification applications and procedures.

The general requirements for a Georgia teaching certificate are:

"1. The bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited four-year college with no less than a 'C' average.

"2. A minimum of 60 quarter hours in General Education Courses. . . .

"3. All requirements for a Teaching Field--the subject matter and technical courses which meet the requirements for the teaching field in which the certificate is to be issued. . . .

"4. Thirty quarter hours in appropriate Professional Education courses. . . ." 42

Georgia bulletin IC-91A lists the teaching fields which are approved by the Georgia State Board of Education. The approved secondary teaching fields include English, which is subdivided into English and speech coursework. 43

Since it was not clear how theatre fit into this framework, an additional letter of inquiry was sent to the Georgia Department of Education.

Debra McCoy, Supervisor, Teacher Certification Services, responded that, although Georgia had no separate certification in drama prior to September 1980 (which would explain its absence on bulletin IC-91A), drama certification (K-12) is now available in Georgia. Certification requires completion of a methods and materials course for both elementary and secondary schools as well
as some practicum and/or student teaching experience in both elementary and secondary schools. 44

There was some discrepancy between this information and the information contained in "Criteria for Programs for Drama Specialists," a pamphlet which had been received in the department's first response.

Therefore, a phone call was made to the Office of Teacher Certification Services in Atlanta, Georgia on March 17, 1982. Bill Warrington of that office was able to clarify the matter of specific requirements.

He verified that drama is a K-12 certification and requires completion of the professional education courses, as noted above. Applicants must also complete forty-five quarter hours of theatre coursework covering all of the following areas: theatre history, dramatic literature, acting, directing, stagecraft, basic design, creative dramatics, media and dramatic arts, and methods of teaching drama. 45

In order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Georgia, one must complete forty-five quarter hours credit in theatre coursework in addition to fulfilling professional education and general certification requirements.
Hawaii

A packet of material containing four sheets of information about teacher certification was sent to the investigator by the Hawaii Department of Education. The initial letter of request was also returned.

According to "Summary of Teacher Certification Requirements--Public Schools of Hawaii," an applicant for a Basic Teacher's Certificate must complete an accredited institution's state-approved four-year teacher education program. A state-approved program is one which has been evaluated as meeting NASDTEC or state standards.46

The following statements concerning specific theatre requirements were written at the bottom of the returned request letter by an unknown Hawaii Department of Education employee:

The completion of a state approved speech teacher education program will qualify you for a secondary teachers certificate. Since theatre education is not a major area for certification, we do not have information on theatre courses.47

This statement is substantiated by "Summary of Teacher Certification Requirements." This document states that "A college or university approved major within a secondary education program is required for the following subject matter fields for secondary certification." The list that follows includes "Speech."48
In order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Hawaii, one must complete an approved major in speech and meet general certification requirements.

Idaho

Ruth Ann Cummings, Certification Analyst for the Idaho Department of Education, sent the investigator a letter and a booklet titled "Certification Standards for Professional School Personnel."

As reported on pages 17-18 of this booklet:

"A Standard Secondary Certificate may be issued by the State Board of Education to any person of good moral character who has a Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college or university and meets the following specific requirements:

"1. A minimum of twenty semester credit hours in the philosophical, psychological and methodological foundations and in the professionalized subject matter of secondary education...

"2. Preparation in at least two fields of secondary teaching—a major subject of at least thirty semester credit hours and a minor subject of at least twenty semester credit hours. Preparation of not less than forty-five semester credit hours in a single area may be used in lieu of a major and minor field."

The booklet goes on to state that secondary certificates are endorsed for subject areas appropriate to Idaho secondary schools. All endorsements require thirty semester credits for a teaching field major and twenty semester credits for a teaching field minor, or forty-five semester credits for a single teaching field."

In her letter, Ruth Ann Cummings, Certification Analyst, stated that "To serve as a theatre instructor in Idaho secondary schools you would need a Standard
Secondary Certificate with a teaching field endorsement in Drama or Speech/Drama.\(^{51}\)

She added that

A single teaching field in Speech/Drama would be based on at least 45 semester credits in speech and drama. If you had a second teaching field only thirty semester credits would be required.\(^{52}\)

To substantiate Ms. Cumming's statement, the booklet, "Certification Standards for Professional School Personnel," was consulted. On pages 19-22, the various endorsements recognized by the state of Idaho are listed. Speech/Drama, which is listed, has the following requirements:

Credits spread over both fields with not less than six semester credit hours in each. For separate endorsements in speech or drama, not less than fifteen semester credit hours in the field to be endorsed.\(^{53}\)

In order to be certified as a classroom theatre instructor in Idaho, one must have a minimum of twenty semester hours in Drama or Speech/Drama if one has a major in another field, a minimum of thirty semester hours in Drama or Speech/Drama if one has a minor in another field, or a minimum of forty-five credits if Drama or Speech/Drama is the only endorsement sought. These requirements must be met in addition to general certification requirements.
Illinois


According to "Minimum Requirements for State Certificates,"

"The Standard High School Certificate is valid for teaching grades six through twelve of the common schools. This certification may be issued to graduates with a bachelor's degree from a recognized college who present certified evidence of having earned credit as follows:

A. General Education 42 semester hours
B. Professional Education 16 semester hours
C. One Major Area of Specialization 32 semester hours
or
D. Three Minor Areas of Specialization 72 semester hours
or 24 semester hours each

E. General Electives to make a total of 120 semester hours" 54

The booklet "Evaluation, Supervision, and Recognition of Schools" elaborates on the requirements for certification and endorsement. It states that "The High School Certificate is valid for teaching subjects for which
the individual meets recognition requirements as identified on the individual's transcript as credit in the area."

Chapter VII of this booklet lists the requirements for the areas of specialization recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education. Theatre is not recognized as a separate discipline but is mentioned under the heading Language Arts-English. The requirements for this endorsement are

Twenty-four semester hours in the field, including six semester hours in rhetoric and composition and not more than eight semester hours in speech and journalism. To teach grammar, American literature, English literature, reading or dramatics, the English teacher must have one course in the subject.

In order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Illinois, one must complete twenty-four semester hours in Language Arts-English (including at least one course in theatre) and fulfill general certification requirements.

**Indiana**

Leaflets of information, with titles such as "How to Obtain an Indiana Teaching License," "Speech Communication and Theatre," and "Section 5: Secondary Education," were provided by the Indiana Department of Public Instruction. The Department also sent a pre-application information form.
Candidates are certified for the Indiana Standard License in Secondary Education when they have received a baccalaureate degree from an institution of higher education accredited to offer programs in teacher education and have completed an undergraduate program consisting of a minimum of 124 semester hours structured between general education, professional education, subject matter concentration, and electives.\(^57\)

According to "Section 5: Secondary Education," subject matter concentration means that an applicant must have at least one major (36-55 semester hours). Endorsements to teach can be made in major or minor areas.\(^58\)

Indiana recognizes the single area of Speech Communication and Theatre at both the major (36 hours) and minor (24 hours) levels. As listed in "Speech Communication and Theatre," coursework should include:

- "General communication, including discussion, speaking, debate and types of address"
- "Creative and performing dramatics, interpretation and production"
- "Speech science, articulation, voice science and speech correction"
- "Mass communication, radio and television, including production"
- "Electives."

The holder of the Speech Communication and Theatre major or minor is eligible to teach mass media, speech, and dramatics in grades 9-12 when the basic preparation level is secondary education.\(^60\)
To be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Indiana, one must have, in addition to general education certification, either a major or a minor in the area of Speech Communication and Theatre.

Iowa

Because the initial letter of request to the Iowa Department of Public Instruction was not answered for several months, a second letter was sent in late January.

Merrill Halter, Consultant, Teacher Education and Certification, responded to the second request with a letter. He stated that the Iowa Department of Public Instruction had not received the initial letter.

Mr. Halter listed the requirements that must be met in order to be authorized to teach at the secondary level. An applicant shall have

"a. completed an approved four year secondary teacher education program, including supervised student teaching at the secondary level.
"b. a bachelor's degree from a recognized institution.
"c. recommendation from the preparing institution."

According to Mr. Halter's letter, theatre is not recognized as a teaching major or minor in Iowa. The relevant approval is in speech, which requires the completion of twenty semester hours of coursework. Iowa does allow five semester hours of theatre arts coursework to
count toward the twenty hour requirement for speech certification. 62

In order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Iowa, one must meet the twenty-semester-hour requirement for speech approval, in addition to meeting general certification requirements.

Kansas

An application for certification and two double-sided copies of by-laws governing endorsement and certification were sent to the investigator by the Kansas State Department of Education.

All Kansas teachers must hold a Kansas certificate endorsed for the area and level of instruction. 63 Certificates are issued to qualified applicants who submit an official transcript of college credits which indicate that they hold a baccalaureate degree, have fifty semester hours of general education and liberal arts courses, and have twenty semester hours of professional education. 64

Theatre itself is not recognized as a distinct area of certification. Instead, coursework in theatre arts is mentioned under the categories of both English and speech. Of the thirty-six credits needed for English certification, twenty-four must be in traditional English
areas. The remaining twelve are to include some credit in speech, and may include credit in theatre and/or other support areas, such as journalism. Certification in speech requires fifteen semester hours. Coursework may be in speech or theatre arts.

Although Kansas does not grant certification in the area of theatre per se, prospective theatre instructors can follow one of two options. They may become certified in the area of English (thirty-six hours) or in the area of speech (fifteen hours). With either of these endorsements, although no coursework in theatre is required, one will be a certified classroom theatre instructor at the secondary level. Of course, general certification requirements must also be met.

**Kentucky**

A circular reprinting the regulations of the Kentucky State Board of Education and a letter were sent to the investigator by the Unit Director for Certification of the Kentucky Division of Teacher Education and Certification.

The section "Curriculum Standards, TEC 40.0" of the circular states that

The program of preparation for the Provisional High School Certification shall consist of a four-year program of teacher preparation including the bachelor's degree and including a general education
component, a professional preparation component, and a specialization component.

The specialization portion of the curriculum shall include at least one area of concentration (forty-eight hours) or one teaching major (30-36 hours). Possible areas of concentrations and majors are listed in "Teacher Education Circular #345."

Although drama is not recognized as an area of concentration, Kentucky does recognize the combination teaching major of Dramatics-Speech. Majors in subject combinations such as this require the completion of thirty-six semester hours of credit. Not less than twelve semester hours shall be in each subject within the combination major.

In order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Kentucky, one must obtain a 36-credit major in Dramatics-Speech (with at least twelve credits earned in each discipline), and complete general university education requirements.

**Louisiana**

A packet of information concerning teacher application and a duplicated copy of speech requirements was provided by the Louisiana Department of Education.

General requirements for teacher certification include completion of a teacher education program that is
accredited by both state and regional accrediting agencies and completion of the National Teacher Examinations. 69

An additional slip of paper in the packet gives the composite scores required for each of the various area examinations. The score required on the Speech-Communication and Theatre exam (which it is assumed is required for prospective theatre instructors) is 1126. 70

According to "Out-Of-State Plan," the Louisiana secondary teaching certificate shall cover only major and minor subjects of preparation. 71 Another sheet of information, dealing with requirements for speech certification, specifies

"A minimum of thirty semester hours to include the following:

1. Fundamentals of public speaking 3 semester hours
2. Debate 3 semester hours
3. Oral interpretation 3 semester hours
4. Broadcasting 3 semester hours
5. Theatre
   a. Directing 3 semester hours
   b. Production 3 semester hours" 72

From the data received, several assumptions can be made:

1. Theatre is not recognized as a separate discipline in Louisiana.
2. Theatre instruction is covered under the area of Speech.
3. To be certified as a speech (and therefore theatre) instructor, one must possess thirty semester hours in the broad field of speech.

To be certified as a classroom theatre instructor in Louisiana, one must meet speech certification requirements and general certification requirements as established by the state.

Maine

The Department of Educational and Cultural Services of the state of Maine sent the investigator a leaflet titled "Certification Questions and Answers," an "Application for Certification" and a copied sheet of information titled "Secondary Teacher."

Secondary certification in Maine requires graduation from a four-year baccalaureate program approved for the preparation of secondary school teachers. Preparation should include liberal arts courses, professional studies, and one major teaching subject (thirty semester hours) plus one minor teaching subject (eighteen hours) in subjects commonly taught in secondary schools or a total of fifty hours in an area of specialization such as English or science. 73

The major and minor teaching subjects, or the specialization area, shall be named on the certificate. Nevertheless, the certificate is a "blanket" credential
legally authorizing the teaching of any general (academic) subject. It is expected, however, that, except for emergencies, teachers will be assigned to subjects where they have competence.  

In order to gain additional information, a phone call was made to the Maine Department of Educational and Cultural Services. According to Mr. Hamblin, director of the Certification Division, theatre instruction is categorized under the area of English. Requirements for a fifty semester hour area of specialization include twenty-four hours in language, composition, and literature. Of the remaining twenty-six hours, eighteen may be in speech, and a maximum of twelve may be in dramatics/theatre. A major in English, in addition to requiring coursework in language, composition, and literature, allows up to six hours in speech and six hours in theatre. A minor in English requires eighteen hours, but has no specific course requirements.

In order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Maine one must meet general education requirements leading to a minor, major, or specialization in English. No coursework in theatre is required.

Maryland

The Maryland State Department of Education answered the letter of inquiry by sending two double-sided
pages of general certification information. They also enclosed a sheet containing names and addresses of the officials serving each of the county boards of education and a map of Maryland.

A Standard Professional Secondary School Teacher's Certificate in academic subjects shall be issued to a teacher who meets the following requirements:

a. bachelor's degree from an accredited institution,

b. at least eighteen semester hours in a planned program of professional education,

c. required amount of coursework in the chosen field of study (i.e. social studies--thirty-six semester hours, English--twenty-four semester hours). 76

It is interesting to note that according to "Maryland Requirements for Certificates," coursework in drama, speech, and theatre cannot be used to fulfill the twenty-four semester hour minimum in English. 77

As stated, in order to be certified in one of the basic subject areas, such as English or history, one must meet specific credit hour requirements in that field. To be certified in subject areas that are not specifically enumerated, Maryland requires that a teacher shall have at least twenty-four semester hours. Since the area of theatre is not specifically mentioned elsewhere, it falls
into the category of "other" and thus certification requires completion of twenty-four semester hours. 78

In order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Maryland, one must complete twenty-four semester hours of theatre coursework, in addition to the general education requirements.

Massachusetts

The Department of Education of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts sent the investigator an application for teacher certification, including instructions for completing it, and a copy of "Certification of Public School Professional Personnel."

Certification of public school professional personnel is contingent upon several requirements which include proof of possession of a bachelor's degree or graduation from a four-year normal school approved by the Board of Education, and proof that applicant's preparation included the minimum number of semester hours of undergraduate credit in courses approved for the certificate requested. 79

According to "Certification of Public School Professional Personnel," secondary teachers may be certified for general subject fields or in special subjects. 80

Theatre is not listed with the other fields and codes of certification, 81 so it is assumed to be covered
under the special subject field of speech (which was the most closely related field to be listed).

The following requirements must be met by all Special Subjects Teachers:

a. twelve semester hours in education, at least two of which must be in supervised student teaching at the appropriate grade levels.

b. eighteen semester hours in the special subject field. 82

Since no further relevant information was provided in the literature received from Massachusetts, it is assumed that to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Massachusetts, one must fulfill general certification requirements and complete eighteen semester hours of coursework in the field of speech.

**Michigan**

A brochure titled "Facts About Michigan Teacher Certification" and an application for a Michigan Provisional Certificate were sent to the investigator by the Michigan Department of Education.

To obtain a secondary Provisional (initial) Certificate in Michigan, one must hold an approved bachelor's degree and have completed an approved teacher education program. 83 In Michigan, the secondary level certificate, whether a Provisional or Continuing Certificate, is valid
for teaching majors and minors in grades 9 through 12. Since no further information was provided in the material received from the Michigan Department of Education, additional sources were examined.

_A Manual on Standards Affecting School Personnel in the United States_ cites Michigan as recognizing thirty semester hours as a "Speech Arts" major and twenty semester hours as a "Speech Arts" minor. Michigan teachers may teach full time in minor fields.

A recent academic catalog from The University of Michigan was also consulted. It states that students intending to qualify for teaching in the secondary schools of Michigan must earn a bachelor's degree, complete a teaching major and a teaching minor and complete at least twenty semester hours in professional education courses.

A list of major and minor fields of study, indicating subject areas commonly taught in Michigan high schools, is printed in the catalog and does not include theatre.

A closer examination of credit hour requirements in recognized fields of study revealed that theatre is categorized under speech. A major in speech requires a minimum of thirty-two semester hours following one of two programs:

_A. General Program:_

1. Three speech courses.
2. Electives within area of specialization (twelve-thirteen hours).

3. Electives of one course from each of at least three of the following areas: communication, oral interpretation, theatre, radio-TV-film, pathology, and audiology.

B. Specialized Program (theatre only):

1. Two speech courses.

2. Electives with area of specialization (twenty-one hours).

3. Related electives.

A minor in speech consists of twenty hours of speech including

A. Basic speech course.

B. Eleven hours in one area of specialization.

C. Six hours in a second area.

To be certified as a classroom theatre instructor in the state of Michigan, one must possess, at minimum, a minor in speech. This requires twenty semester hours of credit in speech coursework. In addition, the candidate must meet general requirements for certification.

**Minnesota**

A "Response to Letter or Application," an "Original Application," and a booklet titled "Personnel
Licensing Handbook" were sent to the investigator by the
Minnesota State Department of Education.

As recorded on page 1 of the booklet,

Licenses for education personnel in Minnesota are granted to persons who satisfactorily complete approved programs leading to licensure which are offered by colleges and universities. All persons who request licenses must be recommended for licensure by the college or university in which the approved program is completed. The Department of Education issues licenses based upon the college or university recommendation.

This teacher preparation program also includes the minimum programs of preparation in the teaching fields prescribed in Minnesota State Agency Rules (i.e. "Speech and Theatre Arts" listed below) and eighteen semester hours in professional education, of which at least four semester hours must be in student teaching.

According to Minnesota rules for licensing professional education personnel:

The teacher's license shall qualify the holder thereof to teach in any secondary school those subjects or fields in which a college major has been completed, or where the assignment is for one-half time or less during the school day, those subjects or fields in which either a college major or minor has been completed.

It should be noted that secondary school teachers who teach with minor preparation are authorized to teach one-half time or less of their academic teaching load in the minor field for a period of only seven years. Any secondary school teacher initially licensed to teach after
July 1, 1978, with minor preparation in art, music, business education, speech, speech and theatre-arts, journalism, or theatre arts must acquire the minimum established by the state board of teaching for major preparation within seven years.92

Under the booklet section labeled "5 MCAR 3.082 TEACHERS OF SPEECH AND THEATRE ARTS," minimum preparation requirements are listed as follows:

"A. Major licensing requirements. The prospective teacher of speech and theatre arts applying for major licensure shall have not less than . . . thirty semester or equivalent hours in any one of three patterns:

1. Speech-theatre arts major.
   a. A minimum of . . . eighteen semester or equivalent hours in areas of study and competence described in the general speech-theatre core: (These are areas of competence not courses.)

"General Speech-Theatre Arts Core

(1) Theory and practice in theatre arts (e.g., acting, directing, history and criticism, and technical theatre).

(2) Theory and practice in advanced public speaking.

(3) Speech science (e.g., phonetics, pathology, audiology).

(4) Theory and practice in deliberative processes (e.g., argumentation, discussion).

(5) Theory and practice in oral interpretation of literature.

(6) Rhetoric and communication (e.g., introduction to rhetorical theory, history and criticism of public address, communication theory, language and human behavior).

(7) Theory and appreciation of the popular arts (e.g., radio, film, television).
"(8) Participation in at least two activities: college forensics, interpretation, theatre activities, or broadcasting.

"b. A minimum of 12 semester or equivalent hours of advanced or additional work elected from the areas of study listed in the general speech-theatre arts core.

"2. Speech major.

"a. A minimum of 18 semester or equivalent hours in areas of study and competence described in the general speech core.

"3. Theatre-arts major.

"a. A minimum of 18 semester or equivalent hours in areas of study and competence described in the general theatre-arts core:

"General Theatre-Arts Core

"(1) Theory and practice in theatre arts (acting, directing, technical theatre).

"(2) History and criticism of theatre.

"(3) Speech science (e.g., phonetics, voice and diction).

"(4) Theory and practice in oral interpretation.

"(5) Theory and appreciation in the popular arts (e.g., radio, film, television).

"(6) Participation in interpretation and/or theatre activities.

"b. A minimum of 12 semester or equivalent hours of advanced or additional study elected from the areas of study listed in the general theatre-arts core.

"B. Minor licensure requirements. For minor licensure, a prospective teacher shall have not less than 16 semester or equivalent hours, as prescribed in each minor.

"1. Speech-theatre arts minor: A minimum of 16 semester or equivalent hours in not less than seven of the eight areas of study and competence described in the general speech-theatre arts core.

"2. Speech minor: A minimum of 16 semester or equivalent hours.
"3. Theatre-arts minor: A minimum of . . . 16 semester or equivalent hours in not less than five of the six areas of study and competence described in the general theatre-arts core . . . "

In order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Minnesota one must, at minimum, fulfill requirements for a minor in either speech-theatre arts or in theatre-arts. Possession of a minor allows one to teach one-half time or less in the minor field. However, the minor preparation is adequate only until July 1, 1985, after which time requirements for a major must be fulfilled.

For purposes of this study, then, it is determined that to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Minnesota, one must fulfill requirements for a major in either speech-theatre arts or in theatre-arts, in addition to being recommended by an approved teacher education program.

Mississippi

A letter and printed copies of the general, professional, and specialized coursework requirements for a Class A certificate in "Speech Communications" were provided by Carolyn Nelson, Analyst, Teacher Certification, State of Mississippi.

A sheet of information titled "General Education Requirements for Secondary Teachers and Special Subject Teachers" stated that all standard certificates issued to
teachers on the secondary level require the completion of forty-eight semester hours of general education coursework.  

The second sheet of information, a continuation of the first, explained the requirements one must meet in order to hold a Class A certificate. This certificate authorizes one to teach in grades 7-12 according to endorsement and has tenure (validity) for five years. A candidate must hold a bachelor's degree from an approved senior college, meet general education requirements as listed above, complete twenty-one semester hours of professional education coursework and fulfill requirements in specialized education (area of endorsement).

No information was given concerning requirements for subsequent certificates or for renewal of the Class A certificate.

Mrs. Nelson stated that Mississippi does not have a separate theatre certificate. Rather, theatre is included in Mississippi's certification in "Speech Communication."  

The third page of information, titled "B-14. Speech Communication," explained the requirements for being endorsed in "Speech Communications." The specialized education coursework includes:

- Public Speaking 3 semester hours
- Interpersonal Communication 3 semester hours
Directing for Theatre 3 semester hours
Technical Theatre Production 3 semester hours
Radio and Television Production 3 semester hours
History of the Mass Media 3 semester hours
Oral Interpretation 3 semester hours
Discussion or Debate 3 semester hours
Managing the Forensic Program, 3 semester hours
Managing the Broadcast Program,
or Managing the Theatre Program
Elective 3 semester hours
Total 30 semester hours

This thirty hour requirement must be met in addition to the general requirements for certification as previously explained. Possession of this endorsement to the Class A certificate authorizes one to teach speech communication in grades 7-12 and is valid for five years.

To be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Mississippi, one must complete thirty semester hours of specialized education in the area of "Speech Communication," in addition to completing general and professional education requirements.

Missouri

In response to the investigator's letter of request, Rachel A. Schmitz, Supervisor of Teacher Education and Certification for the state of Missouri, sent a letter and a pamphlet titled "Requirements for Missouri Secondary and Extended Secondary Teacher's Certificates."

According to the pamphlet, the general requirements for secondary certification are
"A. A baccalaureate degree from a college or university accredited for teacher education by a regional accrediting association such as North Central Association.

"B. Completion of the appropriate college credits for certification in the subjects or fields in which the teacher wishes to teach.

"C. Completion of at least 40 semester hours of General Education including credits from at least three of the following fields: English, Social Studies, Natural Science, Foreign Language, Mathematics, and Humanities.

"D. Must have recommendation of designated official for teacher education in the college or university."

A minimum of eighteen semester hours in professional education courses fulfills the professional requirements for certification.

Ms. Schmitz mentioned that Missouri does not offer separate standards for speech and theatre but rather combines them in one certificate.

"Requirements for Certificates" lists the requirements for certification in the field of "Speech and Theatre." Thirty semester hours must be completed so that one may be authorized to teach speech and theatre to grades 7-12. Coursework includes twelve hours of speech (at least two in debate), twelve hours of theatre, and six hours of electives (speech, theatre, literature, and/or mass communications).

In order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Missouri, one must complete thirty semester
hours in the field of "Speech and Theatre," in addition to meeting general certification requirements.

Montana

The investigator received a letter and a booklet titled "Questions and Answers on Certification of Montana Teachers, School Administrators and Specialists" from John Voorhis, Director of Teacher Education and Certification for the state of Montana.

The booklet stated that the general requirements for the Montana Standard Secondary Certificate are a bachelor's degree, the completion of an approved secondary teacher education program from an accredited teacher training institution, and possession of an approved major of forty semester hours in a single field of specialization or the combination of a major (thirty semester hours) and a minor (twenty semester hours). 102

Major and minor fields are "approved" if they are recognized by the Montana Board of Public Education. 103 The list of those subject fields which are approved for certification is found in the "Questions and Answers" booklet. The list includes "Dramatics." 104

An examination of the above information leads to the assumption that if "Dramatics" is the only endorsement sought, the candidate must possess a major of forty hours. If the candidate opts for certification in multiple fields,
"Dramatics" may be a major of thirty hours or it may be a minor of twenty hours (as long as another major is held).

A certified classroom theatre instructor in the state of Montana must meet general requirements and have their teaching certificate endorsed in the field of "Dramatics" by completing a major or minor in dramatics.

Nebraska

A booklet titled "Rules for the Issuance of Certificates and Permits to Teach, Counsel, Supervise and Administer in Nebraska Schools" and a sheet of information titled "Speech Communication and Theatre" were furnished by the Nebraska Department of Education.

According to Section 21-(39) of "Rules for the Issuance of Certificates:"

"The initial issuance requirement for the Pre-Standard Teaching Certificate is a recommendation for the issuance of a Pre-Standard Teaching Certificate signed by an authorized official of a standard institution of higher education, who certifies:

"(a) That the applicant has a baccalaureate degree and has satisfactorily completed the regular approved program of this institution for the preparation of teachers . . .

"(b) The grade level(s), subject(s), subject field(s), and area(s) of endorsement for which said applicant was specifically prepared to teach; and

"(c) That the applicant has met all standards of this institution which are normally required for full recommendation for teaching, such as scholarship, moral character, mental and physical health . . ."
The Nebraska subject endorsement relevant to theatre instruction is "Speech Communication and Theatre."

According to "Speech Communication and Theatre,"

The curriculum for the preparation of Speech Communication and Theatre teachers should be designed so that prospective teachers develop personal communication skills and theatre performance competencies and attitudes in order to become a facilitator of learning, a model of communication competencies and a resource person for facilitating communication in educational and community settings.

To facilitate achievement of these competencies, students in "Speech Communication and Theatre" are expected to take thirty hours in the following areas: interpersonal communication, one-to-many communication, small group communication, debate, communication and rhetorical theory, oral reading, acting, technical theatre, directing the play, radio-television, and history of the theatre.

To be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Nebraska, one must possess the subject endorsement for "Speech Communication and Theatre." This endorsement requires completion of thirty semester hours in related coursework. General certification requirements must also be met.

Nevada

A letter, a pamphlet titled "Nevada Certification Regulations," and a copy of "Secondary Certificates and Endorsements" were provided by the Nevada Department of
Education. "Secondary Certification and Endorsements," two sheets duplicated from Nevada Education By-Laws, was the only source containing information relevant to the current study.

To receive a secondary certificate in Nevada a person must have a bachelor's degree and complete an approved program of preparation for teaching in the secondary grades.108

Nevada endorses secondary teaching certificates in recognized teaching fields. The endorsement is based upon an applicant's field of specialization or concentration, usually designated as a major, minor, or area of concentration.109

Recognized majors and minors are of two categories: comprehensive and single. The recognized list of comprehensive majors (thirty-six semester hours) and minors (twenty-four semester hours) includes "Speech-Drama." Possible single-subject majors (thirty semester hours) and minors (sixteen semester hours) include "Dramatic Arts."110

Because the information sent by the Nevada Department of Education was sketchy, A Manual of Standards Affecting School Personnel in the United States was consulted. According to this resource, Nevada requires
a teacher to possess a major in the subject which they teach full-time or for a major portion of the day.\textsuperscript{111}

It is assumed therefore, that a certified classroom theatre instructor in Nevada, possesses a major in either "Speech-Drama" or "Dramatic Arts," in addition to fulfilling general requirements for obtaining a certificate.

**New Hampshire**

Six sheets of information, covering such topics as "How to Become a Certified Educator in New Hampshire" and "Superintendents of Schools" were provided by the New Hampshire Department of Education.

According to "Certification Standards for Educational Personnel in New Hampshire," the means for gaining certification in New Hampshire is through completion of a program of professional preparation in education (1) approved by the New Hampshire State Board of Education (applicable to institutions in New Hampshire), or (2) offered by a state with whom New Hampshire has entered the Interstate Certification Compact, or, (3) in other states, that has been approved by the New Hampshire State Department of Education as providing equivalency of training and experience.\textsuperscript{112}
Under all of these alternatives, teachers, education specialists, and administrators receive their specific certification by

1. Successful completion of the approved program,
2. the written recommendation by the designated official of the institution, and
3. application to the New Hampshire Department of Education, Office of Teacher Education and Professional Standards.\textsuperscript{113}

This was basically the only relevant information provided in the materials sent by the New Hampshire Department of Education. For this reason, the investigator sent an additional letter of request to the Department of Education.

Jill Gordon, Teacher Certification Specialist, Office of Teacher Education and Professional Standards, responded by sending a letter and duplicated copies of all sheets of information which the Department of Education had sent earlier.

The letter clarified the data contained in the sheets of information. Ms. Gordon reaffirmed the fact that all teachers in New Hampshire are certified under one of the alternatives of Section III (as listed above).\textsuperscript{114}

Ms. Gordon continued: "If you completed an approved program in Theatre Education you would be eligible under
alternative #2 and would be certified in New Hampshire as a teacher of Speech and Drama (code 0506).\footnote{115} This statement must be considered in light of the fact that it is addressed to the investigator, who resides in a state that is a member of the Interstate Certification Compact.

The code number to which Ms. Gordon refers is found on a sheet of information titled "State of New Hampshire Certified Personnel Record and Application for Certification," which contains several code lists recognized by the state of New Hampshire. The list of recognized teacher endorsement areas includes "Speech and Drama."\footnote{116}

From the information provided by the New Hampshire Department of Education, the following conclusions can be made:

1. All applicants for certification in New Hampshire must complete a program in teacher education which has, in some way, been approved by the New Hampshire Department of Education.

2. New Hampshire acknowledges specific subject-field preparation administered by approved institutions of higher learning.

3. New Hampshire will grant subject-field endorsements to applicants who have completed approved programs in coursework related to that subject field.
4. Applicants must complete an approved program of subject-field preparation in order to be certified to teach in that field.

In order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in New Hampshire, one must complete an approved program in teacher education and in speech and drama, leading to an endorsement in "Speech and Drama."

New Jersey

The New Jersey Department of Education replied to the investigator by sending a letter, a duplicated copy of information concerning speech arts and dramatics, a pamphlet titled "To Prepare for a Certificate," and an "Application for Certification."

The letter, by Sadie Sumfest, Examiner for the Bureau of Teacher Education and Certification for the state of New Jersey, informed the investigator that New Jersey does not certify specifically for secondary education but instead allows the holder of a subject field certificate to teach in that field in both elementary and secondary grades.

The information states that the "Teacher of Speech Arts and Dramatics" endorsement authorizes the holder to teach speech arts and dramatics in all public schools. Requirements for this endorsement include
I. A bachelor's degree from an accredited or approved institution.

II. Successful completion of a program of college studies including:

1. A well-rounded General Education of forty-five semester hour credits.

2. Professional Education of fifteen semester-hour credits.

3. Student Teaching.

4. Specialization.

   a. Twenty-four semester-hour credits in speech arts and dramatics in areas such as:
      (1) Speech fundamentals
      (2) Public speaking
      (3) Oral Interpretation
      (4) Dramatics/theatre

5. Reading (six credits).

6. Coursework in Physiology and Hygiene.

A certified classroom theatre instructor in New Jersey must complete general certification requirements and specific certification requirements leading to an endorsement in "Speech Arts and Dramatics."

New Mexico

The New Mexico Department of Education furnished the investigator with an "Application for a New Mexico..."
According to new standards, effective July 1, 1982, the following requirements must be met in order to obtain a Standard Secondary Certificate:

1. Bachelor's degree from a college or university regionally accredited or approved by the State Board of Education.

2. Recommendation of the college where the degree was granted.

3. Completion of forty-eight semester hours in general education, eighteen semester hours in professional education, and requirements in subject matter field(s).

New Mexico education standards also specify that:

"There are three plans under which an applicant can meet requirements for endorsements in teaching fields:

"Plan I
"One teaching field 24 semester hours
"Second teaching field 24 semester hours

"Plan II
"One composite or single teaching field 36 semester hours
"Second teaching field 24 semester hours

"Plan III
"One composite teaching field 54 semester hours.

No information was provided concerning specific teaching fields recognized by New Mexico. However, the preparing institution may have some responsibility in defining teaching fields. The section "Recommendation by
Out-of-State Institution" on the back of the certification application includes this statement: "The applicant has completed a planned teacher education program at this institution approved by the designated authority of this state and is recommended as having adequate teaching competencies in the following areas of endorsement: __________________________."121

To determine the role of the institution, a recent bulletin of the University of New Mexico was consulted. The university's list of acceptable major or minor concentrations includes "Theatre Arts." A minimum of twenty-four semester hours is required for a minor.122 A major in theatre education requires forty-seven hours of theatre coursework.123

To be a certified classroom theatre instructor in New Mexico, one must complete at least twenty-four semester hours in "Theatre Arts" and fulfill requirements for one of the previously noted plans of study. General certification requirements must also be met.

New York

A standard cover letter and two duplicated pages of certification regulations were provided by the New York State Education Department.
One sheet of information, sub-titled "80.17 Certificates valid for teaching a special subject," listed the requirements for a New York Provisional Certificate.

"The candidate shall have completed a four-year program of collegiate preparation including the baccalaureate degree at a regionally accredited higher institution or by a higher institution approved by the New York State Education Department. The collegiate study shall include:

"(1) Twelve semester hours in the professional study of education and a college supervised student teaching experience.

"(2) Thirty-six semester hours in appropriate technical courses in the subject for which the certificate is issued."124

This source went on to say that a Permanent Certificate can be earned upon completion of two years of school experience as a special subject(s) teacher and a master's degree functionally related to the field of teaching service.125

The New York State Education Department differentiates between academic and special subjects. The other sheet of information sent to the investigator was sub-titled "80.16 Certificates valid for teaching an academic subject," and dealt only with English, foreign language, mathematics, social studies, and science. Semester hour requirements varied from twenty-four to thirty-six semester hours. General preparation for a provisional certificate is the same as already noted.126

If, indeed, theatre is recognized as a special subject (and there is no reason to assume otherwise), the
endorsement requires completion of thirty-six semester hours in the field. This assumption was verified by examining A Manual of Standards Affecting School Personnel in the United States. In the chart titled "Basic and Minimum Requirements for Authorization to Teach a Special Field or Subject," New York lists thirty-six semester hours across the board, under such headings as art, music, speech arts, and agriculture. 127

It is assumed, therefore, that in order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in New York, one must possess thirty-six semester credits of theatre coursework in addition to the general coursework necessary to obtain both a baccalaureate degree and provisional certification.

North Carolina

Elizabeth W. Adcock, Certification Specialist for the State of North Carolina, sent the investigator a letter and a copy of "North Carolina Reciprocity Plans."

Mrs. Adcock stated that North Carolina follows the concept of reciprocity in the certification of individuals completing teacher education programs out-of-state. Such individuals must follow the program of preparation approved by the state in which they are completing their education. 128
Because the information sent by Mrs. Adcock dealt only with reciprocity, the investigator sent an additional letter of request on January 26, 1982. In her second reply, Mrs. Adcock sent an additional copy of "North Carolina Reciprocity Plans," a pamphlet titled "Approved Programs in North Carolina Colleges and Universities Leading to Certification in Education," and a letter. According to Mrs. Adcock,

Certification in North Carolina is based on the completion of an approved teacher education program. If you are to be certified in this State, it will be necessary for you to become associated with an "approved program" teacher training institution. The institution must make an evaluation of your competencies, outline the areas of study needed, and recommend you to the State for certification when you have completed their program. If you attend an institution outside of North Carolina, you must follow the program leading to full certification in that state and apply for a reciprocal certificate in this State.

Although the pamphlet "Approved Programs" dealt only with the offerings of North Carolina colleges and universities, it did provide insight to the subject fields recognized by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. Among the areas of study listed in the pamphlet, under the sub-heading "Special Subjects," is "Theatre Arts."

It is assumed from the information received that a certified classroom theatre instructor in North Carolina must complete a program in theatre arts which is approved,
in some manner, by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. North Carolina will grant teacher certification to any applicant who has completed an approved teacher education program.

North Dakota

The North Dakota Department of Public Instruction sent the investigator an application for a Professional Certificate and a small eight-page booklet entitled "Guidelines and Regulations for North Dakota Educator's Professional Certificate."

According to this booklet, the North Dakota Educator's Professional Certificate is issued to those who hold a Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college or university approved as a teacher training institution. This degree must include twenty semester hours in education. 131

A Manual on Standards Affecting School Personnel in the United States, consulted to supplement the information provided by the Department of Public Instruction, states that the North Dakota high school certificate is of the blanket type for academic fields; authorized teaching fields are not endorsed on the certificate. Rather, majors and minors possessed by the holder are listed on the certificate. 132
Because this information was inadequate, a second letter, dated December 18, 1981, was sent to the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction. This second letter was answered by sending the investigator another copy of the "Guidelines and Regulations for North Dakota Educator's Professional Certificate."

Since the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction was not very helpful, other sources were examined. Another reading of Manual on Standards revealed that North Dakota has established that a certain level of education is necessary in the field of study in which teacher will teach full-time or for a major fraction of the day. The requirement, for all subject areas recognized by North Dakota, is the possession of a major. The minimum requirements for teaching a subject part-time, or for a minor portion of the day, vary from subject area to subject area. The minimum requirements in "Speech Arts" is five credits.¹³³

On the back of the application form for the "North Dakota Educator's Professional Certificate" is a list of the major and minor fields recognized by North Dakota. Included on the list, under the broad heading of English, are "Drama," (as literature), "Speech and Drama," "Theatre Arts," and "Speech Communication and Theatre Arts."¹³⁴
To clarify this printed information, a phone call was made to the Certification Office of the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction. An unidentified employee stated that endorsement in the majors recognized by North Dakota is based on institutional recommendation. The number of credits of theatre coursework one must complete is, therefore, determined not by the state but by each institution.135

In order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in North Dakota (teaching theatre for a major portion of the day), one must possess a major in "Drama," "Speech and Drama," "Theatre Arts," or "Speech Communication and Theatre Arts," in addition to meeting general requirements cited above.

Ohio

The Department of Education of the State of Ohio furnished the investigator with the brochure "Laws and Regulations Governing Teacher Education and Certification" and a sheet of information titled "Reciprocity."

According to the brochure, the Ohio Provisional High School Teacher's Certificate will be issued to the holder of a bachelor's degree provided the pattern of education leading to the degree included twenty-one semester hours of professional education coursework and thirty semester hours of general education coursework.136
One of the comprehensive teaching fields recognized by the State of Ohio is called "Communications." Coursework, which must total sixty semester hours, is to be well-distributed over the areas of (1) advanced composition, English language and linguistics, and world literature; (2) speech and drama; (3) journalism; and (4) reading. This certificate is valid for teaching an integrated communications course and all of the component areas, which would include drama (theatre). 137

Ohio also grants certification in specific high school teaching fields. Although Ohio does not recognize theatre as one such field, theatre is included under the field of speech. To be certified in speech, one must complete thirty semester hours well distributed between:

"A. Fundamental processes; speech fundamentals; and electives in basic speech process (physics of sound, listening, phonetics, semantics, and linguistics)

"B. Theory and history of speech
"1. Communication media theory (communication, rhetorical, psychological, argumentation, and theatrical)
"2. Communication media history (public address, radio-television, and theatre)

"C. Forms of speech
"1. Oral interpretation
"2. Public address (platform speaking, discussion, and debate)
"3. Theatre (acting, play direction, and technical theatre)

"Suggested minimum distribution: 6, 10, 14 semester hours, respectively in areas A, B. and C. 138

Therefore, in order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Ohio, one must meet specific
requirements to obtain either the communications certification or the speech certification, in addition to meeting specified general requirements.

However, "Laws and Regulations" states that

A certificate issued by the State of Ohio for high school teaching fields is valid for teaching that subject or any subject listed as a required course in that area, in grades 7 through 12, inclusive, unless otherwise noted on the certificate or stated in the laws and regulations governing certification. A certificate may be issued in other teaching fields provided the applicant has completed a minimum of 20 semester hours of appropriate credit. (Teaching areas are not designated as majors or minors.)

Therefore, according to the above information, it is assumed that one might also be able to gain certification in theatre through the completion of twenty semester hours of theatre coursework. This would apply to those having primary certification in an area other than Communications or speech.

Oklahoma

The State Department of Education of Oklahoma supplied the investigator with a brochure titled "A Summary of Oklahoma Requirements for Teacher Certificates."

General requirements for teacher certification are that the applicant be a graduate of an accredited four-year college or university and hold the standard baccalaureate degree.
"A Summary of Oklahoma Requirements" goes on to say that

The State has adopted the approved program approach to certification and graduates of approved institutions within the State upon satisfactory completion of program and on receipt of a recommendation from their graduating institution are granted certification in their field. Graduates of institutions outside the State which are accredited and are approved as teacher preparatory institutions in their State are eligible for certification if coursework meets minimum essentials for approved certificate programs in Oklahoma. . . . All certificates are endorsed with an approval credential which is a part of the certificate and lists the subject and areas in which the teacher is authorized to teach. The approval credential validity is co-terminus with the certificate.141

In Oklahoma, the Standard Certificate, secondary level, authorizes the holder to teach those subjects indicated on the approval credential part of the certificate. Requirements for the Standard Certificate are

General Education 50 semester hours
Professional Education 21 semester hours
Specialized Education (teaching major) varies with field142

The list of subject areas includes both English and speech and, although dramatics was mentioned as a supporting area under English, no indication was given of the certification needed for theatre instruction. For this reason a second letter was sent to the Oklahoma Department of Education. Specific questions about theatre certification were asked.
Harley Day, Administrator, Accreditation Section, responded to the request with a lengthy letter. He wrote

We have a Language Arts certification and also a certificate for Speech/Drama. Either certificate with a teaching credential in Speech/Drama would be legal in Oklahoma. . . . Under the Language Arts certificate the requirements as outlined in the information previously mailed to you would have to be met. Standard certificate—50 semester hours in general education, 21 semester hours of professional education and 32 semester hours of specialized education (Language Arts). With 6 hours of Speech and Drama, you would receive a credential in Speech/Drama. For a standard Speech certificate, the same number of hours in general education, 21 semester hours of professional be required with 26 semester hours of Speech/Drama/Theatre. The standard or provisional certificate would require that you meet your college approved program for the specific area. This may require more hours than I have specified, however, it could not be less hours.

The letter also states that, according to a Legislative Law effective February 2, 1982, prospective teachers must take competency tests in all areas to be licensed in Oklahoma. 

A certified classroom theatre instructor in Oklahoma must meet general requirements for teacher certification, complete general and professional requirements for the Standard Certificate, and complete competency testing. Theatre instructors must also have either a "Speech/Drama" credential on their "Language Arts" certification or must possess the "Speech/Drama" certificate.
Oregon

The Oregon Teacher Standards and Practices Commission sent the investigator the following information:

1. booklet titled "Discrimination and the Oregon Educator"

2. booklet titled "Teacher Certification in Oregon"

3. "Application for Certificate Authorizing Public School Service Form C-1" and instructions for applying for said certificate

4. copy of "Oregon Administrative Rules" concerning basic teaching certificate requirements.

According to "Oregon Administrative Rules," a Basic Teaching Certificate shall be issued to an applicant who meets the following requirements:

"a. Has a bachelor's degree from an approved teacher education institution;
b. Has completed an approved teacher education program;
c. Has been recommended for certification by an approved teacher education institution as having the academic preparation and personal qualities essential to serve as a teacher;
d. Is eligible for a subject matter or special education endorsement; and
e. Unless otherwise indicated by subject matter or special education requirements, is eligible for a basic elementary or secondary endorsement; and
f. Presents evidence of recent educational experience."

The basic secondary endorsement requires completion of an approved teacher education program including
1. Thirty quarter hours of secondary teacher education preparation.

2. Basic subject matter endorsement requirements.

3. Preparation in general studies.\textsuperscript{147}

Included in the list of basic subject matter endorsement is "Basic Drama." This is a combined endorsement which means it can be offered only in combination with another related endorsement field.\textsuperscript{148} The requirements for this endorsement are twenty-four quarter hours in drama including acting, directing and technical theatre.\textsuperscript{149}

To be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Oregon, one must meet general certification requirements, as noted above, and hold endorsements in both "Basic Drama" and in another related field.

\underline{Pennsylvania}

Sheets of information titled "Program Approval Standards--Undergraduate and Graduate Programs," "Communication 7-12," and "English 7-12" were provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Pennsylvania has set up a list of General Standards which are applicable to all programs designed to prepare professional personnel. Each program must satisfy these standards in order to receive endorsement by the Secretary of Education. These standards also include role
competencies at which individual certification candidates must demonstrate proficiency.\textsuperscript{150}

The information on communication was duplicated from a larger source, which had not been credited. The role of communication teacher is given, along with standards which must be fulfilled prior to certification in the field of communication. Theatre is one of the areas of study included under the broader category of communication.\textsuperscript{151}

However, this information was not adequate to answer all of the investigator's initial questions about theatre certification. Therefore an additional letter of request was sent.

Wallace Maurer, Bureau Administrator, Bureau of Certification, Pennsylvania Department of Education, promptly answered with a letter in which he said

We have no certificate for theatre in Pennsylvania. We have no curriculum provision for theatre applicable to the mandated programs of instruction in approved elementary and secondary schools of this state.\textsuperscript{152}

He continued by explaining that under Pennsylvania State Board of Education curriculum regulations, drama is considered to be communications study (as referred to above), while choreography is allocated to physical education, and design to art education.\textsuperscript{153} For purposes of this current study, only the area of theatre which is included
in the communications endorsement (that being drama) will be considered.

According to Mr. Maurer's letter, teacher education programs are approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Education in light of competency-based criteria. Programs are not required, per se, to have a defined semester hour plan of study distributed among stipulated and prescribed course requirements. The preparing colleges are accountable for the verification of the operational competency of their graduates. 154

The following is the list of specific competency-based standards that the prospective communication (theatre) teacher must meet:

"STANDARD I

"Demonstration of:

"a. understanding of the nature and functions of the communication process.
"b. understanding of the processes of language learning and the development of language and communication skills.
"c. understanding of the historical development and present characteristics of the English language.
"d. understanding and appreciation of representative and appropriate works from a variety of literatures.
"e. ability to listen, observe and speak effectively, in informal and formal situations.
"f. ability to read critically and write effectively for varying purposes.
"g. ability to teach others to listen, observe, speak, read and write effectively for different purposes under varying circumstances.
"h. ability to assist students in integrating their communication skills and concepts with varities of aesthetic experiences.
"STANDARD II
"A specifically designed program of study in one or more of the following areas: linguistic science, speech, literature, writing, theatre or non-print media."

In order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Pennsylvania, one must complete a course of study in the field of communication and be recommended by the preparing institution as having fulfilled the competency-based standards in communications as recognized by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Requirements for general certification must also be met.

Rhode Island

The Department of Education of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations provided the investigator with a letter, three pages of duplicated materials concerning teacher certification, and an "Application for Teacher's Certificate."

Arthur R. Pontarelli, Commissioner, informed the investigator that Rhode Island currently does not have separate certification for theatre/drama teachers. Individuals teaching in this area must hold a Rhode Island Secondary English certificate. 156

A sheet titled "Requirements for the Secondary Certificate" listed the requirements for a Provisional Certificate. They include
1. Bachelor's Degree from an institution approved by the Board of Regents for Education.

2. Eighteen semester hours of education courses approved for the preparation of secondary school teacher, including not less than six semester hours of practice teaching.

3. Academic Requirements: English—eighteen semester hours.  

This Provisional Certificate is valid for six years and is not renewable. Holder must qualify for a Professional Certificate after having taught six years in Rhode Island under the Provisional Certificate. The Professional Certificate, valid for life, requires a Master's Degree or thirty-six semester hours of approved study beyond the Bachelor's Degree. The academic requirements are also tightened. Professional Certification in the field of English requires thirty semester hours of English coursework.

To be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Rhode Island, one must be certified in the field of English. Since theatre is not recognized as a separate discipline, initial certification requires eighteen semester hours in English, while thirty hours are necessary to obtain a Professional Certificate.
South Carolina

One page of information titled "Requirements for Speech and Drama" was furnished by the State Department of Education of South Carolina.

The following requirements must be met in order to be certified in "Speech and Drama:"

"A. Bachelor's Degree
"B. National Teacher Examinations--A minimum score of 510 on the Common Examinations.
"C. General Education--42-45 Semester Hours
"D. Professional Education--18 Semester Hours
"E. Speech and Drama--18 Semester Hours
   Speech Fundamental (Voice and Diction) 3
   Public Speaking 3
   Acting 3
   Dramatic Production 3
   Dramatic Literature or History of the Theatre 3
   Speech or Drama elective 3

In order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in South Carolina, one must fulfill both general and specific requirements for secondary certification with a "Speech and Drama" endorsement, as listed above.

South Dakota

Edwin Obernauer, the Director of Accreditation for the State of South Dakota, answered the investigator's request with a letter.

Mr. Obernauer explained that South Dakota teaching certificates may be issued to an applicant who has completed an approved secondary education teaching program at an accredited four-year college or university. To receive a
secondary certificate, the applicant must have a major in an academic or special field.\textsuperscript{160}

Possession of a speech major allows a candidate to obtain a language arts endorsement on a basic secondary certificate. The language arts endorsement will permit the holder to teach courses in speech and theatre.\textsuperscript{161} South Dakota does not certify teachers in the area of theatre as a separate discipline.

To be a certified classroom theatre instructor in South Dakota, one must possess a language arts endorsement on their secondary teacher certificate. Of course, one must also meet general certification requirements.

\textbf{Tennessee}

In addition to sending a certificate application and some duplicated information regarding certification, an Associate Director of Tennessee Teacher Education and Certification Services also forwarded the investigator's letter of inquiry to Tennessee's Chief of Management Services.

The information received from the Associate Director was used to determine general certification qualification. To become certified to teach in Tennessee one must

1. be recommended by the preparing institution (an institution which has an approved teacher education program)
2. have an official transcript supplied by the institution and

3. seek certification in an area of teaching for which Tennessee has provision for certification.162

Roy M. Roberts, Associate Director, mentioned in his letter that Tennessee does not have a certification endorsement for teaching theatre.163

The Chief of Management Services received the forwarded letter and answered, via letter, the questions raised by the investigator. He stated

Under the curriculum framework of the State Board of Education, drama is included under both the arts and language arts. At the present time, there is not a certificate endorsement in drama or theatre. For those teaching drama, certification in speech is required or another area under language arts with evidence of adequate coursework in drama or theatre work. However, I must point out that the local systems have the authority to establish employment standards that exceed the State Board of Education certification requirements.164

A certified classroom theatre instructor in Tennessee must be certified in either speech or an area of language arts and show evidence of adequate coursework in theatre. General certification requirements, as established by the state of Tennessee, must also be met.

Texas

The Texas Education Agency provided the investigator with a cover letter, an application form, and two leaflets titled "Memorandum."
The requirements for a Texas Provisional (initial) High School Certificate are as follows:

1. Bachelor's degree
2. Academic foundations—approximately sixty semester hours
3. Academic specialization—forty-eight semester hours
4. Professional development (education)—eighteen semester hours

The forty-eight hours of academic specialization coursework can be completed in one of three ways:

"Plan I—24 semester hours in each of two subjects taught in the Texas public schools (including 12 semester hours of advanced work in each subject) OR "Plan II—48 semester hours (including 18 semester hours of advanced work) in a composite field, such as social studies, general science, business, English language arts, music, or art (Credit must be completed in every area of a composite field.) OR "Plan III—48 semester hours in an academic, non-technical vocational field, such as agriculture .. ."

To determine which areas of teacher certification are recognized by the Texas Education Agency, the application form which the investigator received from the Agency was examined. Included in the list of Plan I (twenty-four semester hours) subject areas is "Drama." Included in the list of Plan II (forty-eight semester hour composite field) subject areas is "Speech-Drama."
Therefore, to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Texas, one may pursue specialization in "Drama" (in addition to another subject specialization) or in "Speech-Drama," a composite major. General requirements for the High School Certificate must also be met.

Utah

The Utah State Board of Education furnished the investigator with eight sheets of information covering a variety of subjects including "Secondary Teaching Endorsement," "Interstate Certificate Compact," and "School District Mailing List."

According to "Secondary Teaching Endorsement,"

"An applicant for the Secondary Teaching Endorsement to the Basic Professional Certificate must have:

"a. Earned a bachelor's degree and graduated from an approved program of teacher education for secondary school teachers.

"b. Concluded the general education programs prescribed by an approved institution of higher education . . .

"c. Completed an approved teaching major and minor, or composite major . . .

"d. Finished an approved program in professional education . . .

"e. Been recommended by an institution whose program of preparation has been approved by the State Board of Education."

The bulletin goes on to say that all majors and minors must be in subjects approved by the Utah State Board of Education and taught in Utah secondary schools. A teaching major includes not fewer than thirty semester (forty-five quarter) hours, at least half of which must be
in upper division work. A teaching minor includes not fewer than sixteen semester (twenty-four quarter) hours. A composite major includes not fewer than forty-six semester (sixty-nine quarter) hours distributed in two or more related subjects.169

Because the information received from the Utah Board of Education did not specifically address the issue of theatre certification, a second letter of request was sent by the investigator. When no reply had been received by the first of March, a Bulletin of the University of Utah, on microfiche, was consulted.

The Bulletin listed, in chart form, the composite programs, teaching majors, and teaching minors recognized by the Utah State Board of Education. The composite programs relevant to this study are in "English-Theatre" and in "Speech-Theatre," while both majors and minors are offered in "Theatre."170

Prospective teachers with a major in theatre teaching must also have a teaching minor in another approved field. Those with a theatre minor must also complete a teaching major from among those listed as approved by the Utah State Board of Education. The requirements for the composite major are essentially a combination of the requirements for a major in each of the component parts.171
In order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Utah, one must possess either a minor or a major in "Theatre" or a composite major in "English-Theatre" or "Speech-Theatre" (with stipulations as stated above) and must meet general certification requirements.

Vermont

The Vermont Department of Education provided a total of seven sheets of information, bearing titles of "Endorsement Codes Presently in Use," "Interstate Certification Project," "Guidelines for Adequate Preparation," "Digest of Certification Regulations," and "List of Superintendents of Schools."

The 1971 Vermont Certification Regulations state that to qualify for the Professional Probationary Certificate (for beginning teachers), one must graduate from, and be recommended by, an approved teacher preparation program. After successful completion of a professional probationary period, a Standard Certificate may be granted upon recommendation of school superintendent or other designated professional(s). 172

To be valid, all professional certificates must carry one or more endorsements indicating the subject (i.e. English), specialty, and the instructional level or range (i.e. Secondary 7-12). Applicants shall possess the following academic qualifications or the equivalent:
1. For the major subject or field to be taught, an academic concentration or major directly related to the teaching field and taken in an accredited college.

2. At least fifteen semester hours in any subject to be taught, even as a minor assignment.173

In order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Vermont, with theatre coursework as one's major teaching assignment, an academic concentration or major in theatre must be earned. To teach any coursework at all in the area of theatre, fifteen semester hours in the field must be attained.

General requirements for Vermont teacher certification must also be met.

Virginia

The Virginia Department of Education furnished the investigator with a booklet titled "Certification Regulations for Teachers and Qualifications for Administrative, Supervisor, and Related Instructional Positions" and a leaflet titled "Guidelines for Use of the National Teacher Examinations in Virginia."

According to "Certification Regulations" the general requirements for Virginia Teacher Certification are that

"I. Applicant must be a citizen of the United States, must be at least 18 years of age, and must possess good moral character.

"II. Applicant must have good health and no disqualifying physical or emotional handicaps . . .
"III. Applicant must possess a baccalaureate degree with a background of 48 semester hours in general education, including a minimum of:

"A. Humanities--12 semester hours . . .
"B. Social Science--12 semester hours . . .
"C. Laboratory Science and Mathematics--12 semester hours . . .
"D. Health and Physical Education--4 semester hours or equivalent."  

Prospective secondary teachers must also meet professional education requirements. The program shall consist of a minimum of fifteen semester hours of credit designed to develop competence in the following areas:

Area I: Human Growth and Development--three semester hours

Area II: Curriculum and Instructional Procedures--six semester hours

Area III: Student Teaching--six semester hours
The semester hours required in this area should be earned in the particular field of endorsement.  

By action of the Virginia General Assembly and the Board of Education, all prospective school teachers seeking initial certification after July 1, 1980, are required to take the National Teacher Examinations. Applicants will "present test scores in the 'Commons' and at least one subject ('Endorsement Area') examinations" (if an examination exists in the subject area for which they seek certification).
Endorsements authorizing an applicant to teach specific subjects in Virginia high schools are listed on both initial and professional certificates. An endorsement in "Dramatics" requires twelve semester hours of coursework and an endorsement in "English and Dramatics" requires thirty-six semester hours of coursework. This must include thirty semester hours in English (including English literature, language, and composition) and six semester hours in dramatics. 177

A certified classroom theatre instructor in Virginia must meet the general requirements for certification as noted above. One must also qualify for endorsement in either "Dramatics" or "English and Dramatics" through completion of specified semester hour credits.

Washington

The office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction of the State of Washington sent the investigator a seven page packet of information titled "To the Out-of-State Applicant for a Washington Teaching Certificate."

In general, all Washington teachers must have completed a minimum of a bachelor's degree through a regionally accredited institution and a state approved teacher education program. 178

According to "Generic Standards Required for the Initial Certificate," the teacher applicant must also
demonstrate proficiency at a number of generic standards. The applicant is not required to have taken a course in the areas mentioned, but must possess the knowledge and skills specified. An example of a generic standard is "The candidate can design and conduct instructional experiences." The generic standards form is completed by the school of education faculty, secondary school personnel, or supervising teacher.179

Because the material provided by the Washington Superintendent of Public Instruction was insufficient, a phone call was made to that office. Rather than respond via telephone, John Swaggert, the staff member receiving the call, promised to send information by mail. A three-page pamphlet, "Endorsements for Teaching Certificates," was received on March 6, 1982.

The pamphlet states that "An endorsement should be based on the following criteria:
1. A subject-matter endorsement must be a field which is commonly taught in the K-12 schools. There is a difference between a college/university major or minor and a subject-matter endorsement on a teaching certificate.
2. Requirements for endorsement in a particular subject-matter field should have basic commonality from institution to institution. Acceptable endorsements should be based upon State Board of Education (SBE) guidelines. In the absence of SBE guidelines, endorsements are based on NASDTEC Standards."180

"Endorsements for Teaching Certificates" contains a list of "appropriate teaching endorsements." Since theatre
is not among them, the most closely related endorsement area is "English Language Arts." If "English Language Arts" is the only teaching area endorsement, it requires:

"1. Academic major listed on transcript (or at least 30 semester hours in one academic major) in a field of English Language Arts. Examples of English Language Arts fields: Communications, Drama, English, Journalism, Language Arts, Speech.

"2. A minimum of 20 quarter hours in composition, language, and literature with at least some credits in each of these three areas. The 20 quarter hours may include credits from the academic major, if the academic major is either composition, language or literature.

"3. If this is not the only endorsement area, it requires: A minimum of 20 quarter hours in composition, language, and literature with at least some credits in each of these three areas."

A certified classroom theatre instructor in Washington must fulfill general certification requirements and meet the established credit-hour criteria for "English Language Arts" endorsement. The minimum requirement of twenty quarter hours (thirteen and one-third semester hours) does not include theatre coursework.

West Virginia

Robert E. Gabrys, Coordinator of Educational Personnel Certification, West Virginia Department of Education, answered the investigator's request with a letter.

Mr. Gabrys informed the investigator that standards and certification requirements for the state of West Virginia are on file in the ERIC (Educational Resources
Information Center) Clearinghouse on Teacher Education.

Mr. Gabrys listed the document titles and numbers and suggested that these would be available in a university library. 183

He added that West Virginia certification is based on completion of approved teacher education programs which require the attainment of specified competencies. The ERIC documents would state those competencies for each area in which certification is offered in West Virginia. 184

The investigator looked for these documents at the Hilton M. Briggs Library, South Dakota State University, but was unable to find them in bound form. With the assistance of library personnel, a copy of "Standards for the Approval of Teacher Education Programs in West Virginia" was ordered in microfiche form from the South Dakota State Library, Pierre, South Dakota.

According to "Standards for Approval" the teacher education program should contain three major components: general studies, professional education, and the teaching specialization(s). 185

General studies, required of all education majors, includes forty semester hours of coursework in humanities, sciences and math, social studies, and physical education and health. Twenty semester hours of coursework in professional education are also required. 186
From an examination of "Standards for Approval" it was determined that theatre is not recognized as a separate area of endorsement in West Virginia, but is, rather, included in the endorsement titled "Oral Communication." In addition to the requirements listed above, the "Oral Communication" major must complete a minimum of thirty semester hours coursework in that field.¹⁸⁷

The teacher education program must provide a prospective "Oral Communications" teacher with a broad background of knowledge about oral communication structures, practice in the development and use of instructional materials, and strategies for teaching oral communication.

"The teacher education program shall provide training and experience which will enable the teacher to:

1. Identify and demonstrate the basic elements of the oral communication process of sender-receiver-message-channel and feedback, utilizing the concept that persons, not words, have priority in the communication process.

2. Identify and comprehend the interrelationship of self-conceptualization and the oral communication process.

3. Identify and comprehend the relationship of oral communication theory to all interpersonal communication structures.

4. Identify and demonstrate the theory and practice of the interpersonal communications structures: informal/formal speaking, oral interpretation, dramatic arts, broadcasting/film.

5. Identify and demonstrate the theory and practice of dramatic arts skills in informal and formal drama.

6. Develop a program of interpersonal communication in radio, television, and film and interpret the affect it creates."¹⁸⁸
In order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in West Virginia, one must complete a program in "Oral Communication" which is approved by the West Virginia Department of Education. General requirements, as established by this department must also be met.

Wisconsin

In response to the investigator's request, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction sent a duplicated copy of "General Certification Requirements" and a "License Application" (which includes requirements and procedures for completing it).

According to the above information, Wisconsin teacher certification is granted on the basis of the completion of a college/university approved program and upon receipt of a recommendation for certification from the certifying officer at the preparing institution. An applicant must have satisfied all requirements of the preparing institution as well as those listed below in order to qualify for secondary certification in Wisconsin:

"A. a bachelor's degree, including a 34 semester credit major. (In addition to the major, licensure may be granted on the basis of 22 semester credit minors.) Majors and minors submitted for licensure must be recognized as majors and minors by the recommending institutions.

"B. a professional education sequence consisting of a minimum of 18 semester credits . . ."

Since this information was rather sketchy, A Manual on Standards Affecting School Personnel in the
United States was consulted. It provided the same data about semester hour requirements. Under the heading "Speech Arts," Wisconsin was listed as requiring a minimum of twenty-two credits (which it recognizes as a minor).\footnote{190}

The current bulletin of the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh was also consulted. The list "Certification Programs Available in Secondary Education," on page fifty-six of the bulletin, includes drama.\footnote{191} The bulletin goes on to say that a drama education major requires thirty-five credits of theatre coursework, plus at least six additional speech credits. A drama education minor requires twenty-two credits in theatre and at least three additional credits in speech.\footnote{192}

In order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Wisconsin, one must have a minimum of twenty-two semester credits in theatre coursework. This requirement is in addition to general certification requirements.

\textbf{Wyoming}

A sheet of information titled "General Information: Teacher Certification" and booklet titled "Rules and Regulations Governing Teacher Certification in the Wyoming Public Schools" were furnished the investigator by the Wyoming State Department of Education.

The sheet stated that "A basic requirement for certification is a bachelor's degree in an approved teacher
education program from an accredited college or university to include student teaching or an internship." More specific information about certification requirements was also given. The candidate for certification shall complete forty semester hours in general education, twenty-four semester hours in professional education, and provide evidence of specialized preparation in the areas for which the certificate is endorsed.

Section Nine of the booklet gives specific requirements for teaching certificate endorsements. In examining the list of endorsements recognized by Wyoming, the investigator discovered the category of "English/Language Arts." To receive this endorsement, the applicant shall satisfy all general regulations for eligibility and teacher certification and complete a minimum of thirty-six semester hours with work in each of these areas:

1. English and American literature
2. Composition
3. Language study (including such areas as grammar, etymology, history of the English language, semantics)
4. Teaching of reading in the secondary school

Under the heading of "English/Language Arts," the booklet lists four sub-divisions—"English," "Journalism," "Speech," and "Dramatic Arts." The requirement for "Dramatic Arts" is a minimum of twelve semester hours (of
dramatic arts coursework) within the requirement for the "English/Language Arts" endorsement. Since the requirements for all four sub-divisions include the statement "within the requirement for the 'English/Language Arts' endorsement," it is assumed that these subdivisions serve as areas of concentration within the "English/Language Arts" endorsement. It is unclear whether or not the designation "Dramatic Arts" appears on the certificate endorsement.

In order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor in Wyoming, one must satisfy all general regulations for eligibility and teacher certification and satisfy the requirements for dramatic arts within the "English/Language Arts" endorsement.

Analysis

General Certification Requirements

The process of determining the requirements for secondary classroom theatre instruction involved assessing the general certification requirements of each state. All states have established some criteria by which applicants for a secondary teaching certificate, of any type, are evaluated.

As is shown in Table 1, in all states the primary qualification for certification is the possession of a
baccalaureate degree from a college or university. In general, these teacher training institutions must be approved by either the state or some other accrediting agency as providing bona fide educational experience.

Nearly half of the states, twenty-four, also base their approval of the teacher applicant on a recommendation by the preparing institution. This recommendation may be merely the validation of graduation or it may refer to specific coursework or criteria satisfied by the applicant.

Some states, especially in recent years, have also adopted the policy of requiring prospective secondary teachers to successfully complete a competency examination. Ten states now require either the National Teacher Examination or some other form of competency testing.

Secondary school teacher applicants must also verify possession of a major or area of specialization in an approved subject area, according to the regulations of thirty-one states. Seven of these states also require that a minor field of study be held in addition to the major field.

Six states allow that a single subject area of high concentration (i.e. sixty semester hours) may be held in lieu of the major and minor requirements (see Table 1).

An examination of Table 1 reveals that there are differences between the states regarding their general
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<th>Institutional Recommendation</th>
<th>Competency Exam</th>
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1 Some states allow one to teach in a minor field provided that a major, in some other subject, is held.

2 Possession of three minor areas of specialization may be held in lieu of a major area.

3 Academic specialization requirements may be met by possessing 24 semester hours in each of two subjects.
certification requirements. Some states set very few stipulations, while others are quite specific.

Theatre Certification Requirements

Through the process of completing this investigation, it was also discovered that requirements for certification in secondary classroom theatre instruction are diverse and vary widely. In noting the requirements by each state in turn, it is difficult to see a consistent pattern. In fact, the allusion to "theatre certification" is almost a misnomer since theatre instruction is found under a variety of disciple headings and since theatre preparation in theatre itself may or may not be required.

The areas of study under which theatre is categorized in the various states bear many different titles. If each specific title used by one or more of the states had been treated separately, twenty-six categories would have resulted. Diversity in subject area labeling can illustrate the various titles chosen for the study of communication—"Speech Communication/Theatre," "Drama and Speech Communication," "Oral Communication," "Communication," "Speech Communications," and "Communications." The diversity of subject area titles necessitated, for purposes of this study, that they be grouped into more generic categories (see Table 2).
## TABLE 2

**DISCIPLINE UNDER WHICH THEATRE INSTRUCTION IS CLASSIFIED AND MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION**

(Coursework Given in Semester Hours)

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\textsuperscript{a} This data is not available for all states.

\textsuperscript{b} This data is available for some states.

\textsuperscript{c} This data is calculated for specific categories.

\textsuperscript{d} This data is notable for its distribution.

\textsuperscript{e} This data is exceptional compared to others.
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<td>*IR indicates that endorsement is based on the institutional recommendation that applicant has completed an approved program of study in the subject field.</td>
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<td>The Arizona Department of Education evaluates each transcript individually in order to determine whether applicant has sufficient coursework in both areas of the composite major.</td>
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<td>b</td>
<td>This requirement is for one who holds a single-subject teacher certification in an area other than English who wants to add Drama as a supplementary authorization.</td>
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<td>c</td>
<td>Georgia requirement of 45 quarter hours converted to semester hours by investigator.</td>
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<td>d</td>
<td>These states give blanket requirements for all subject areas, yet do not list any specific endorsements. The label &quot;Theatre&quot; is applied by the investigator.</td>
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<td>Oregon requirement of 24 quarter hours converted to semester hours by investigator.</td>
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<td>One course in the field of theatre is required for the Texas endorsement in Speech/Drama.</td>
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<td>Washington requirement of 20 quarter hours converted to semester hours by investigator. This requirement is applicable only if English Language Arts is not the only endorsement sought.</td>
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Eighteen of the states certify teachers in the specific subject area of "Drama" or "Theatre," while sixteen certify teachers in some type of "Speech/Drama" or "Speech/Theatre" composite major. The single subject endorsement of "Speech" is used by eleven states, while six states categorize theatre instruction under the subject field of English. Other subject areas heading utilized by the states include "Language Arts/English" (four states), "Language Arts" (three states), "English/Theatre" (two states), and "Language Arts" with "Speech/Drama" (one state).

Five states do not have a list of recognized endorsement areas, but rather have blanket requirements (number of course hours or possession of a major) for any subject area in which an applicant seeks certification. In these cases it is assumed that the specific title of "Theatre" may be applied.

A sum of the totals give above is in excess of fifty-one (the number of states plus the District of Columbia) since some states provide for certification in more than one related field. The accompanying Table 2 shows how each state was chosen to categorize theatre instruction.

Great diversity is also evident with respect to the specific requirements for theatre coursework which each state has established. These requirements refer to the
minimum number of credit hours in theatre coursework which an applicant must have earned in order to be certified in the discipline under which theatre is categorized. Individual states's requirements range from zero (no requirements) to thirty-six semester hours of theatre coursework. Of the ten states that require no theatre coursework, five list theatre under the field of English and three categorize it within speech.

In those states that do require theatre coursework, the variety is so great that it is difficult to establish a typical requirement. The mathematical mean is seventeen semester credits, yet this presents only a partial picture of coursework requirements (see Table 2).

The issue of coursework requirements is also made more complex by the fact that nine states have not set their own standards for coursework requirements but have, instead, delegated this responsibility to the preparing institution. Thus, no credit hours minimums for these states can be established.

There are seven states that have chosen not to evaluate theatre instructor applicants on the basis of credit hours earned. Rather, their requirements may be grouped into two types:

1. an applicant must demonstrate fulfillment of specific competencies relative to theatre instruction, or
2. an applicant must complete coursework in a number of specific areas of theatre (i.e. acting, directing) with no specific guidelines given as to extent of coursework or the level of proficiency required. For purposes of this study, both of these open-ended requirements are included in Table 2 under the heading "Specific Competencies or Areas of Study Required."

The requirements one must meet in order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor vary widely from state to state. One reason for this appears to be that theatre is not widely recognized as a separate and distinct field of study in the secondary school curriculum. In many cases, it is subsumed under another subject area category. It is also possible, in several states, to be a theatre instructor even though one has little or no background in theatre coursework. This combination of elements creates a diverse picture when one looks at the field of secondary classroom theatre instruction.
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CHAPTER III

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Summary

The purpose of this study has been to determine the requirements necessary to be a certified secondary school classroom theatre teacher. The scope of the study included all fifty states and the District of Columbia.

Research led to the conclusion that no previous study had been done that dealt with the issue of specific certification requirements for secondary classroom theatre instruction.

It was determined that a likely source of teacher certification information would be state education agencies. A letter was written and sent to the public education agency in the capital city of each state and the District of Columbia. The letter contained a series of questions dealing with general certification requirements and with specific requirements for certification as a secondary classroom theatre teacher.

The states education agencies were, for the most part, prompt in sending printed information that dealt with the questions raised. A variety of material was received ranging from a single letter to large and complex
policy bulletins. Many states provided standard leaflets or single sheets of information specifying general certification information. Much of the printed matter received had been duplicated from a larger body of material.

Other sources were used to supplement the information received from the state agencies when necessary. The sources included *A Manual on Standards Affecting School Personnel in the United States* (published by the National Education Association) and the recent catalog of the university of each of several states.

The information received about each state's teacher certification policies was carefully examined. Data concerning general certification requirements and specific secondary classroom theatre requirements were extracted. General requirements refer to those qualifications one must meet in order to be granted initial teacher certification by the state. These qualifications include such things as possession of a Bachelor's degree from an approved institution of higher education and successful completion of competency examination(s). Specific requirements for certification as a secondary classroom theatre teacher primarily refer to the number of hours of theatre coursework preparation one must possess. While several states required a major or minor, ten required no theatre preparation. A summation of both types of requirements,
recorded in state-by-state sequence, is found in Tables 1 and 2 of Chapter II of this study.

General and specific theatre certification requirements were found to vary considerably from state to state. Theatre is recognized as a distinct field of study in only twenty-two states. Other states categorize theatre instruction under a diversity of other subject headings. These headings, twenty-six in all, have been grouped, for purposes of this study, into the categories of "Dramatics/Speech," "Speech," "English," "Language Arts/English," "Language Arts with Speech/Drama," "English/Theatre," "Communication," and "Language Arts."

Conclusions

Upon completion of the preceding analysis of secondary classroom theatre certification requirements, the following conclusions seem warranted:

1. No previous study has been done to determine, nationwide, the requirements necessary to be a certified secondary classroom theatre teacher.

2. A great variety exists between and among states concerning the requirements one must meet to be certified as a secondary classroom theatre teacher.

3. Theatre is not currently widely recognized as a separate and distinct field of secondary classroom instruction.
4. In many states, one needs no preparation in theatre coursework in order to teach theatre at the secondary level.

5. In those states where no specific instruction in theatre is required for secondary school theatre certification, it is most frequently awarded under some title other than theatre or drama.

6. It would be difficult for a theatre education student to simultaneously prepare for certification as a classroom theatre teacher in a number of states, because of a lack of common requirements among states.

Recommendations for Further Study

This study has resulted in a compilation of secondary classroom theatre certification requirements in all fifty states and the District of Columbia as of the 1981-1982 school year. The general requirements which any secondary-level certification applicant must meet have been identified as were the specific requirements for certification as a secondary classroom theatre teacher.

This study may also have provided a resource for college and university students preparing to teach theatre at the secondary level. Knowing the theatre certification requirements in each state and the District of Columbia may assist prospective teachers with coursework selection.
Although the specific requirements will ultimately be obsolete, this study may continue to provide general guidelines concerning certification requirements in the area of theatre instruction for many years to come. In addition, contacts identified in the extensive bibliography provided within this study could be utilized to gain further data in the future.

To provide a continually useful body of information regarding theatre certification requirements, it is suggested that this study be repeated periodically.

Other possible topics of further study could deal with the issue of enforcement. A survey of local school districts could be undertaken to determine the extent to which they adhere to state certification policies, and how frequently they place teachers in classrooms outside of their major or minor fields of preparation.

A survey of present secondary classroom theatre instructors could be valuable in determining their background and level of expertise in the field of theatre. They could also be questioned as to their opinions about the adequacy of their preparation.

Although this was not the purpose, the study may have also provided a measure of insight into the status of theatre as a field of study at the secondary school level. For example, although twenty-two states regard
theatre as a distinct subject area for endorsement purposes, the majority of states have maintained theatre as a sub-division of another subject field, i.e. English or speech. The picture of the status of theatre still remains quite unclear. A further study could, be evaluating past secondary school course offerings on a nationwide scale, help to determine the extent to which theatre coursework has been offered throughout American history.

A related study could seek to discover the extent to which theatre coursework is now offered at the secondary level. Questions that could be answered in a school-by-school survey include: What percentage of secondary schools have a separate drama or theatre department? How many schools hire staff specifically and exclusively for theatre instruction? What value is placed on theatre in general by the students, the faculty, or the community? Such studies could also explore the depth of coursework offerings now available at the secondary level and could be compared to that available in the past.
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APPENDIX A

Dorothy Begalka  
811 12th Avenue  
Brookings, SD 57006  

November 18, 1981

Wayne Teague  
State Superintendent of Education  
State Department of Education  
State Office Building  
Montgomery, Alabama  36130

Dear Mr. Teague:

I am a speech major with a theatre education emphasis at South Dakota State University, Brookings, SD. I would like to know the specific certification requirements which your state has established in the area of theatre education.

What are the general requirements for secondary school teaching certification in your state?

Is theatre recognized as a separate discipline under which I could be certified?

If so, what specific requirements must I meet in order to be a certified classroom theatre instructor?

If there is no distinct category for theatre, under which broader category is theatre found?

If this is the case, what requirements must I meet in order to teach theatre courses?

Can you send me a brochure or other literature concerning secondary school certification for theatre courses? You prompt reply would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Begalka