

BA in Theatre and Performance Studies

Degree Program Description

The study of Theatre focuses upon the produced play, past, present, and future. The BA in Theatre offers students an appreciation of theatre as a fine art, sharpens the talents of those who seek careers in theatre and provides students with methods of stimulating and using their imagination and intensifying their communication skills. Students must choose from one of three emphasis areas: Design/Technical, Performance, and Writing for Performance. The curriculum includes: examining the heritage of theatre through dramatic literature and theatre history, exercises in theatrical skills, artistic training in design and performance, and theory and criticism of the theatre. The Rhynsburger Theatre, the Corner Playhouse, and outreach programs serve as laboratories for ongoing examination of theatre in society, responsive to social issues. Working with faculty and staff of professionally trained actors, directors, and designers, students focus on performance, writing for performance, and theatre design and technology. MU undergraduate theatre students have taken their work to the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, winning awards in acting, playwriting, design, and dramaturgy. After graduation, many of our students find work in film, television, and the professional theatre as actors, directors, designers, stage managers, artists, and technicians, or go on to graduate school to further their theatre education.

Major Program Requirements

The major in Theatre consists of core courses. In addition to University (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/academicdegreerequirements/universityrequirements/>), general education (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/academicdegreerequirements/generaleducationrequirements/>), and College of Arts and Science (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofartsandscience/#undergraduatetext>) requirements, students must also meet the following major program requirements. All major requirements in the College of Arts and Science must be completed with grades of C- or higher unless otherwise indicated. All courses used to satisfy requirements for the major must be completed with a grade of C or higher.

Emphasis Areas

Theatre students must also complete an emphasis area in Performance (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofartsandscience/theatreperformancestudies/ba-theatre-performance-studies-emphasis-performance/>), Design/Technical (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofartsandscience/theatreperformancestudies/ba-theatre-performance-studies-emphasis-design-technical/>) or Writing for Performance (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofartsandscience/theatreperformancestudies/ba-theatre-performance-studies-emphasis-writing-performance/>).

Major core requirements		18
THEATR 1320	Beginning Scenic Construction	3
or THEATR 1340	Beginning Costume Construction	
THEATR 1720	African-American Theatre History	3
or THEATR 2710	Introduction to Theatre History	
THEATR 2300	Production Workshop I	1

THEATR 2800W	Principles of Script Analysis - Writing Intensive	3
THEATR 3300	Production Workshop II	1-3
THEATR 4990	Capstone in Theatre	3
Choose two courses from the following:		
THEATR 2420	Introduction to Dance	3
THEATR 2200	Introduction to Performance Studies	3
THEATR 2330	Stage Management	3
THEATR 2510	Introduction to Theatre Design	3
THEATR 2920	Beginning Playwriting	3
Performance		
THEATR 3420	Acting I	3
THEATR 3430	Acting II	3
THEATR 4220	Acting III	3
Choose one of the following (cannot repeat from required courses):		
THEATR 2200	Introduction to Performance Studies	3
THEATR 2220	Immersive Theatre	3
THEATR 3200	Performance of Literature	3
THEATR 3440	Acting for the Camera	3
THEATR 3450	Acting for Animation and Motion Capture	3
THEATR 3460	Voiceover	3
THEATR 3600	Theatrical Directing	3
THEATR 4240	Theory and Practice of Theatre of the Oppressed	3
THEATR 4280	Digital Media and Performance	3
THEATR 4460	Musical Theatre Performance	3
THEATR 4600	Advanced Directing	3
THEATR 4720	American Musicals	3
*See list of Topics/Research OR Performance Courses (with Departmental Approval) (3 credits)		
Design/Technical		
THEATR 2360	Stagecraft	3
or THEATR 3310	Costume Crafts	
Choose nine credits from the following (cannot repeat from required courses):		
THEATR 1360	Stage Makeup	1
THEATR 2330	Stage Management	3
THEATR 2510	Introduction to Theatre Design	3
THEATR 3320	Theatrical Patternmaking	3
THEATR 3330	Advanced Costume Construction	3
THEATR 3340	Scene Painting	2
THEATR 3550	Sound Design	3
THEATR 3560	Scene Design	3
THEATR 4530	Stage Lighting Design	3
THEATR 4570	Theatrical Costume Design	3
*See list of Topics/Research OR Production Courses (with Departmental Approval) (3 credits)		
Writing for Performance		
THEATR 2920	Beginning Playwriting (Select the course not taken as core requirement)	3
or THEATR 2200	Introduction to Performance Studies	
THEATR 3200	Performance of Literature	3
THEATR 3920	Intermediate Playwriting	3
Choose one of the following (cannot repeat from required courses):		
THEATR 2200	Introduction to Performance Studies	3

THEATR 3700W	World Dramatic Literature - Writing Intensive	3
or THEATR 3700	World Dramatic Literature	
THEATR 3930	Screenwriting for Television and Film	3
THEATR 4240	Theory and Practice of Theatre of the Oppressed	3
THEATR 4650	Introduction to Dramaturgy	3
THEATR 4920W	Advanced Playwriting: Problems - Writing Intensive	3
or THEATR 4920	Advanced Playwriting: Problems	
THEATR 4930	Adaptation of Literature for the Stage	3
THEATR 4935	Adaptation of Literature for Film	3
THEATR 4938W	Advanced Screenwriting: Styles - Writing Intensive	3
or THEATR 4938	Advanced Screenwriting: Styles	

*See list of Topics/Research (with Departmental Approval) (3 credits)

Topics/Research Courses (can be used for emphasis area courses upon Departmental Approval)

THEATR 1005	Topics in Theatre - Humanities/Fine Arts	1-99
THEATR 2005	Topics in Theatre - Humanities	1-3
THEATR 3005	Topics in Theatre - Humanities	1-99
THEATR 3005H	Topics in Theatre - Honors - Humanities	1-99
THEATR 4005	Topics in Theatre - Humanities	1-99
THEATR 4700	Studies in Theatre History	3
THEATR 4800	Studies in Dramatic Theory	3
THEATR 4820	Studies in Dramatic Literature	3
or THEATR 4820W	Studies in Dramatic Literature - Writing Intensive	
THEATR 4830	Studies in Dramatic Criticism	3
THEATR 4960	Directed Readings in Theatre	1-3

Performance/Production (can be used for emphasis area courses upon Departmental Approval)

THEATR 1250	World Theatre Workshop	2
THEATR 2410	Performance Workshop	1
THEATR 3100	Summer Repertory Theatre	1-99
THEATR 4940	Theatre Entrepreneurship Practicum	2

Semester Plan

Refer to the semester plan for the Performance (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofartsandscience/theatreperformancestudies/ba-theatre-performance-studies-emphasis-performance/>), Design/Technical (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofartsandscience/theatreperformancestudies/ba-theatre-performance-studies-emphasis-design-technical/>), and/or Writing for Performance (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofartsandscience/theatreperformancestudies/ba-theatre-performance-studies-emphasis-writing-performance/>). Otherwise contact the academic departments for assistance with academic planning.