

THEATER ARTS, BA

Degree: Bachelor of Arts (BA)

Major: Theater Arts

Program Overview

The Bachelor of Arts program in Theater offers a broad liberal arts education in the art and humanity of theater, with the opportunity to pursue concentrations in acting, design/technical, directing, dramatic writing, and general theater studies. Theater education provides much-sought-after knowledge and skills such as creative problem-solving, teamwork, and collaboration. Students intending to major in theater will need to complete 40 credit hours of coursework, with the opportunity to pursue double or secondary majors. Most students will opt to take many classes beyond the requirements in order to enhance their knowledge and improve their skills.

Learning Outcomes

- Students will be able to demonstrate a common theater production vocabulary.
- Students will be able to demonstrate a disciplinary knowledge of acting craft that they can apply toward their scenes analysis and/or performance.
- Students will be able to analyze a script for the purpose of theatrical production.
- Students will be able to recognize, identify, and utilize historical periods, styles, and artistic movements.

Undergraduate Policies

For undergraduate policies and procedures, please review the Undergraduate Academics section of the General Bulletin.

Accelerated Master's Programs

Undergraduate students may participate in accelerated programs toward graduate or professional degrees. For more information and details of the policies and procedures related to accelerated studies, please visit the Undergraduate Academics section of the General Bulletin.

Program Requirements

Students seeking to complete this major and degree program must meet the general requirements for bachelor's degrees and the Unified General Education Requirements. Students completing this program as a secondary major while completing another undergraduate degree program do not need to satisfy the school-specific requirements associated with this major.

The Bachelor of Arts program in theater offers concentrations in acting, design/technical theater, dramatic writing, directing, and general theater. Students intending to major in theater must complete 40 hours of coursework. Most students will opt to take many classes beyond the requirements in order to enhance their knowledge and improve their skills. Students interested in declaring a specific concentration of study can satisfy the additional requirements listed below in order to fulfill a Bachelor of Arts with a specific concentration. Students who do not declare a concentration will receive the designation of "General Theater" on their transcript.

The basic course requirements for all theater majors are as follows:

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Performance courses: Students must take all four of the following: 12		
THTR 100	Introduction to Acting	
THTR 103	Acting: Scene Study	
THTR 110	Introduction to Theater	
THTR 330	Play Directing I	
Design courses		6
All students must take the following course as a prerequisite, preferably in the spring of their first year:		
THTR 111	Introduction to Design	
Students must take one of the following:		
THTR 223	Scenic Design	
THTR 224	Lighting Design	
THTR 225	Costume Design	
Theater history courses: Students must take all four of the following: 12		
THTR 325	Development of Theater: Beginnings to English Renaissance	
THTR 326	Development of Theater: Renaissance to Romanticism	
THTR 327	American Drama	
THTR 329	Modern and Contemporary Drama	
Tech credit hours (minimum of 3 hours)		7
THTR 185	Theater Practicum (Students are required to enroll in THTR 185, a 1-hour practicum credit, accumulating 7 credits during their 8 semesters at CWRU. Students will enroll in THTR 185 each semester unless instructed to do otherwise by the director of undergraduate theater studies. Any exemptions to this requirement—receiving 2 credit hours in 1 semester or not enrolling in THTR 185 for a semester—must receive approval from the director of undergraduate theater studies.)	
Senior capstone: Students must take one of the following: 3		
THTR 331	Play Directing II	
THTR 390	Advanced Topics in Design/Technology	
THTR 393	Senior Capstone: Dramaturgy	

Total Credit Hours 40

Elective Courses

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Students may enroll in additional theater courses beyond the 40 credits required for the major. Some of the courses in the list below can be counted toward the major requirements or taken as electives.		
THTR 100	Introduction to Acting	3
THTR 103	Acting: Scene Study	3
THTR 105	Introduction to Stagecraft	3
THTR 201	Movement	3
THTR 206	Mr. Kiss Kiss Bang Bang - James Bond and Popular Culture	3
THTR 223	Scenic Design	3
THTR 224	Lighting Design	3

THTR 225	Costume Design	3
THTR 226	Stage Makeup	3
THTR 227	Stage Management	3
THTR 231	Acting: Advanced Scene Study	3
THTR 232	Acting: Classical Technique	3
THTR 306	Acting: Camera Technique	3
THTR 307	Acting: Advanced Camera Techniques	3
THTR 312	Playwriting	3
THTR 314	Advanced Playwriting	3
THTR 316	Screenwriting	3
THTR 323	Topics in Design	3
THTR 334	Shakespeare: Histories and Tragedies	3
THTR 335	Shakespeare: Comedies and Romances	3
THTR 375	Voice	3
THTR 397	Honors Studies I	3
THTR 398	Honors Studies II	3
THTR 399	Independent Study in Theater Arts	1 - 3

Departmental Honors

Majors wishing to take a Bachelor of Arts degree with honors in theater must make written application to the director of undergraduate theater studies no later than May 1 of their junior year. Students must have a minimum 3.25 overall grade point average and a minimum 3.75 grade point average in theater. Acceptance into the honors program is contingent upon faculty support and recommendation by the director of undergraduate theater studies and the department chair.

Those accepted register for THTR 397 and THTR 398 during their senior year, for a total of 6 hours. The honors project is defined as a production project in acting, design, playwriting, directing, or management/outreach. A supporting paper discussing the concept, execution, and performance of the project must be filed with the director of undergraduate theater studies no later than one week following the project presentation. Preparation of the project will be supervised by a department faculty member.

This project may be accepted for honors only if it receives a grade of A from both the project advisor and the director of undergraduate theater studies. The grade of A must be received both semesters. Students who qualify will receive the notation "Departmental Honors in Theater" on their diplomas. Information about the structure and specific requirements of the honors project is available from the director of undergraduate theater studies.

Concentration Requirements

Concentration in Acting

Code	Title	Credit Hours
THTR 231	Acting: Advanced Scene Study	3
THTR 232	Acting: Classical Technique	3
THTR 375	Voice	3
Total Credit Hours		9

Concentration in Design/Technical Theater

Code	Title	Credit Hours
The two remaining design courses (excluding the course taken to fulfill the core requirements) from THTR 223, THTR 224, and THTR 225		
Either THTR 226 or THTR 227		3
Total Credit Hours		9

Concentration in Directing

Code	Title	Credit Hours
THTR 331	Play Directing II	3
THTR 227	Stage Management	3
Either THTR 314 (Advanced Playwriting) or an additional design course (THTR 223, THTR 224, or THTR 225) not taken to fulfill the core requirements of the major.		
Total Credit Hours		9

Concentration in Dramatic Writing

Code	Title	Credit Hours
THTR 312	Playwriting	3
THTR 314	Advanced Playwriting	3
THTR 316	Screenwriting	3
Total Credit Hours		9