

THEATER ARTS, MFA

Degree: Master of Fine Arts (MFA)

Field of Study: Theater Arts

Program Overview

In 1996, Case Western Reserve University and Cleveland Play House joined forces to create a Master of Fine Arts program in acting. The MFA is a terminal professional degree, and candidacy for the program requires an undergraduate degree, some theatrical experience, or demonstrable potential for work at the graduate level. In addition, candidates must provide evidence of technical skill and creative ability through the audition process.

At the end of each semester in residence, each student's progress is evaluated. Only students who have clearly demonstrated growth and excellence are permitted to remain in the program. The award of the MFA degree is contingent upon the student's academic progress and upon the assessment on the part of the faculty that the candidate possesses the potential to work in the field of theater on a professional level.

Graduate Policies

For graduate policies and procedures, please review the School of Graduate Studies section of the General Bulletin.

Program Requirements

Requirements for the MFA degree include:

- 82 credit hours of graduate work beyond the bachelor's degree
- A cumulative grade point average of 3.0 for all course work on the graduate level
- Completion of the course requirements for the MFA Thesis Portfolio
- Successful completion of the third-year internship at Cleveland Play House

Course requirements for the MFA in acting are as follows:

Code	Title	Hours
Courses in acting, including script analysis, acting theory, characterization, modernist playwrights, camera technique, and the classical canon.		24
Courses in movement, including mask work, physical awareness, and stage combat.		12
Courses in voice, including voice production, breath control, and integration with text.		12
Courses in speech, including stage speech, dialects, and verse and lyric drama		8
Courses in history and theory, professional internships, solo projects, and professional seminars		20
Two courses in crafting a thesis portfolio		6
THTR 401	Graduate Movement I: Foundations	
THTR 402	Graduate Movement II: Creations	
THTR 403	Graduate Movement III: Stage Combat	
THTR 404	Graduate Movement IV: Genres and Styles	
THTR 473	Graduate Voice Technique I	
THTR 474	Graduate Voice Technique II	

THTR 475	Graduate Voice Technique III
THTR 476	Graduate Voice Technique IV
THTR 479	Graduate Stage Speech I: Phonetics
THTR 501	Dramatic Text Analysis
THTR 509	Performance History
THTR 512	Graduate Audition Lab
THTR 530	Ensemble Technique
THTR 531	Graduate Acting I: Performance Process
THTR 532	Graduate Acting II: Contemporary Scene Study
THTR 533	Graduate Acting III: The Modernists
THTR 534	Graduate Acting IV: Shakespeare/Heightened Language
THTR 535	Graduate Acting V: Camera Technique
THTR 540	Professional Orientation
THTR 579	Graduate Stage Speech II: Articulation
THTR 580	Graduate Stage Speech III: Dialects
THTR 581	Graduate Stage Speech IV: Classical Texts
THTR 601	Special Projects
THTR 610	Professional Internship
THTR 611	Professional Showcase
THTR 630	Performance Studio
THTR 642	Thesis Portfolio I
THTR 643	Thesis Portfolio II

Total Hours

82