THEATER, BFA

Banner Code: AR-BFA-THR

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Admissions & Policies

Policies
Program Requirements
In addition to the Mason Core requirements, Theater majors must complete a minimum of 76 credits in the major: 46 credits of required Theater core courses plus 30 credits in the selected concentration. Concentrations are: Design for Stage and Screen, Musical Theater Performance, Performance for Stage and Screen (Acting and Directing), Writing and Dramaturgy for Stage and Screen.

Requirements

Degree Requirements
Total credits: 120

Mason Core
Foundation Requirements
Oral Communication 3
Information Technology 3
Quantitative Reasoning 3
ENGH 101 Composition (Mason Core) 3
ENGH 302 Advanced Composition (Mason Core) 3

Core Requirements
Literature 3
Arts 3
Natural Science 7
Western Civilization/World History 3
Global Understanding 3
Social and Behavioral Sciences 3
Total Credits 37

Outside the major. Students earning a concentration in Musical Theater Performance must take DANC 125 Modern/Contemporary Dance I (Mason Core), DANC 131 Beginning Jazz Technique (Mason Core), DANC 145 Ballet I (Mason Core), DANC 161 Beginning Tap Dance (Mason Core), DANC 225 Modern/Contemporary Dance II (Mason Core), DANC 231 Intermediate Jazz Technique (Mason Core), DANC 245 Ballet II (Mason Core), or DANC 331 Advanced Jazz Dance (Mason Core).

Including one laboratory science

Writing and Dramaturgy for Stage and Screen Concentration requires THR 440 Advanced Studies in Directing/Dramaturgy (Mason Core)

Major
Theater Core Requirements
Note: All THR majors may not double count THR courses within the major. All THR courses count either towards the degree core or the concentration, but not both.

THR 150 Greeks to Restoration (Mason Core) 3
THR 151 Romanticism to Present (Mason Core) 3
THR 191 Practical Theater Seminar 0
THR 196 Performance or Design Practicum 1
THR 197 Stage or Literary Practicum 1
THR 198 Theatrical Construction Practicum 1
THR 199 Production Run Crew Practicum 1
THR 210 Stage Management 3
THR 210 Acting I (Mason Core) 3
THR 230 Fundamentals of Production (Mason Core) 3
THR 300 Voice and Speech 3
Select one from the following: 3
THR 303 Movement for Actors
THR 304 Advanced Movement for Actors
THR 305 Unarmed Stage Combat
THR 329 Directing 3
THR 350 Script Analysis 3
THR 411 Great Film Directors (Mason Core) 3
or THR 412 Great Film Performances (Mason Core)
Synthesis 3
Select one course from the following:
THR 440 Advanced Studies in Directing/Dramaturgy (Mason Core)
THR 496 Text in Production (Mason Core)

Design in the Discipline 3
Select one course from the following:
THR 333 Scenic Design
THR 334 Lighting Design
THR 335 Costume Design
THR 339 Principles of Design
THR 345 Puppetry
or permission of Director
Writing in the Discipline 3
Select one course from the following:

1 Nonnative speakers of English with limited proficiency in the language may substitute ENGH 100 Composition for Multilingual Writers (Mason Core) for ENGH 101 Composition (Mason Core). Students must attain a minimum grade of C in ENGH 100 Composition for Multilingual Writers (Mason Core) or ENGH 101 Composition (Mason Core), as well as in ENGH 302 Advanced Composition (Mason Core), to fulfill degree requirements.
Theater, BFA

THR 380 Playwriting I
THR 381 Playwriting II
THR 382 Screenplay Workshop
THR 482 Advanced Screenplay Workshop
THR 484 Translation Adaptation for Stage Screen

Dramatic Literature
Select one course from the following: 3
THR 351 Dramatic Theory and Criticism
THR 352 Dramatic Literature Seminar
THR 355 Moral Vision in American Theater
THR 359 World Stages (Mason Core) 2
THR 395 Theater as the Life of the Mind (Mason Core)
THR 424 Contemporary Women Playwrights
or permission of Director

Total Credits 46

1 Must be taken four times during course of study.
2 May fulfill Mason Core global understanding or the upper-level dramatic literature requirement but not both.

Theater BFA Concentrations
Theater majors earning a BFA in Theater must select one of the following concentrations:

Design for Stage and Screen Concentration (DSS)
THR 339 Principles of Design 3
Select 5 courses from the following: 15
THR 235 Costume Crafts
THR 313 Event Technology
THR 314 Lighting Stagecraft
THR 315 Sound Engineering
THR 330 Seminar in Technical Theater
THR 331 Drafting and Model Making
THR 332 History of Fashion and Dress
THR 343 Costume Pattern Drafting
or permission of Director
Select 4 courses from the following: 12
THR 316 Scene Painting
THR 333 Scenic Design
THR 334 Lighting Design
THR 335 Costume Design
THR 337 Sound Design
THR 342 Makeup Design
THR 345 Puppetry
THR 434 Advanced Lighting Design
or permission of Director

Total Credits 30

Musical Theater Performance Concentration (MTPF)
Required Core Courses
MUSI 113 Aural Skills I 1
MUSI 115 Theory I 3
MUSI 116 Theory II 3

8 credits in
MUSI 243 Applied Music in Voice (must be taken four times for a total of 8 credits)
THR 310 Acting II 3
THR 320 Performance Studio 3
THR 410 Acting for the Camera 3
or THR 420 Advanced Performance Studio
THR 427 Musical Theater Workshop 3
or permission of Director
Select one course from:
DANC 331 Advanced Jazz Dance (Mason Core) (200 level pre-requisite must be met)
THR 304 Advanced Movement for Actors
THR 305 Unarmed Stage Combat
THR 405 Advanced Stage Combat
or permission of Director

Total Credits 30

Performance for Stage and Screen (Acting and Directing) Concentration (PSS)
THR 301 Advanced Study in Voice 3
THR 310 Acting II 3
THR 365 Characterization 3
or THR 421 One-Person Show
THR 410 Acting for the Camera 3
or permission of Director
Select 4 courses from the following: 12
THR 320 Performance Studio
THR 321 Acting Shakespeare
THR 340 Advanced Studies in Directing
THR 342 Makeup Design
THR 420 Advanced Performance Studio
or permission of Director
Select 2 courses from the following: 6
THR 304 Advanced Movement for Actors
THR 305 Unarmed Stage Combat
THR 306 Movement in Musical Theater
THR 405 Advanced Stage Combat
THR 423 Audition Techniques: Stage and Camera
THR 427 Musical Theater Workshop
or permission of Director

Total Credits 30

Writing and Dramaturgy for Stage and Screen Concentration (WDSS)
30 credits of required coursework chosen from the following in consultation with a faculty adviser based on the student's area of interest.
THR 202 Literary Management
THR 310 Acting II
THR 340 Advanced Studies in Directing
THR 351 Dramatic Theory and Criticism
THR 352 Dramatic Literature Seminar
THR 355 Moral Vision in American Theater
THR 359 World Stages (Mason Core)  
THR 365 Characterization  
THR 380 Playwriting I  
THR 381 Playwriting II  
THR 382 Screenplay Workshop  
THR 395 Theater as the Life of the Mind (Mason Core)  
THR 410 Acting for the Camera  
THR 411 Great Film Directors (Mason Core)  
THR 412 Great Film Performances (Mason Core)  
THR 421 One-Person Show  
THR 440 Advanced Studies in Directing/ Dramaturgy (Mason Core)  
THR 480 Advanced Playwriting  
THR 482 Advanced Screenplay Workshop  
THR 484 Translation Adaptation for Stage Screen  
THR 493 Collaborative Lab Experience  
THR 495 Senior Capstone Project  
FAVS 280 Writing for the Moving Image  
FAVS 352 Ethics of Film and Video (Mason Core)  
FAVS 470 Film and Video Screenwriting  
FAVS 483 Feature-Length Scriptwriting  
or permission of Director  
Total Credits 30

General Electives

BFA students pursuing a concentration in Musical Theater Performance must use 7 credits of general electives to complete:  
MUSI 114 Aural Skills II  
THR 306 Movement in Musical Theater  
THR 428 Musical Theater Ensemble  
or THR 495 Senior Capstone Project  

After fulfilling degree requirements, BFA students may use remaining general electives credits inside or outside of the department. All students are required to take a minimum of 45 credits of upper-division courses (300-400 level).

Total Credits 7

Honors

Honors in the Major

Highly-qualified students who have completed 75 credits may pursue advanced work leading to graduation with honors in the major. Students apply for Honors in Theater by submitting to the Director (by November 15 or April 15) a two-page written statement outlining their reasons for pursuing advanced coursework and specific professional goals, along with the names of two Mason theater faculty members who have agreed to serve as references.

Students satisfy the honors course sequence by taking three honors-specific courses from their chosen concentration. They must also maintain an overall GPA of 3.50 and a GPA of 3.75 within the major.