

# 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).

### Requirements

### Degree Requirements

Total credits: 120

#### Mason Core

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Foundation Requirements</b>		
	Oral Communication	3
	Information Technology	3
	Quantitative Reasoning	3
ENGH 101	Composition (Mason Core) <sup>1</sup>	3
ENGH 302	Advanced Composition (Mason Core) <sup>1</sup>	3
<b>Core Requirements</b>		
	Literature	3
	Arts <sup>2</sup>	3
	Natural Science <sup>3</sup>	7
	Western Civilization/World History	3
	Global Understanding	3
	Social and Behavioral Sciences	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>37</b>

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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).

<sup>3</sup> Including one laboratory science

### Major

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Theater Core Requirements</b>		
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	Theater Support/Engagement <sup>1</sup>	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 201	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)	
<b>Synthesis</b>		<b>3</b>
Select one course from the following:		
THR 440	Advanced Studies in Directing/ Dramaturgy (Mason Core)	
THR 496	Text in Production (Mason Core)	
<b>Design in the Discipline</b>		<b>3</b>
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		
<b>Writing in the Discipline</b>		<b>3</b>
Select one course from the following:		
THR 380	Playwriting I	

THR 381	Playwriting II	
THR 382	Screenplay Workshop	
THR 482	Advanced Screenplay Workshop	
THR 484	Translation Adaptation for Stage Screen	
<b>Dramatic Literature</b>		
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) <sup>2</sup>	
THR 395	Theater as the Life of the Mind (Mason Core)	
THR 424	Contemporary Women Playwrights	
or permission of Director		
Total Credits		46

<sup>1</sup> Must be taken four times during course of study.

<sup>2</sup> 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:

### Concentrations

- Design for Stage and Screen Concentration (DSS)
- Musical Theater Performance Concentration (MTPF)
- Performance for Stage and Screen (Acting and Directing) Concentration (PSS)

### Design for Stage and Screen Concentration (DSS)

Code	Title	Credits
THR 339	Principles of Design	3
Select 9 courses from the following:		27
THR 313	Event Technical Production	
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 Technology	
THR 316	Scene Painting	
THR 333	Scenic Design	
THR 334	Lighting Design	
THR 335	Costume Design	
THR 336	Technical Direction	
THR 337	Sound Design	
THR 340	Advanced Studies in Directing	
THR 342	Makeup Design	
THR 345	Puppetry	
THR 415	Advanced Sound Engineering	
THR 434	Advanced Lighting Design	
THR 490	Special Topics in Theater	
THR 491	Seminar on the Profession	
THR 494	Field Experience	

or permission of Director	
Total Credits	30

### Musical Theater Performance Concentration (MTPF)

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required Core Courses</b>		
MUSI 113	Aural Skills I <sup>1</sup>	1
MUSI 114	Aural Skills II <sup>1</sup>	1-2
MUSI 115	Introduction to Music Theory <sup>1</sup>	3
MUSI 171	Keyboard Skills I <sup>1</sup>	1
MUSI 172	Keyboard Skills II <sup>1</sup>	1
8 credits in		8
MUSI 223	Applied Music in Voice (must be taken for a total of 8 credits) <sup>1</sup> Applied Music credit is determined in consultation with Faculty.	8
or MUSI 243	Applied Music in Voice	
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:		3
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		38-39

<sup>1</sup> The School of Music offers placement tests in Theory, Sight Singing, Ear Training and Keyboard Skills for students with an exceptional level of competency or prior academic experience in these areas. Placement tests are optional. However, students must pass the specific placement tests in order to receive "credit-by-examination" to be applied for credit to the concentration. These exams are only available the semester you begin coursework at Mason and cannot be scheduled for a later time. Opportunities to take the placement exams and additional exam details are posted on the School of Music website: [music.gmu.edu](https://music.gmu.edu) (<https://music.gmu.edu>)

### Performance for Stage and Screen (Acting and Directing) Concentration (PSS)

Code	Title	Credits
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	
THR 490	Special Topics in Theater	
THR 491	Seminar on the Profession	
THR 494	Field Experience	
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

## General Electives

Code	Title	Credits
BFA students pursuing a concentration in Musical Theater Performance must use 7 credits of general electives to complete:		7
MUSI 381	University Chorale (Mason Core)	1
THR 306	Movement in Musical Theater	
THR 428	Musical Theater Ensemble	
or THR 495	Senior Capstone Project	
or THR 494	Field Experience	
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		8

## 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.