

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

THEATRE

Faculty

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VIEW Theatre Courses

Mission

The mission of the Department of Theatre at Westminster College is to use the College's core values to frame the way theatre work is conceived and practiced:

- impassioned teaching and learning
- respect for diversity
- collaboration and teamwork
- personal and social responsibility
- high ethical standards

The Department of Theatre members is dedicated to creating the academic and artistic contexts that help students: 1) *master* various aspects of theatrical work (i.e., design, directing, dramaturgy, new work development, and performance); 2) *investigate* how theatre, culture, and community have intersected, are linked in the present, and could be connected in the future; and, 3) *cultivate* healthy habits that facilitate powerful theatre work.

Program Goals

- Students will demonstrate the skills needed to produce creative, expressive, and distinctive work—on the page, on-stage, and backstage.
- Students will model the leadership skills necessary to facilitate the collaborative, ensemble environment that is the hallmark of great theatre.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to think, write, and speak self-reflectively, analytically and fluently, about their own and other's work.
- Students will examine their personal, social, and global understanding through engagement in an intentionally diverse array of theatre work—on campus, in site-specific settings, and community contexts.
- Students will explore the connection between physical, mental, and emotional health and successful theatre work.

Degree Outcomes

- Performance BFAs select and prepare appropriate repertoire to market themselves, audition for future theatre work, and/or successfully pursue graduate studies.
- Technical theatre BFAs will design and produce effective portfolios that showcase their knowledge, skills, and personal qualities and help them secure future theatre work and/or successfully pursue graduate studies.
- BA theatre majors will demonstrate the core artistic and academic competencies that inform all theatre studies and incorporate the knowledge, skills, and personal qualities of focused theatre work in their choice of career paths.
- All theatre students will appreciate the value of authentic inquiry, the need for risk taking, and the lifelong skills of effective self-evaluation, active listening, spontaneous generosity, and insatiable curiosity.

Objectives

The Theatre program offers a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) degree with emphases in performance and technical theatre. It also offers a generalist Theatre major (BA) and a Theatre minor. Our programs prepare students for entry into the professional theatre, graduate studies, educational theatre, applied theatre and a wide array of other fields wherein theatre intersects with various arts, business, and industry. All degree programs are designed to provide students with practical production experience in order to enable their unique creative expression in the theatre. To this end, students will gain a broad understanding of the theatre history, theory, and practice and they will, depending on their chosen emphasis, train rigorously in specific areas such as auditioning, acting technique, stage lighting, costuming, management, and design.

Program Requirements

Students must maintain a minimum 2.5 GPA in courses required for the major and/or minor. With the approval of the instructor, students may repeat specified courses for additional credit.

Students must meet the college-wide graduation requirements in addition to the Theatre major:

- 124 total hours
- 30 upper division hours
- WCore or Honors College requirements

Ensemble Requirement: All theatre majors are expected to participate in departmental productions as performers, designers, and/or technicians. To fulfill this requirement. Students must take at least 1 cr. each year of THTR 328 for a role or assignment they fulfill during the year. The department makes its best effort to ensure an equitable distribution of roles and assignments, however, students may need to take an assignment or role that isn't their first preference e.g. in the rare occasion a student might not be cast, they can fulfill the THTR 328 requirement by serving on the run crew of a production.

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Degree (BFA)

Students may declare an area of emphasis and apply for acceptance into the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre program in the spring of their sophomore year. For the Technical Theatre emphasis, students must submit a portfolio; for the Performance emphasis, students must audition. The portfolio/audition should contain examples of work that the student has produced while at Westminster College. The application is due to the program chair by February 15. The BFA admissions committee will review the portfolios/auditions and notify students prior to registration for the Fall Semester. Students who are not accepted may continue working as academic majors and reapply the following year. Transfer students will apply in their second semester and follow the same process for acceptance to the BFA track, except that the portfolio may contain work produced while studying at other institutions of higher education.

Requirement Description	CH	PREQ
I. World Language Requirement	8	
Theatre majors must complete eight credit hours in a single world language.		
II. Required Lower Division Courses	28	
THTR 101 Devised Theatre 3 THTR 229 Costumes and Makeup 4 THTR 145 Stagecraft I and Lab 2 THTR 180 Acting I 3 THTR 190 The Holistic Artist: a Guide to Creative Wellness 3 THTR 220 Stage Management 3 THTR 255 Script Analysis 3 THTR 260 Visual Storytelling Onstage 3 THTR 280 Acting II 4 THTR 180		
III. Required Upper Division Courses	19	
THTR 328 Theatre Workshop- take at east 1 cr each year as credit for production roles and assignments 1-4 THTR 358 History of Theatre and Dramatic Literature I 3 THTR 359 History of Theatre and Dramatic Literature II 3 THTR 358 THTR 450 Dramatic Theory 4 THTR 358 THTR 470 Directing 3 THTR 220 THTR 485 Senior Seminar- taken fall of senior year 2 senior standing		
Total Hours for the BA in Theatre	55	

Recommended Plan of Study for BA Theatre

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre with Acting Emphasis

Enrollment restricted to admitted BFA Acting Students.

BFA program requirements must be completed in addition to the BA Theatre requirements.

Requirement Description	CH	PREQ
I. Required Courses	27	
THTR 303 Performance Studies 1 credit, take twice for 2 credits THTR 361 Auditioning 3 THTR 380 and instructor permission THTR 371 Movement I 2 THTR 372 Movement II 2 THTR 371 THTR 379 Voice for the Actor I 4 THTR 380 Acting III 4 THTR 255, THTR 280, and instructor permission THTR 479 Voice for the Actor II 3 THTR 379		

Requirement Description	CH	PREQ
THTR 480 Acting IV and Lab 4 THTR 380 and instructor permission		
Total Hours for the BFA in Theatre—Acting Emphasis	82	

Recommended Plan of Study for BFA Theatre with Acting Emphasis

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre with Production and Design Emphasis

Enrollment restricted to admitted BFA Production and Design Students.

BFA program requirements must be completed in addition to the BA Theatre requirements.

Requirement Description	CH	PREQ
I. Required Courses	27	
THTR 160 Computer Aided Drafting for Theatre 3 THTR 225 Stage Lighting I 3 THTR 145 and THTR 160 THTR 275 Period Styles 3 THTR 262 Scenographic Methods 4 THTR 260 THTR 362 Scenographic Techniques 4 THTR 260 THTR 400 Theatre Design Studio *Take Senior year 4 THTR 260		
II. Electives	6	
THTR 318 Advanced Stage Makeup 3 THTR 229 Program Requirements (Table) - Course List THTR 325 Lighting Design II 3 THTR 145 and THTR 225 THTR 335 Scenic Painting and Properties 3 THTR 145 THTR 329 Costumes Stagecraft II 3 THTR 229 THTR 345 Stagecraft II 3 THTR 145		
Total Hours for the BFA in Theatre—Production and Design Emphasis	82	

Recommended Plan of Study for BFA in Theatre with Production and Design Emphasis

Theatre Arts Minor

Requirement Description	CH	PREQ
I. Required Courses	12	
THTR 229 Costumes and Makeup 4 THTR 145 Stagecraft I and Lab 2 THTR 180 Acting I 3 THTR 255 Script Analysis 3		
II. Electives—take at least twelve credits from the following	12	
THTR 190 The Holistic Artist: a Guide to Creative Wellness 3 THTR 220 Stage Management 3 THTR 260 Visual Storytelling Onstage 3		

Requirement Description	CH	PREQ
THTR 280 Acting II 4 THTR 180 THTR 303 Performance Studies 1 THTR 335 Scenic Painting and Properties 3 THTR 145 THTR 345 Stagecraft II 3 THTR 145 THTR 358 History of Theatre and Dramatic Literature I 3 THTR 359 History of Theatre and Dramatic Literature II 3 THTR 328 THTR 450 Dramatic Theory 4 THTR 328 THTR 470 Directing 3 THTR 220		
Total Hours for the Minor in Theatre	24	

Recommended Plan of Study for Theatre Arts Minor

Musical Theatre Minor

Requirement Description	CH	PREQ
I. Required Courses	22-27	
THTR 180 Acting I 3 THTR 255 or MUSC 104 Script Analysis or Fundamentals of Music 3 or 2 MUSC 191 Private Voice Lessons (Voice I) 1 MUSC 192 Voice 2 1 THTR 280 Acting II 4 THTR 385 or MUSC 365 Musical Theatre or Opera Studio 3 or 1 Take four credits of the following:		

Requirement Description	CH	PREQ
MUSC 121 Class Piano 2 MUSC 181 Aural Skills I 2 THTR 229 Costumes and Makeup 4 Take two of the following: 4 DANCE 130 Modern/Contemporary 1 4 DANCE 135 Ballet 1 4 DANCE 190 World Dance 4 DANCE 380 Vernacular Forms of Dance 4		
Total Hours for Minor in Musical Theatre	22-27	

Recommended Plan of Study for Musical Theatre Minor