

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

THEATRE

Faculty

- Jared Larkin
- Spencer Potter (Co-Chair)
- Stephanie Stroud (Co-Chair)

Mission

The mission of the Department of Theatre at Westminster University is to use the University'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 in 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 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 university-wide graduation requirements in addition to the Theatre major:

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

Advising note: students pursuing only the BA will need to take additional elective credits within or outside of the major in order to reach the university wide graduation requirements of 124 Total hours and 30 upper division hours.

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 east 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 Arts in Theatre Degree (BA)

The bachelor of arts in theatre is a generalist degree which explores a wide range of studies in performance, production, and design, allowing students to incorporate the knowledge, skills, and personal qualities acquired in their chosen career path. There is no audition/interview requirement for this track; students declare the major. The bachelor of arts degree does not have any emphases. Students will take courses covering the core artistic and academic competencies that inform all theatre studies and will choose some elective courses based on their interests.

Requirement Description	Credit Hours	Prerequisites
I. World Language Requirement	8	
Complete eight credits in a single world language.		
II. Required Lower Division Courses	28	
THTR 101 Devised Theatre	3	
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 229 Costumes and Makeup	4	
THTR 255 Script Analysis	3	
THTR 260 Visual Storytelling Onstage	3	
THTR 280 Acting II	4	THTR 180
III. Required Upper Division Courses	18-30	
THTR 328 Theatre Workshop- take at east 1 cr each year as credit for production roles and assignments	4-16	
THTR 358 Global Stages and Stories: Theatre of Ancient Civilizations through the 20th Century	3	
THTR 359 American Stages and Stories: 18th Century-Contemporary American Theatre Movements	3	THTR 358
THTR 450 Dramatic Theory	4	THTR 358 and THTR 359
THTR 470 Directing	4	THTR 220
NOTE: THTR 450 and THTR 470 are both required courses for the Theatre BA. Students pursuing only the Theatre BA will choose to focus on THTR 450 or THTR 470 as their senior capstone course based upon their area of interest. Students focusing on dramatic literature, theory, and criticism should focus on THTR 450. Students focusing on directing, stage management, or education should focus on THTR 470 for their senior capstone course.		
NOTE: To reach the 124 credits required to graduate, students may need to take elective courses.		
Total Hours for the BA in Theatre	54-66	

Recommended Plan of Study for BA Theatre

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Year 1	THTR 101 Devised Theatre (3) THTR 180 Acting I (3) Take at least 1 cr. THTR 328 in Fall or Spring for production roles and assignments. World Language 1	THTR 229 Costumes and Makeup (4) THTR 190 Holistic Artist (3) World Language 2
Year 2	THTR 145 Stagecraft 1 (2) THTR 260 Visual Story Telling Onstage (3) THTR 280 Acting II (4) Take at least 1 cr. THTR 328 in Fall or Spring for production roles and assignments.	THTR 220 Stage Management (3) THTR 255 Script Analysis (3)
Year 3	THTR 358 Global Stages and Stories (3) Any elective Any elective Take at least 1 cr. THTR 328 in Fall or Spring for production roles and assignments.	THTR 359 American Stages and Stories (3) Any elective Any elective
Year 4	THTR 450 Dramatic Theory (4) Any elective Any elective Take at least 1 cr. THTR 328 in Fall or Spring for production roles and assignments.	THTR 470 Directing (4) Any elective Any elective

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.

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 University. 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	Credit Hours	Prerequisites
I. BA Theatre Requirements	54-66	
Complete the BA Theatre Requirements		
II. BFA Theatre - Acting Required Courses	21	Declared Acting BFA
THTR 303 Performance Studies	1 credit, take twice for 2 credits	
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	BFA standing or instructor permission.
THTR 479 Voice for the Actor II	3	THTR 379
THTR 480 Acting IV	4	THTR 380
III. Capstone	4	
THTR 461 Auditioning	4	BFA standing or instructor permission
Total Hours for the BFA in Theatre—Acting Emphasis	79-91	

Recommended Plan of Study for BFA Theatre with Acting Emphasis

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Year 1	THTR 101 Devised Theatre (3) THTR 180 Acting I (3) World Language 1 Take at least 1 cr. THTR 328 in Fall or Spring for production roles and assignments.	THTR 229 Costumes and Makeup (4) THTR 190 Holistic Artist (3) World Language 2
Year 2	THTR 145 Stagecraft 1 (2) THTR 260 Visual Story Telling Onstage (3) THTR 280 Acting II (4) Take at least 1 cr. THTR 328 in Fall or Spring for production roles and assignments.	THTR 379 Voice for the Actor (4) THTR 385 Musical Theatre (3)
Year 3	THTR 303 Performance Studies (1) THTR 358 Global Stages and Stories (3) THTR 371 Movement I (2) Take at least 1 cr. THTR 328 in Fall or Spring for production roles and assignments.	THTR 359 American Stages and Stories (3) THTR 372 Movement II (2) THTR 380 Acting III (3) THTR 461 Auditioning (4)
Year 4	THTR 450 Dramatic Theory (4) THTR 480 Acting IV (4) THTR 479 Voice for the Actor II (3) Take at least 1 cr. THTR 328 in Fall or Spring for production roles and assignments.	THTR 303 Performance Studies (1) THTR 470 Directing (4)

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	Credit Hours	Prerequisites
I. BA Theatre Requirements	54-66	
Complete the BA Theatre Requirements		
II. BFA Theatre - Production & Design Required Courses	17	
THTR 160 Computer Aided Drafting for Theatre	3	
THTR 225 Stage Lighting I	3	THTR 145
THTR 275 Period Styles	3	
THTR 262 Scenographic Methods	4	THTR 260
THTR 362 Scenographic Techniques	4	THTR 260
III. Electives	6	
Take six credits from the following:		
THTR 318 Advanced Stage Makeup	3	THTR 229
THTR 325 Lighting Design II	3	THTR 145
THTR 335 Scenic Painting and Properties	3	THTR 145
THTR 329 Costumes Stagecraft II	3	THTR 229
THTR 345 Stagecraft II	3	THTR 145
IV. Capstone	4	
THTR 400 Theatre Design Studio*Take Senior Year	4	THTR 260
Total Hours for the BFA in Theatre—Production and Design Emphasis	81-93	

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

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Year 1	THTR 101 Devised Theatre (3) THTR 180 Acting I (3) World Language 1 Take at least 1 cr. THTR 328 in Fall or Spring for production roles and assignments	THTR 229 Costumes and Makeup (4) THTR 190 Holistic Artist (3) World Language 2
Year 2	THTR 145 Stagecraft 1 (2) THTR 260 Visual Story Telling Onstage (3) THTR 280 Acting II (4) Take at least 1 cr. THTR 328 in Fall or Spring for production roles and assignments.	<i>Starting even catalog year:</i> THTR 160 Computer Aided Drafting (3) THTR 220 Stage Management (3) THTR 255 Script Analysis (3) <i>Starting odd catalog year:</i> THTR 220 Stage Management (3) THTR 255 Script Analysis (3)
Year 3	<i>Starting even catalog year:</i> THTR 262 Scenographic Methods (4) THTR 275 Period Styles (3) THTR 358 Global Stages and Stories (3) <i>Starting odd catalog year:</i> THTR 225 Lighting Design I (3) THTR 275 Period Styles (3) THTR 358 Global Stages and Stories (3)	<i>Starting even catalog year:</i> THTR 362 Scenographic Techniques(4) THTR 359 American Stages and Stories BFA Elective <i>Starting odd catalog year:</i> THTR 160 Computer Aided Drafting (3) THTR 362 Scenographic Techniques (4) THTR 3559 American Stages and Stories (3)
Year 4	<i>Starting even catalog year:</i> THTR 225 Lighting Design I (3) THTR 450 Dramatic Theory (4) BFA Elective <i>Starting odd catalog year:</i> THTR 450 Dramatic Theory (4) BFA Elective	<i>Starting odd or even catalog year:</i> THTR 400 Theatre Design Studio (4) THTR 470 Directing (4) BFA Elective

Theatre Arts Minor

Requirement Description	Credit Hours	Prerequisites
I. Required Courses	12	
THTR 145 Stagecraft I	2	
THTR 180 Acting I	3	
THTR 255 Script Analysis	3	
THTR 229 Costumes and Makeup	4	
II. Electives	12	
Take at least twelve credits from the following:		
THTR 190 The Holistic Artist: a Guide to Creative Wellness	3	
THTR 220 Stage Management	3	
THTR 260 Visual Storytelling Onstage	3	
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 Global Stages and Stories: Theatre of Ancient Civilizations through the 20th Century	3	
THTR 359 American Stages and Stories: 18th Century-Contemporary American Theatre Movements	3	THTR 358

Requirement Description	Credit Hours	Prerequisites
THTR 450 Dramatic Theory	4	THTR 358
THTR 470 Directing	4	THTR 220, THTR 358, and THTR 359
Total Hours for the Minor in Theatre	24	

Recommended Plan of Study for Theatre Arts Minor

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Year 1	THTR 180 Acting I (3)	THTR 229 Costumes and Makeup (4)
Year 2	THTR 145 Stagecraft I and Lab (2)	THTR 255 Script Analysis (3)
Year 3	Any elective Any elective	Any elective Any elective
Year 4	Any elective Any elective	Any elective Any elective

Musical Theatre Minor

Requirement Description	Credit Hours	Prerequisites
I. Required Courses	10-15	
THTR 180 Acting I	3	
THTR 255 or Script Analysis or	3	
MUSC 104 Fundamentals of Music	2	
MUSC 191 Private Voice Lessons (Voice I)	1	
MUSC 192 Voice 2	1	
THTR 280 Acting II	4	
THTR 385 or Musical Theatre or	3	
MUSC 365 Opera Studio	1	
Take four credits of the following:		
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	24-27	

Recommended Plan of Study for Musical Theatre Minor

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Year 1	THTR 180 Acting I (3) and/or MUSC 104 Music Fundamentals (2)	THTR 280 Acting II (2) and/or THTR 229 Costumes and Makeup (4)
Year 2	MUSC 191 Private Voice I (1) and/or MUSC 181 Aural Skills I	THTR 255 Script Analysis (3)
Year 3	MUSC 192 Private Voice II (1)	THTR 385 Musical Theatre (3) or MUSC 365 Opera Studio (1)
Year 4	DANCE Elective	DANCE Elective