

Theatre Arts

Department Information

- **Department Web Site:**
www.ndsu.edu/performingarts/theatre/ (<http://www.ndsu.edu/performingarts/theatre/>)
- **Credential Offered:**
B.A.; B.S.; B.F.A.; Minor
- **Official Program Curriculum:**
catalog.ndsu.edu/undergraduate/program-curriculum/theatre-arts/ (<http://catalog.ndsu.edu/undergraduate/program-curriculum/theatre-arts/>)

The Department of Theatre Arts is dedicated to the highest standards of excellence in both its academic and performance/technical theatre programs. Its energies are committed to fostering student creativity in all areas of theatre—design, performance, directing and management—and to help students gain better insights into themselves and the world around them. The theatre arts program has been a vital and important part of the curriculum and student activities at North Dakota State University for more than 100 years. The program is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre.

The Curriculum

The department offers three undergraduate degree programs in theatre. Each is flexible and can be designed to fit the individual student's career goals.

The Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in theatre arts is a general baccalaureate degree built around a traditional liberal arts curriculum. Courses are required in technical theatre, performing and directing, as well as in literature, theatre history and modern language. The B.A. program requires proficiency of a foreign language at the second year level.

The Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree is an alternative to the B.A. The B.S. requires a minor in an approved field.

The Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) with an emphasis in musical theatre, performance or design technology is a professionally-oriented degree track that places primary emphasis on performance and studio activity, while also requiring a high level of involvement in the academic curriculum. It can be entered only by audition. This degree track broadens the student's exposure to his or her field, and considerable study is made of other fine arts fields as well.

Admission to the B.F.A. degree program in theatre requires consistent involvement in Theatre NDSU and LCT Productions, and demands a high level of commitment on the part of the student.

The Program

Theatre NDSU is a laboratory for learning in which imaginative play and disciplined work are fused in dramatic creations. A high degree of professionalism is consistently displayed.

(1) *Main Stage Productions*—four plays are produced each school year. These productions range from modern musicals such as *Bloody, Bloody Andrew Jackson* and *Sweeney Todd* to classic comedies such as *The Comedy of Errors* and *Noises Off*, including contemporary and ancient plays of the widest variety. Production seasons are chosen according to a four year style-rotation cycle. This ensures that during the course of his or her undergraduate career, the student will have the opportunity to acquire first-hand knowledge of all major performance styles in the Western theatrical tradition, including Devise work and TYA or Theatre for Young Audiences.

(2) *The Newfangled Theatre Company* is the student branch of Theatre NDSU. This student-managed company produces up to four shows in the second stage season.

Numerous dramatic activities take place on a flexible schedule in Studio Theatre Productions. There are showcase productions for B.F.A. candidates and for student acting or directing projects as well as a dance recital each semester.

The Facilities

Theatre arts students study, work and create on three stages:

- (1) Askanase Auditorium (the main stage), a 380-seat theatre with continental seating,
- (2) the Studio Theatre, a flexible studio-lab black box space also located in Askanase Hall, and
- (3) the 1,000-seat Festival Concert Hall, in Reineke Fine Arts Center, used for major musical stage productions.

In addition, Askanase Hall contains theatre classrooms, costume, scene and property shops.

Career Opportunities

Theatre training develops and exercises the creative imagination. Our graduates have found a rich variety of professions. Former students have gone on to earn advanced degrees in theatre and related fields and now teach in colleges and universities, community colleges and high schools. Other graduates of our program work in arts management, technical theatre and technical consulting, as well as in community theatre, semi-professional repertory companies, professional theatre and commercial radio and television. Theatre NDSU is committed to helping students understand the value of entrepreneurship in the Arts, creating their own work and community outreach.

Scholarships

A number of scholarships in theatre arts are available for students both in performance and technical emphases. Several scholarships are available to incoming freshmen. Both a student's academic record and his or her level of achievement in the production program are criteria used in awarding these scholarships. Active participation in the NDSU theatre arts program is expected of all scholarship recipients. Applications can be found on the Department of Theatre Arts website (<https://www.ndsu.edu/performingarts/theatre/scholarships/>).

Sample Program Guide

B.F.A. Design & Tech

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Freshman			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
THEA 110		3 THEA 180	3
THEA 210 or 211		1 THEA 210 or 211	1
THEA 230		3 THEA 270 & THEA 220	4
THEA 272		3 THEA 373	3
ENGL 110		3 ENGL 120	3
		13	14
Sophomore			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
THEA 161		3 THEA 210 or 211	1
THEA 210 or 211		1 THEA 280 or 115	3
THEA 375		3 THEA 370	3
THEA 275		3 THEA 376	3
THEA 271 & THEA 221		4 THEA 279	3
		Gen Ed Science & Technology w/lab	4
		14	17
Junior			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
THEA 210 or 211		1 THEA 210 or 211	1
THEA 370		3 THEA 377	3
THEA 371		3 ENGL 380	3
COMM 110		3 THEA 385	3
Gen Ed Social & Behavioral Science		3 Gen Ed Upper Division Writing	3
Gen Ed Science & Technology		3 Free Elective	3
		16	16

Senior			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
THEA 365		3 THEA 210 or 211	2
THEA 450		3 ART 111	3
THEA 480		3 Gen Ed Soc & Beh Sci/Cult Div	3
MUSC 100 or 103		3 Gen Ed Wellness	2
Gen Ed Science & Technology		3 Gen Ed Quantitative Reasoning	3
		Free Elective	2
		15	15

Total Credits: 120

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B.F.A. Musical Theatre

Freshman			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
THEA 110		3 THEA 180	3
THEA 161		3 THEA 210 or 211	1
MUSC 167		1 THEA 266	3
MUSC 130		3 THEA 263	1
MUSC 132		1 THEA 270 or 271	3
ENGL 110		3 THEA 220 or 221	1
		ENGL 120	3
		MUSC 160	1
		MUSC 167	1
		14	17
Sophomore			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
THEA 210		1 THEA 210, 223, or 224	2
THEA 362		2 THEA Design Elective taken fall or spring take fall or spring THEA 371 / 373 / 375	
THEA 364		3 THEA 228 or 368	3
THEA 270 or 271		3 THEA 263	1
THEA 220 or 221		1 THEA 280 or 115	3
MUSC 267		1 COMM 110	3
THEA Design Elective taken fall or spring take fall or spring THEA 371 / 373 / 375		3 MUSC 267	1
THEA 367 (Or Gen Ed)		3 Social & Behavioral Science Gen ED	3
		17	16

Junior			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
THEA 210		1 THEA 210 or 211	1
THEA 362		2 THEA 228 or 368	3
THEA 365		3 THEA 466 or 368	3
THEA 467 or 462 (course offered every other fall)		3 MUSC 367	1
MUSC 367		1 THEA 263	1
THEA 367 or 463		3 Science & Technology Gen Ed wlab	4
Science Tech Gen Ed		3 Wellness Gen Ed	2
16			15
Senior			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
THEA 450		3 THEA 210 or 211	1
THEA 467 if not taken Junior year		THEA 466 or 368	3
THEA 480		3 THEA 367	3
MUSC 100 or 111		3 Social & Behavioral Science/Global Perspectives Gen Ed	3
MUSC 467 or THEA 462		1-3 Science & Technology Gen Ed	3
THEA 275 (or science gen ed)		3 Quantitative Reasoning Gen Ed	3
Upper Level Writing Gen Ed		3	
16-18			16

Total Credits: 127-129

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B.F.A. Performance

Freshman			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
THEA 161		3 THEA 180	3
THEA 110		3 THEA 210 or 211	1
THEA 210		1 THEA 270 or 271	3
THEA 270 or 271		3 THEA 220 or 221	1
THEA 220 or 221		1 THEA 266	3
ENGL 110		3 THEA 262	1
		ENGL 120	3
		Social and Behavioral Science Gen Ed	3
14			18
Sophomore			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
THEA 210 or 211		1 THEA 210 or 211	1
THEA 275		3 THEA 280 or 115	3

THEA 364	3	THEA 361 or 466	3
MUSC 100 or 111	3	COMM 110	3
THEA Design Elective taken fall or spring take fall or spring THEA 371 / 373 / 375		THEA Design Elective taken fall or spring take fall or spring THEA 371 / 373 / 375	3
Science & Technology w/Lab Gen Ed	4	Quantitative Reasoning Requirement	3
14		16	

Junior			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
THEA 210 or 211		2 THEA 210 or 211	2
THEA 365		3 Performance Elective: 160/228/345	3
Performance Elective: 160/228/345		3 THEA 361 or 466	3
THEA 462 or 467		3 THEA 263	1
MUSC 162 or 167		1 THEA 461 or 368	3
Social & Behavioral Science Gen Ed		3 ENGL 380	3
15		15	

Senior			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
THEA 450		3 THEA 210 or 211	1
THEA 480		3 THEA 263	1
THEA 462 or 467		3 THEA 461 or 368	3
Upper level Writing		3 ART 111	3
Science & Technology Gen Ed		3 Science & Technology Gen Ed	3
		Wellness Gen Ed	2
		Free Elective	3
15		16	

Total Credits: 123

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B.A./B.S.

Freshman			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
THEA 110		3 THEA 271 & THEA 221	4
THEA 161		3 ENGL 120	3
THEA 180		3 COMM 110	3
THEA 270 & THEA 220		4 THEA 210 or 211	1
ENGL 110		3 Gen Ed Quantitative Reasoning	3
THEA 210 or 211		1	
17		14	

Sophomore			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
THEA 210 or 211		1 THEA 210 or 211	1
THEA 371, 373, or 375		3 Theatre Option Elective ¹	3
Theatre Option Elective ¹		3 Theatre Option Elective ¹	3
Theatre Option Elective ¹		3 Minor or Language ²	3
College Requirement Area One		3 Gen Ed Science & Technology	3
Minor or Language ²		3 Gen Ed Wellness	2
		16	15
Junior			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
THEA 210 or 211		1 THEA 210 or 211	1
THEA 365		3 THEA 280	3
College Requirement Area Two		3 Theatre Option Elective ¹	3
Gen Ed Social & Behavioral Science		3 Theatre Option Elective ¹	3
Gen Ed Science & Technology w/ Lab		4 Minor or Language ²	3
		Gen Ed Science & Technology	3
		14	16
Senior			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
THEA 450		3 THEA 210 or 211	2
THEA 480		3 Gen Ed Social/Beh Sciences & Global Perspectives	3
Gen Ed Upper Level Writing		3 Minor or Free Elective	3
Minor or Language ²		3 Minor or Free Elective	3
Free Elective		2 College Requirement Area Three	3
		14	14
Total Credits: 120			

1

Theatre Option Electives can be chosen from the courses listed on the official curriculum. The Theatre Generalist option requires a minimum of 15 credits. The Design & Technology option requires a minimum of 18 credits.

2

B.S. degrees require a minimum credit total of 16 credits. B.A. degrees require the completion of a foreign language with secondary year proficiency (Ex. SPAN 101, 102, 201, and 202).