

Theatre, B.A.

Degree Offered

- Bachelor of Arts

Nature of the Program

The Bachelor of Arts degree offers a broad-based program of study combining a liberal arts education with a general theatre curriculum.

The B.A. meshes perfectly with minors, and especially double majors, potentially increasing interest from future graduate schools or employers. Typically, the B.A. student in Theatre is one who chooses not to specialize in any one area of the art form, but prefers instead to keep as many educational and career options open as possible. The B.A. program is also well-suited for students looking to explore multiple areas of study within the theatre discipline, such as stage management, directing, or producing.

Admissions for 2026-2027

The BA in Theatre does not require an audition or interview, but applicants must meet all University undergraduate admissions requirements (<https://ccarts.wvu.edu/academics/audition-and-portfolio-review-day/>).

For further information, please contact the College of Creative Arts and Media Recruitment Office at (304) 293-4339.

Major Code: 3708

General Education Foundations

Please use this link to view a list of courses that meet each GEF requirement. (<http://registrar.wvu.edu/gef/>)

NOTE: Some major requirements will fulfill specific GEF requirements. Please see the curriculum requirements listed below for details on which GEFs you will need to select.

Code	Title	Hours
General Education Foundations		
F1 - Composition & Rhetoric		3-6
ENGL 101 & ENGL 102 or ENGL 103	Introduction to Composition and Rhetoric and Composition, Rhetoric, and Research Accelerated Academic Writing	
F2A/F2B - Science & Technology		4-6
F3 - Math & Quantitative Reasoning		3-4
F4 - Society & Connections		3
F5 - Human Inquiry & the Past		3
F6 - The Arts & Creativity		3
F7 - Global Studies & Diversity		3
F8 - Focus (may be satisfied by completion of a minor, double major, or dual degree)		9
Total Hours		31-37

Please note that not all of the GEF courses are offered at all campuses. Students should consult with their advisor or academic department regarding the GEF course offerings available at their campus.

Curriculum Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
	University Requirements	44
	Theatre Major Requirements	76
Total Hours		120

University Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
	General Education Foundations (GEF) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 (31-37 Credits)	
	Outstanding GEF Requirements 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 8	28

THET 191	First-Year Seminar	2
General Electives		14
Total Hours		44

Theatre Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Theatre Studies:		
THET 100	First-Year Practicum	1
THET 113	Stage Management Principles	3
THET 230	Text Analysis	3
THET 302	Directing	3
THET 401	Capstone Experience	3
Theatre History:		
THET 170	World Theatre and Drama (GEF 7)	3
THET 301	History of Western Theatre	3
THET 365	Western Theatre History 2: Enlightenment to Contemporary (Fulfills Writing and Communication Skills Requirement)	3
THET 460	Contemporary Drama	3
Production:		
Select one of the following sequences:		4
THET 103 & THET 104	Stagecraft and Stagecraft Lab	
THET 105 & THET 106	Costuming and Costuming Lab	
Performance:		
DANC 100S	Fundamentals of Dance Techniques	2
THET 144S	Fundamentals of Acting (Fulfills GEF 6)	3
THET 462S	Puppetry	3
Practicum:		
Select 5 credits from the following:		5
THET 200	Production Practicum (may be repeated up to two credits)	
THET 213	Intermediate Stage Management	
THET 300	Practicum (may be repeated up to two credits)	
THET 400	Advanced Production Practicum (may be repeated up to three credits)	
Theatre Electives (THET)		16
Non-Theatre Electives		18
Total Hours		76

SUGGESTED PLAN OF STUDY BA IN THEATRE

First Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Select one of the following:		4 DANC 100S	2
THET 103 & THET 104		ENGL 101 (GEF 1)	3
THET 105 & THET 106		THET 113	3
THET 100		1 THET 144S (GEF 6)	3
THET 170 (GEF 7)		3 GEF 3	3
THET 191		2 GEF 5	3
GEF 4		3	
General Elective		2	
		15	17

Second Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
ENGL 102 (GEF 1)		3 THET 200	1
THET 200		1 THET 301	3
THET 230		3 THET Elective	3
GEF 2		4 Non-THET Elective	3
Non-THET Elective		3 GEF 8	3
General Elective		3	
		17	13

Third Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
THET 302		3 THET 365	3
THET 400		1 THET 400	1
THET 462S		3 THET Electives	6
THET Elective		3 Non-THET Elective	3
GEF 8		3 GEF 8	3
General Elective		3	
		16	16

Fourth Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
THET 400		1 THET 401	3
THET 460		3 THET Elective	1
THET Elective		3 Non-THET Electives	6
Non-THET Elective		3 General Elective	3
General Elective		3	
		13	13

Total credit hours: 120

Major Learning Outcomes**B.A. THEATRE****ESSENTIAL CONTENT AND COMPETENCIES****General Education**

1. Competencies. Specific competency expectations are determined by the institution. Normally, students graduating with liberal arts degrees have:

- The ability to think, speak, and write clearly and effectively, and to communicate with precision, cogency, and rhetorical force.
- An informed acquaintance with the mathematical and experimental methods of the physical and biological sciences, and the historical and quantitative techniques needed for investigating the workings and developments of modern society.
- An ability to address culture and history from a variety of perspectives.
- Understanding of, and experience in thinking about, moral and ethical problems.
- The ability to respect, understand, and evaluate work in a variety of disciplines.
- The capacity to explain and defend views effectively and rationally.
- Understanding of and experience in one or more art forms other than theatre.

2. Operational Guidelines. These competencies are usually developed through studies in English composition and literature; foreign languages; history, social studies, and philosophy; visual and performing arts; natural science; technology; and mathematics. Precollegiate study, regular testing and counseling, and flexibility in course requirements are elements in achieving these competencies.

Theatre Studies

1. Competencies. Students holding undergraduate liberal arts degrees must have:

- The ability to develop and defend informed judgments about theatre.
- An acquaintance with a wide selection of theatre repertory including the principal eras, genres, and cultural sources.

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- An understanding of playwriting and production processes, aesthetic properties of style, and the way these shape and are shaped by artistic and cultural forces.
- The ability to think conceptually and critically about text, performance, and production.

2. Operational Guidelines. Objectives of this type are ordinarily emphasized in courses such as acting, speech, play analysis, design technology, history and literature of the theatre, and through regular practical and intimate contact with living theatre.

Performance and Theatre Electives

1. Competencies. Students holding undergraduate liberal arts degrees must have:

- Ability in areas of performance and production or playwriting appropriate to individual needs and interests, consistent with the goals and objectives of the specific liberal arts degree program being followed.
- An understanding of procedures and approaches for realizing a variety of theatrical styles.
- Intermediate to advanced competence in one or more theatre specializations in creation, performance, scholarship, or teaching.

2. Operational Guidelines:

- The work in this area includes acting, design/technology, other aspects of participation in theatre productions, and studies in scholarly or pedagogical aspects of theatre.
- In addition to electives in general education, further studies in theatre, including performance, should be possible through a selection of additional courses.
- Institutions have various policies concerning the granting of credit for performance and production in liberal arts curricula, including the relegation of performance to extracurricular activity. Such policies are taken into account when curricular proportions are considered.