Theater

Background
The theater program is designed to provide students with an understanding of and critical appreciation for the basic elements of theater, including acting, directing and playwriting. Among the hallmarks of the theater degree is an emphasis on students creating original works, allowing valuable insight into the creative process and its practical applications. Additionally, a study of the great traditions of theater and the development of skills can empower students toward their own clear and original voice, a valuable asset in any profession. For this reason, the program encourages the integration of theater skills and theory within other disciplines and individual studies. Students are welcome to contact a theater program advisor to better focus these integrations.

Metropolitan State University also encourages experiential internships with Twin Cities area theaters and offers credit for prior learning experience. A BA in theater is offered through university collaboration with the Minneapolis Community and Technical College (MCTC), where Metro’s program is located, and classes are integrated from the existing curricula of the two institutions. Students may also enter Metropolitan State’s upper division program with similar credits from other accredited programs.

Acceptance to the program
To be eligible for acceptance to the Theater major, students must submit a College of Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Program Declaration Form. Consult with an advisor before enrolling in courses toward the major.

Note: It is highly recommended that theater majors and minors take one of the following courses before proceeding to the major or minor.

- THTR 1131 Introduction to Theatre (MCTC) OR
- THEA 321 Directed Readings in Theater (Metropolitan State)

Major Requirements (35–37 total credits)

Minneapolis Community and Technical College or equivalent lower-division transfers. (Maximum of 14 lower-division credits)

- THTR 1104 Introduction to Acting OR
- THTR 1160 Acting in Multicultural Theater OR
- THTR 2105 Introduction to Acting II
- THTR 1145 Stagecraft: Scene Design and Lighting
- THTR 1161–69 Theater Topics OR any THEA course available at Metropolitan State University
- THTR 2145 Introduction to Directing
- THTR 2150 Theater History I

Metropolitan State University (Minimum of 22 upper-division credits) Metropolitan State University courses are listed in suggested order.

- THEA 321 Directed Readings in Theater
- THEA 345 Acting III OR
  THEA 445 Advanced Acting
- THEA 351 Production/Performance Lab* 
- THEA 387 Theater History II
- THEA 400 Playwriting I
- THEA 540 Directing and Creating Theater

*The major and minor degree program require a minimum of two THEA 351 Production/Performance credits off-stage (set, props, running crew, marketing, house management, costumes, etc.). Additional THEA 351 credits (a maximum of six) may be taken as electives in the area of performance.

Electives
Theater majors are encouraged to enhance their degree programs by completing elective courses in some of the following areas: Shakespeare, creative writing, screenwriting, studio arts, music, intermedia arts, media studies, literature and storytelling.

Recognizing that there may be transfer students from other two-year institutions, students should work with theater faculty advisors to make sure that equivalent classes can count toward the major.

Undergraduate Catalog
www.metrostate.edu/msweb/explore/catalog/undergrad/

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