Musical Theater

The Department of Theater is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Theatre, 11250 Roger Bacon Drive, Suite 21, Reston, VA 20190.

The Bachelor of Arts degree in Theater is designed to provide the student with broad-based exposure to human experience and sound foundation in basic skills of theater craft. The undergraduate theater major provides the student with invaluable interpersonal and intrapersonal skills and builds inquiring and open minds—qualities required in most professions the student might wish to pursue after graduation—and further offers essential education and training for continued work in graduate or professional schools.

Courses in acting, voice, movement, directing, theater history, dramatic literature, playwriting, production design, and technical theater, are augmented by the extensive production schedule in two theaters—a proscenium house, the McLeod Theater, seating about 499, and the Christian H. Moe Laboratory Theater, a flexible space seating 100—providing training in all aspects of theater. The production schedule is extensive enough to allow students the opportunity to design sets, lights, and costumes and to write, perform, and direct for productions bridging all dramatic genres, including musical theater.

In addition to the University Core Curriculum requirements, all theater majors must complete a theater core curriculum of 27 semester hours, each of which must be completed with a grade of C or better; a liberal arts component of 20 hours, selected by advisement from courses outside the Department of Theater; and 32 hours of theater electives, to include at least nine hours at the 400 level. These 32 hours may include a minor of 15 hours in such complementary fields as art, fashion design and merchandising, computer science, English, foreign languages, history, journalism, music, dance, philosophy, psychology, recreation, sociology, and communication studies. Theater students must complete all major coursework with a cumulative 2.0 GPA.

Theater course credit earned at other institutions of higher learning, not used for University Core Curriculum requirements at the time of transfer, can be applied to the Bachelor of Arts degree program with the approval of the faculty of the Department of Theater.

### Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theater

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<th>Degree Requirements</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<td>University Core Curriculum Requirements</td>
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<tr>
<td>Including THEA 220 and Theater Insight as UCC substitutes. MUS 203, Diversity and Popular Music in American Culture is a recommended course for the multicultural requirement.</td>
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<td>Requirements in Music</td>
<td>27</td>
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<td>To include MUS 366E-F, MUS 030 A.B. MUS 104A Aural Skills, MUS 105A Basic Harmony, MUS 140X, MUS 240X, MUS 340X, MUS 440X, MUS 402, MUS 471, MUS 489</td>
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<td>Requirements in Theater</td>
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<td>To include THEA 203B, THEA 205, THEA 217, THEA 220, THEA 300, THEA 303A, THEA 403A, or THEA 417; THEA 303B, THEA 311A, THEA 317A, THEA 317B, THEA 322, THEA 354A, THEA 400, THEA 424</td>
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<td>Requirements in Dance</td>
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Musical Theater Courses

Co-sponsored by the Department of Theater and the School of Music, the B.F.A. in Musical Theater is a professional degree program designed to prepare students for a career in musical theater performance. All students must audition to enter the program. Toward the end of their 3rd semester, B.F.A. candidates must pass a jury of singing, acting and dance, along with a review of their efforts to date in order to continue in the program. The degree requires 120 credit hours for graduation, 79 of which must be in music, theater and dance. Those students not passing their jury will receive advisement as to other options in music and theater. In addition to their coursework, B.F.A. Musical Theater students are required to audition for all musicals and plays, and attend the pre-determined number of plays and concerts. B.F.A. MT students are waived from the College of Liberal Arts foreign language requirements and from mandatory music ensemble participation required each semester of applied study. B.F.A. MT students are required to meet only 2 semesters of ensemble requirement.

Musical Theater Faculty

Bogumil, Mary L., Associate Professor, Ph.D., University of South Florida, 1988.
Clark, Darryl, Assistant Professor, M.F.A. in Dance, State University of New York College at Brockport, 2005.
Fagerholm, Thomas, Assistant Professor, M.F.A., Minnesota State University, Mankato, 2012.
Fletcher, Anne, Distinguished Professor, Ph.D., Tufts University, 1992.
Juntunen, Jacob, Associate Professor, Ph.D., Northwestern University, 2007.
Merrill-Fink, Lori, Associate Professor and Director University Honors Program, M.F.A., University of Arizona, 1988.
Moe, Christian H., Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., Cornell University, 1958.
Naversen, Ronald, Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., Southern Illinois University, 1990.
Ojewuyi, Olusegun, Associate Professor, M.F.A., Yale University, 1998.
Patrick Benson, Susan, Associate Professor, M.F.A., Rutgers University, 1995.
Rush, David, Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., University of Illinois, 1974.
Varns, Mark, Professor, M.F.A., University of Missouri-Kansas City, 1990.
Vintu, Tatiana, Assistant Professor, M.F.A., Tulane University, 2014.
Zea, Wendi, Associate Professor, M.F.A., Kent State University, 2006.

Adjunct Undergraduate Theater Faculty

Edwards-Britton, Molly Seale, M.F.A., University of Texas at Austin, 1981.

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Southern Illinois University
Catalog Year Statement:
Students starting their collegiate training during the period of time covered by this catalog (see bottom of this page) are subject to the curricular requirements as specified herein. The requirements herein will extend for a seven calendar-year period from the date of entry for baccalaureate programs and three years for associate programs. Should the University change the course requirements contained herein subsequently, students are assured that necessary adjustments will be made so that no additional time is required of them.