

THEATRE STUDIES - B.A.

College of the Arts

School of Theatre and Dance - Theatre Division
www.kent.edu/theatredance

About This Program

The Theatre Studies program offers a well-rounded theatre education, including a broad range of topics, from theatre history to dramatic literature. Access experienced faculty, real-world opportunities and state-of-the-art facilities. Enroll now and take the first step toward a fulfilling career in theatre. Read more...

Contact Information

- **Paul Hurley** | phurley1@kent.edu
- Speak with an Advisor
 - Kent Campus
 - Trumbull Campus
- Chat with an Admissions Counselor: Kent Campus | Regional Campuses

Program Delivery

- **Delivery:**
 - In person
- **Location:**
 - Kent Campus
 - Trumbull Campus (General Studies concentration only)

Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries*

Actors

- 3.1% about as fast as the average
- 70,100 number of jobs
- \$N/A potential earnings

Art, drama, and music teachers, postsecondary

- 5.6% faster than the average
- 116,300 number of jobs
- \$69,690 potential earnings

Miscellaneous entertainers and performers, sports and related workers

- 4.2% about as fast as the average
- 33,300 number of jobs
- \$N/A potential earnings

Producers and directors

- 10.0% much faster than the average
- 159,500 number of jobs
- \$76,400 potential earnings

Accreditation

The B.A. degree in Theatre Studies is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST).

* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics'

Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

Admission Requirements

The university affirmatively strives to provide educational opportunities and access to students with varied backgrounds, those with special talents and adult students.

First-Year Students on the Kent Campus: First-year admission policy on the Kent Campus is selective. Admission decisions are based upon cumulative grade point average, strength of high school college preparatory curriculum and grade trends. Students not admissible to the Kent Campus may be administratively referred to one of the seven regional campuses to begin their college coursework. For more information, visit the admissions website for first-year students.

First-Year Students on the Regional Campuses: First-year admission to Kent State's campuses at Ashtabula, East Liverpool, Geauga, Salem, Stark, Trumbull and Tuscarawas, as well as the Twinsburg Academic Center, is open to anyone with a high school diploma or its equivalent. For more information on admissions, contact the Regional Campuses admissions offices.

International Students: All international students must provide proof of proficiency of the English language (unless they meet specific exceptions) through the submission of an English language proficiency test score or by completing English language classes at Kent State's English as a Second Language Center before entering their program. For more information, visit the admissions website for international students.

Former Students: Former Kent State students who have not attended another institution since Kent State and were not academically dismissed will complete the re-enrollment process through the Financial, Billing and Enrollment Center. Former students who attended another college or university since leaving Kent State must apply for admissions as a transfer or post-undergraduate student.

Transfer Students: Students who attended an educational institution after graduating from high school or earning their GED must apply as transfer students. For more information, visit the admissions website for transfer students.

Admission policies for undergraduate students may be found in the University Catalog's Academic Policies.

Students may be required to meet certain criteria to progress in their program. Any progression requirements will be listed on the program's Coursework tab

Program Requirements
Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements (courses count in major GPA)		
THEA 11100	MAKING THEATRE: CULTURE AND PRACTICE	2
THEA 11303	THE ART OF ACTING	3
or THEA 21303	ACTING PROCESS	
THEA 11725	FUNDAMENTALS OF THEATRE DESIGN AND PRODUCTION	3
THEA 31030	GLOBAL THEATRE HISTORIES	3
THEA 41115	LGBTQ THEATRE (DIVD)	3
or THEA 41130	THEATRE AND DRAMA IN AMERICA	
THEA 41999	CAPSTONE PROJECT (ELR)	3
THEA 42092	PRACTICUM: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (ELR)	3
Design Elective, choose from the following:		3
THEA 21522	LIGHTING DESIGN	
THEA 21524	COSTUME DESIGN	
THEA 21528	SOUND AND PROJECTION DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY	
THEA 21622	SCENE DESIGN	
THEA 21736	STAGE MANAGEMENT	
Design and Management Elective, choose from the following:		3
THEA 21522	LIGHTING DESIGN	
THEA 21524	COSTUME DESIGN	
THEA 21528	SOUND AND PROJECTION DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY	
THEA 21622	SCENE DESIGN	
THEA 21736	STAGE MANAGEMENT	
THEA 41522	DESIGN STUDIO: LIGHTING	
THEA 41523	SOUND DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY I	
THEA 41524	DESIGN STUDIO: COSTUME	
THEA 41528	THEATRE SOUND REINFORCEMENT	
THEA 41622	DESIGN STUDIO: SCENERY	
THEA 41726	THEATRE MANAGEMENT	
THEA 41736	PRODUCTION AND STAGE MANAGEMENT	
THEA 42040	SHOP MANAGEMENT	
Theatre Elective, choose from the following:		3
DAN 47163	DANCE HISTORY II (WIC) ¹	
THEA 41010	THEATRE AND SOCIAL CHANGE	
THEA 41026	PLAYWRITING (WIC) ^{1, 2}	
THEA 41113	THEATRE IN A MULTICULTURAL AMERICA (DIVD)	
THEA 41115	LGBTQ THEATRE (DIVD)	
THEA 41130	THEATRE AND DRAMA IN AMERICA	
THEA 41140	AMERICAN MUSICAL THEATRE HISTORY (WIC) ¹	
THEA 41191	VARIABLE CONTENT SEMINAR: THEATRE HISTORY, LITERATURE AND THEORY ²	
THEA 41620	HISTORY OF PERIOD STYLES FOR THEATRE DESIGNERS (WIC) ¹	
Writing-Intensive Elective, choose from the following:		3
DAN 47163	DANCE HISTORY II (WIC) ¹	
THEA 41026	PLAYWRITING (WIC) ^{1, 2}	
THEA 41140	AMERICAN MUSICAL THEATRE HISTORY (WIC) ¹	

THEA 41620	HISTORY OF PERIOD STYLES FOR THEATRE DESIGNERS (WIC) ¹	
Additional Requirements (courses do not count in major GPA)		
UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
Kent Core Composition		6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning		3
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (minimum one course from each)		9
Kent Core Social Sciences (must be from two disciplines)		6
Kent Core Basic Sciences (must include one laboratory)		6-7
Kent Core Additional		6
Minor or Another Major Requirement and General Electives (total credit hours depends on earning 120 credit hours, including 39 upper-division credit hours)		30
Concentrations		
Choose from the following:		21
General Studies		
Performance		
Production		
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		120

¹ A minimum C grade must be earned to fulfill the writing-intensive requirement.
² Course is repeatable for credit.

General Studies Concentration Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Concentration Requirements (courses count in major GPA)		
Concentration Electives, choose from the following:		21
THEA 21522	LIGHTING DESIGN	
THEA 21523	COSTUME TECHNOLOGY	
THEA 21524	COSTUME DESIGN	
THEA 21528	SOUND AND PROJECTION DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY	
THEA 21621	SCENE PAINTING	
THEA 21622	SCENE DESIGN	
THEA 21700	MOVEMENT I	
THEA 21736	STAGE MANAGEMENT	
THEA 21800	VOICE I	
THEA 31303	CHARACTER AND SCENE STUDY I	
THEA 31304	CHARACTER AND SCENE STUDY II	
THEA 31401	DIRECTING	
THEA 31526	FLAT PATTERNING FOR THEATRE	
THEA 41010	THEATRE AND SOCIAL CHANGE	
THEA 41026	PLAYWRITING (WIC) ^{1, 2}	
THEA 41027	ADVANCED PLAYWRITING ²	
THEA 41095	SPECIAL TOPICS IN THEATRE ^{2, 3}	
THEA 41096	INDEPENDENT STUDY IN THEATRE ²	
THEA 41115	LGBTQ THEATRE (DIVD)	
THEA 41130	THEATRE AND DRAMA IN AMERICA	
THEA 41140	AMERICAN MUSICAL THEATRE HISTORY (WIC) ¹	
THEA 41301	ACTING FOR THE CAMERA I	
THEA 41302	ACTING FOR THE CAMERA II	
THEA 41305	PROFESSIONAL ASPECTS: PERFORMANCE	
THEA 41306	PROFESSIONAL ASPECTS: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY	

THEA 41308	MUSICAL THEATRE AUDITION ²
THEA 41521	ADVANCED LIGHTING TECHNOLOGY I
THEA 41522	DESIGN STUDIO: LIGHTING
THEA 41523	SOUND DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY I
THEA 41524	DESIGN STUDIO: COSTUME
THEA 41525	PROPS AND CRAFTS
THEA 41528	THEATRE SOUND REINFORCEMENT
THEA 41540	DRAPING FOR THE THEATRE I
THEA 41560	THEATRE FABRICATION TECHNOLOGY
THEA 41620	HISTORY OF PERIOD STYLES FOR THEATRE DESIGNERS (WIC) ¹
THEA 41622	DESIGN STUDIO: SCENERY
THEA 41625	HISTORY OF COSTUME AND TEXTILES FOR THEATRE
THEA 41703	STAGE COMBAT ²
THEA 41726	THEATRE MANAGEMENT
THEA 41736	PRODUCTION AND STAGE MANAGEMENT
THEA 42040	SHOP MANAGEMENT
THEA 42092	PRACTICUM: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (ELR) ²

Minimum Total Credit Hours: 21

- ¹ A minimum C grade must be earned to fulfill the writing-intensive requirement.
- ² Course is repeatable for credit. THEA 41308 may be taken a maximum two times (maximum 6 credit hours) toward the program.
- ³ THEA 41095 can be taken in variable seminars.

Performance Concentration Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Concentration Requirements (courses count in major GPA)		
THEA 21700 or THEA 21800	MOVEMENT I VOICE I	3
THEA 31303	CHARACTER AND SCENE STUDY I	3
THEA 31304	CHARACTER AND SCENE STUDY II	3
THEA 41301	ACTING FOR THE CAMERA I	3
Concentration Electives, choose from the following:		9
THEA 21700	MOVEMENT I	
THEA 21800	VOICE I	
THEA 31401	DIRECTING	
THEA 41095	SPECIAL TOPICS IN THEATRE ^{1,2}	
THEA 41302	ACTING FOR THE CAMERA II	
THEA 41305	PROFESSIONAL ASPECTS: PERFORMANCE	
THEA 41308	MUSICAL THEATRE AUDITION ²	
THEA 41703	STAGE COMBAT ²	

Minimum Total Credit Hours: 21

- ¹ THEA 41095 should be taken in variable performance seminars.
- ² Course is repeatable for credit. THEA 41308 may be taken a maximum two times (maximum 6 credit hours) toward the program.

Production Concentration Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Concentration Requirements (courses count in major GPA)		
Concentration Electives, choose from the following:		21

THEA 11521	GRAPHICS FOR THE THEATRE
THEA 21522	LIGHTING DESIGN
THEA 21523	COSTUME TECHNOLOGY
THEA 21524	COSTUME DESIGN
THEA 21526	BASIC COSTUME CONSTRUCTION
THEA 21528	SOUND AND PROJECTION DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY
THEA 21621	SCENE PAINTING
THEA 21622	SCENE DESIGN
THEA 21736	STAGE MANAGEMENT
THEA 22192	PRACTICUM I: PERFORMANCE (ELR) ¹
THEA 22292	PRACTICUM I: THEATRE MANAGEMENT (ELR) ¹
THEA 31526	FLAT PATTERNING FOR THEATRE
THEA 41026	PLAYWRITING (WIC) ^{1, 2}
THEA 41027	ADVANCED PLAYWRITING ¹
THEA 41095	SPECIAL TOPICS IN THEATRE ^{1, 3}
THEA 41130	THEATRE AND DRAMA IN AMERICA
THEA 41140	AMERICAN MUSICAL THEATRE HISTORY (WIC) ²

THEA 41191	VARIABLE CONTENT SEMINAR: THEATRE HISTORY, LITERATURE AND THEORY ¹
THEA 41306	PROFESSIONAL ASPECTS: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY
THEA 41521	ADVANCED LIGHTING TECHNOLOGY I
THEA 41522	DESIGN STUDIO: LIGHTING
THEA 41524	DESIGN STUDIO: COSTUME
THEA 41525	PROPS AND CRAFTS
THEA 41528	THEATRE SOUND REINFORCEMENT
THEA 41540	DRAPING FOR THE THEATRE I
THEA 41560	THEATRE FABRICATION TECHNOLOGY
THEA 41622	DESIGN STUDIO: SCENERY
THEA 41625	HISTORY OF COSTUME AND TEXTILES FOR THEATRE
THEA 41726	THEATRE MANAGEMENT
THEA 41736	PRODUCTION AND STAGE MANAGEMENT
THEA 42040	SHOP MANAGEMENT
THEA 42062	PRESENTATION MEDIA
THEA 42092	PRACTICUM: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (ELR) ¹
THEA 42192	PRACTICUM II: PERFORMANCE (ELR) ¹
THEA 42292	PRACTICUM II: THEATRE MANAGEMENT (ELR) ¹

Minimum Total Credit Hours: 21

- ¹ Course is repeatable for credit.
- ² A minimum C grade must be earned to fulfill the writing-intensive requirement.
- ³ THEA 41095 should be taken in variable production seminars.

Graduation Requirements

Minimum Major GPA	Minimum Overall GPA
2.500	2.000

- Students must declare and graduate with a minor or another major (double major or dual degree) to earn the B.A. degree in Theatre Studies.
- Students on academic probation may not participate in School of Theatre and Dance productions.

- Students may be dropped from the program for failure to maintain a 2.500 GPA.

Roadmap

This roadmap is a recommended semester-by-semester plan of study for this program. Students will work with their advisor to develop a sequence based on their academic goals and history. Courses designated as critical (!) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation.

Semester One		Credits
THEA 11100	MAKING THEATRE: CULTURE AND PRACTICE	2
THEA 11303 or THEA 21303	THE ART OF ACTING or ACTING PROCESS	3
UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Credit Hours		15
Semester Two		
THEA 11725	FUNDAMENTALS OF THEATRE DESIGN AND PRODUCTION	3
Concentration Requirement or Elective		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Credit Hours		15
Semester Three		
Design Elective		3
Concentration Requirement or Elective		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Minor or Another Major Requirement or General Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Semester Four		
Design and Management Elective		3
Concentration Requirement or Elective		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Minor or Another Major Requirement or General Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Semester Five		
THEA 31030 or THEA 41130	GLOBAL THEATRE HISTORIES or THEATRE AND DRAMA IN AMERICA	3
THEA 42092	PRACTICUM: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (ELR)	3
Concentration Requirement or Elective		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Minor or Another Major Requirement or General Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Semester Six		
THEA 31030 or THEA 41115	GLOBAL THEATRE HISTORIES or LGBTQ THEATRE (DIVD)	3
Concentration Requirement or Elective		3
Kent Core Requirement		3

Minor or Another Major Requirement or General Electives		6
Credit Hours		15
Semester Seven		
Writing-Intensive Elective		3
Concentration Requirement or Elective		3
Minor or Another Major Requirement or General Electives		9
Credit Hours		15
Semester Eight		
THEA 41999	CAPSTONE PROJECT (ELR)	3
Theatre Elective		3
Concentration Requirement or Elective		3
Minor or Another Major Requirement or General Electives		6
Credit Hours		15
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		120

University Requirements

All students in a bachelor’s degree program at Kent State University must complete the following university requirements for graduation.

NOTE: University requirements may be fulfilled in this program by specific course requirements. Please see Program Requirements for details.

Flashes 101 (UC 10001)	1 credit hour
Course is not required for students with 30+ transfer credits (excluding College Credit Plus) or age 21+ at time of admission.	
Diversity Domestic/Global (DIVD/DIVG)	2 courses
Students must successfully complete one domestic and one global course, of which one must be from the Kent Core.	
Experiential Learning Requirement (ELR)	varies
Students must successfully complete one course or approved experience.	
Kent Core (see table below)	36-37 credit hours
Writing-Intensive Course (WIC)	1 course
Students must earn a minimum C grade in the course.	
Upper-Division Requirement	39 credit hours
Students must successfully complete 39 upper-division (numbered 30000 to 49999) credit hours to graduate.	
Total Credit Hour Requirement	120 credit hours

Kent Core Requirements

Kent Core Composition (KCOMP)	6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning (KMCR)	3
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (KHUM/KFA) (min one course each)	9
Kent Core Social Sciences (KSS) (must be from two disciplines)	6
Kent Core Basic Sciences (KBS/KLAB) (must include one laboratory)	6-7
Kent Core Additional (KADL)	6
Total Credit Hours:	36-37

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Articulate procedures and approaches to differentiate various theatrical styles and techniques.
2. Examine playwriting and production processes and the artistic and cultural forces that shape them.
3. Apply intermediate to advanced skills in one or more theatre specializations in creation, performance or scholarship.
4. Evaluate a diverse selection of theatre repertory.
5. Describe the basic process involved in mounting a theatre production.
6. Synthesize research, performance and/or production.

Program Policies

Physical Activity and ROTC Courses

No more than 4 credit hours of Physical Activity, Wellness and Sport (PWS) courses or the first 16 credit hours of ROTC courses—Aerospace Studies (ASTU) and Military Studies (MSCI)—may apply to the 120 credit hours required for graduation.

Veterans who have completed a minimum of one year of active duty may receive PWS credit for military basic training according to branch of service, as follows:

- Army and Marine Corps, 3 credit hours;
- Navy and Coast Guard, 2 credit hours;
- Air Force, 1 credit hour.

Requirement Audit

Upon completion of 60 credit hours, each student is required to contact the College of the Arts Advising office to obtain a current evaluation of progress toward completion of the student's chosen degree program. Requirement evaluations are not a substitute for meeting with a faculty advisor. Students may access GPS (Graduation Planning System) audit through their FlashLine account which provides them with information about their academic progress. Questions about GPS audits are answered in the College of the Arts Advising office.

Full Description

The Bachelor of Arts degree in Theatre Studies gives students an opportunity for study in all aspects of theatre and its relationship to other liberal arts studies. This program serves students who seek a wider range of possibilities to fulfill individual creative goals, whether as theatre artists, scholars, educators and/or contributors in related fields. Students receive thorough grounding in theatre history and theory and learn imaginative and critical thinking, the process of making theatre and leadership skills.

The Theatre Studies major comprises the following concentrations:

- The **General Studies** concentration combines the study of dramatic literature, production and performance work.
- The **Performance** concentration offers in-depth training in acting. Through a series of acting courses, students learn a variety of acting styles and techniques applicable to both stage and screen.
- The **Production** concentration offers specified training in one or more design, technology and production specializations.

In addition, students in the Theatre Studies major must declare another major or a minor at Kent State.