

Theatre Arts:

Acting, Dance, Technical Theatre

Degrees Offered:

Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts with a

- Concentration in Acting
- Concentration in Dance
- Concentration in Technical Theatre

General Theatre Degree

Minor in Theatre Arts (with acting, dance, drama emphases)

<http://www.sonoma.edu/Depts/PerformingArts/Theatre/theatre.htm>

B.A. Degree

General Description of Discipline

In the Theatre Arts Department we are committed to creating, teaching, and learning about theatre that enlightens as well as entertains, that explores the values and ideas of many cultures and times, and that contributes to the artistic and personal growth of both participants and audience. We work to create a teaching/learning environment that is a model for the collaborative work of theatre and life, in which student and teacher are equally important and respected.

Theatre artists — dancers, actors, directors, playwrights, choreographers, designers, and technicians — are all engaged in various ways of exploring, shaping, and communicating experience. We believe that theatre can be a place in which values and beliefs, both personal and societal, are tested. As we enter into the world of a theatrical production, temporarily assuming the reality of the experiences, personalities, and beliefs of the characters and situations we are bringing to life, we are presented with unique opportunities to grow in empathy and understanding. Making theatre helps us discover who we are and what we truly believe about theatre, and also about life.

We cultivate the newest and most innovative approaches to dance, drama, and theatre technology, while respecting and learning from the past. We offer numerous performance opportunities, and actively encourage and support the development of new work by both students and faculty.

Our Theatre Arts program is closely associated with SSU's Music Department, especially in the area of voice and musical theatre. The Theatre and Music Departments form the jointly chaired Departments of Performing Arts, and through its Center for Performing Arts offers over 140 student performances of theatre, dance, and music each year.

The Theatre Arts Major

The study of theatre arts at SSU is intended to prepare the student for work in the theatre profession or for further study at the graduate level. The degree awarded is a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre, with an Acting, Dance or Technical Theatre Concentration. A General Theatre Degree is also awarded. The major program consists of a two phase course of study for a total of 48 units.

Admission to the Program

Students entering the program need to demonstrate the ability to do college level academic work and a sincere interest in theatre. There are no auditions for admission to the program.

Talent Scholarships Available

A substantial number of talent scholarships are available to new and returning theatre arts students through the generous support of the Evert B. Person Endowment Fund.

Career Alternatives

There are many types of career possibilities for theatre arts majors. Graduates may become professional actors, directors, dancers or choreographers in live theatre, television or films. People in technical theatre, such as stage management, are in demand in most large cities and many smaller ones. Teaching and directing at the college or community level provide other employment opportunities. Arts management is yet another growing field in which theatre arts graduates might feel at home.

In addition, theatre arts graduates, with their self-discipline, ability to work with others, experience in planning and organization, and personal confidence, are desirable people in a great variety of professions and businesses. Theatre arts education is education for life.

Theatre Arts Faculty

Danielle Cain, Paul Draper, Stephanie Hunt, Judy Navas, Kent Nicholson, Tori Truss — Drama
Mahalath Alsworth, Anne Bluethenthal, Nancy Lyons — Dance
Anthony Bish, Pamela Johnson, Patrick Toebe — Technical



Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts

Degree Requirements.....Units

General Education	51
Theatre Arts Requirements	48
General Electives	21

Total units need for graduation 120

Students must complete Phase I before Phase II.

Acting Concentration

PHASE I—REQUIRED (freshman and sophomore years)

THAR 102	Intro to the History of Drama & Dance: Origins to 1800 (3)	
OR		
THAR 103	Intro to History of Drama & Dance 1800 to present (3)	3
THAR 120	Acting: Fundamentals	2
THAR 220A	Acting: Text and Scene Study.....	2
Choose two of the technical theatre courses*		4

Total units 11

PHASE II—REQUIRED (junior and senior years)

THAR 300	Theatre in Action	3
THAR 320A/B	Intermediate Acting Block A/B.....	10
THAR 350	Directing Workshop	2
THAR 370A	Early Plays: Evolution and Innovation.....	3
THAR 370B	Modern Plays: Evolution and Innovation	3
THAR 400	Theatre of Today.....	1
THAR 420A/B	Advanced Acting Block A/B.....	10
Electives – Theatre Arts.....		5

Total units 37

Total units in the acting concentration..... 48

Dance Concentration

PHASE I—REQUIRED (freshman and sophomore years)

THAR 102	Intro to the History of Drama & Dance: Origins to 1800 (3)	
OR		
THAR 103	Intro to History of Drama & Dance 1800 to present (3)	3
THAR 210A	Dance Technique Level I.....	2
THAR 210B	Dance Technique Level II	2
THAR 240	Choreography I	2
Choose two of the technical theatre courses*		4

Total units 13

PHASE II—REQUIRED (junior and senior years)

THAR 300	Theatre in Action	3
THAR 310A/B	Intermediate Dance Block A/B	10
THAR 340	Choreography II	2
THAR 345	Choreography III	2
THAR 371A	History of Dance A.....	3
THAR 371B	History of Dance B.....	3
THAR 400	Theatre of Today.....	1
THAR 410A/B	Advanced Dance Block A/B	10
Electives – Dance		1

Total units 35

Total units in the dance concentration..... 48

Technical Theatre Concentration

PHASE I—REQUIRED (freshman and sophomore years)

THAR 102	Intro to the History of Drama & Dance.....	3
Take all three Technical Theatre courses*		6
THAR 230	Stage Management	3
Choose three units from the following beginning dance/drama courses:		3
THAR 120A	Acting: Fundamentals	(2)
THAR 110	Beginning Dance	(1)
THAR 210A	Dance Level I	(2)
THAR 116	Acting Styles: Improvisation (Comedy)	(1)

Total units 15

PHASE II—REQUIRED (junior and senior years)

THAR 300	Theatre in Action	3
THAR 344A/B	Design for the Stage: Theories A/B.....	6
THAR 321A/B	Intermediate Technical Block A/B	4
THAR 350	Directing Workshop	2
THAR 370A	Early Plays: Evolution and Innovation.....	3
THAR 370B	Modern Plays: Evolution and Innovation	3
THAR 400	Theatre of Today.....	1

THAR 421A/B	Advanced Technical Block A/B	4
THAR 444	History of Ornament.....	2
Electives — Theatre.....		5

Total units 33

Total units in the technical theatre concentration..... 48

General Theatre Degree

PHASE I—REQUIRED (freshman and sophomore years)

Students must complete Phase I before Phase II:

THAR 102	Intro to the History of Drama & Dance: Origins to 1800.....	3
THAR 103	Intro to the History of Drama & Dance: 1800 to Present.....	3
THAR 120	Acting: Fundamentals	2
THAR 143A	Stagecraft.....	2
Any one of the three technical theatre classes*		2
THAR 200	Seeing Theatre Today or	3
THAR 230	Stage Management (strongly recommended)	
THAR 220A	Acting: Text and Scene Study (may sub 2 units of Dance).....	2

Total units required in Phase I 17

PHASE II—REQUIRED (junior and senior years)

THAR 300	Theatre in Action	3
Any one of the following three workshop classes:		3
THAR 301	Dance Ensemble (3) or	
THAR 302	Drama Ensemble Workshop (3) or	
THAR 303	Technical Theatre Workshop (3)	
ENGL 339	Introduction to Shakespeare	3
THAR 350	Directing Workshop	2
THAR 370A	Early Plays: Evolution and Innovation.....	3
THAR 371A	History of Dance A.....	3
Any one of the following two classes		3
THAR 370B	Modern Plays: Evolution and Innovation (3) or	
THAR 371B	History of Dance B (3)	
One of the following two classes:		3
THAR 374	World Theatre (3) or	
THAR 373	Dances of the World (3)	
THAR 375	Contemporary Plays and Playwrites	3
THAR 400	Theatre of Today	1
One of the following two teaching classes:		2
THAR 460	Drama for Children (2) or	
THAR 470	Dance for Children (2)	
Theatre Arts Electives		2

Total units required in Phase II..... 31

Total units in the general drama concentration 48

Minor in Theatre Arts

The minor in theatre arts consists of 24 units of theatre arts courses. Students may choose a concentration in either dance or drama. Six of the the elective units must be upper division. Students contemplating a minor in theatre arts should consult the theatre arts department at the earliest possible date for approval and advising.

Minor Core Requirements

THAR 102	Intro to the History of Drama & Dance: Origins to 1800 (3)	
OR		
THAR 103	Intro to History of Drama & Dance 1800 to present (3)	3
THAR 300	Theatre in Action	3
THAR 301	Dance Ensemble or	
THAR 302	Drama Ensemble or	
THAR 303	Technical Theatre Workshop.....	3

Total units required in the minor core..... 9

Minor Electives

Electives must include at least 6 upper-division units and should be chosen in consultation with an advisor (Choreography I is required for a dance emphasis).

Total units required in the minor electives 15

Total units in the minor 24

* Technical Theatre Courses:

THAR 143B**	Beginning Theatre Technology: Costumes	(2)
THAR 144A**	Beginning Theatre Technology: Scenery	(2)
THAR 144B**	Beginning Theatre Technology: Lighting	(2)

**Prerequisite or concurrent enrollment in THAR 143A Stagecraft

We hope this information will be helpful. Official requirements of all majors and programs are published in the Sonoma State University catalog. Sonoma State University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution and has a strong commitment to the principal of diversity. A member of the California State University

