Theatre (THTR)

Michael Riha
Chair of the Department
619 Kimpel Hall
479-575-2953

Department of Theatre Website (http://fulbright.uark.edu/departments/theatre/)

The Department of Theatre offers the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree in Theatre, a broad spectrum program in the context of a liberal arts education, and the Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) degree in six concentrations: Acting, Directing, Playwriting, Costume Design, Scene Design and Lighting Design. (Please see the Graduate Catalog for information regarding the M.F.A. Theatre degree (http://catalog.uark.edu/graduatecatalog/programsofstudy/theatrethtr/).) Classes at both undergraduate and graduate levels are focused on providing a strong, professional orientation to theatre performance and technology in conjunction with appropriate research-based course work to address the required foundations in theatre history, dramatic literature and dramatic criticism.

The educational objectives of the Department of Theatre are centered on producing graduates prepared to enter the competitive world of professional play production as well as a variety of teaching and research fields. In addition a background in Theatre has proven to be a valuable asset to those wishing to pursue a wide range of corporate and industrial occupations.

The play production program is the “laboratory” for study in Theatre. To that end the department produces an average of 10 plays each year involving students in virtually all aspects of production. Auditions are open to all students on campus.

The Department of Theatre also supports course work in Dance, offering a variety of basic and advanced studio courses.

For requirements for the M.F.A. degrees in theatre, see the Graduate School Catalog.

Requirements for a Major in Theatre: In addition to the University Core requirements (http://catalog.uark.edu/undergraduatecatalog/academicregulations/universitycore/) and the Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences Graduation Requirements (http://catalog.uark.edu/undergraduatecatalog/collegesandschools/jwilliamfulbrightcollege/), the following course requirements must be met. Bolded courses from the list below may be applied to portions of the university/state minimum core requirements.

Three hours of any world language at the 1013 Elementary II level; and three hours of continued coursework in the same world language, or 3 hours of a different world language course.

A University Core fine arts course other than THTR 1003 Theatre Appreciation

Select one course from two of the following categories. These two courses must be completed in addition to coursework used to satisfy the University/state core.

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Writing Requirement: The Fulbright College research/analytical paper requirement for theatre majors will be fulfilled in THTR 4233 or THTR 4333. Satisfactory completion of an honors project or senior thesis may fulfill the requirement.

Senior Capstone: All theatre majors are required, in the semester before graduation, to successfully complete the Senior Capstone, a faculty assessment of each student’s accomplishments in performance and production.

Requirements for Design and Technology Concentration

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<td>THTR 3903</td>
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<td>Rendering for the Theatre</td>
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<td>THTR 4653</td>
<td>Scene Design</td>
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In addition, all theatre majors must complete 21 hours from one of two concentration areas of study: Design and Technology or Performance.

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2 Fulfills Fulbright College writing requirement.
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Requirements for a Concentration in Performance

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Requirements for a Minor in Theatre: A minimum of 18 semester hours in theatre, including THTR 1223 or THTR 1003 or THTR 1003H. One of the following courses or course/lab combinations is also required: THTR 1313, or THTR 1323 and THTR 1321L, or THTR 1683. The remaining hours must be selected from courses at the 3000- or 4000-level, the specific courses to be determined by the student in consultation with a theatre department faculty adviser. The student must notify the department of his or her intent to minor.

Requirements for Graduation with Honors in Theatre: Both the College and the Departmental Honors Program in Theatre provide undergraduate students with an opportunity to participate formally in creative and/or scholarly activities. Honors candidates carry out independent study and research under the guidance of the Theatre faculty and participate in special honors classes, seminars and colloquia. Admission to the Fulbright Honors Program is open to Theatre majors with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5 in all of their coursework. Honors candidates must complete a minimum of 12 hours of honors courses, three of which will be THTR 399VH Honors Thesis. (THTR 399VH may be repeated for up to six of these 12 hours.) To successfully complete the required thesis, students should choose an honors thesis adviser as early as possible. An adviser should be selected, and an Honors Agreement completed, no later than the first semester in a student’s junior year.

Honors candidates must meet the college’s requirements for an honors degree. Students graduating with honors will typically be recognized with the distinction “Theatre Scholar Cum Laude.” Higher degree distinctions (magna cum laude and summa cum laude) are awarded by the Honors Council, are recommended only in truly exceptional cases, and are based upon the whole of the candidate’s program of honors studies.

Theatre (B.A.) Theatre/Speech Teacher Licensure Requirements:

Please refer to the Secondary Education Requirements (http://catalog.uark.edu/undergraduatecatalog/collegesandschools/jwilliamfulbrightcollegeofartsandsciences/#fieldsofstudytext) for Fulbright College Students.

Burrow, Jason E., M.M. (Ohio University), B.M. (University of Arkansas), Assistant Professor, 2015.

Corbett, Benjamin, M.F.A. (University of Pittsburgh), B.A. (University of Dallas), Assistant Professor, 2019.

Culhane, Michelle, M.A. (New York University), B.S. (Louisiana State University), Instructor, 2018.

Dwyer, Mavourneen, M.F.A. (University of Texas at Austin), B.A. (University of Montreal), Instructor, 1998.

Frank, Kate L., M.F.A. (University of Arkansas), B.F.A. (California State University-Los Angeles), Lecturer, 2006.

Hermanson, Karl, M.F.A. (University of South Dakota), B.A. (Dana College), Instructor, 2018.

Writing Requirement: The Fulbright College research/analytical paper requirement for theatre majors will be fulfilled in THTR 4233 or THTR 4333. Satisfactory completion of an honors project or senior thesis may fulfill the requirement.

Senior Capstone: All theatre majors are required, in the semester before graduation, to successfully complete the Senior Capstone, a faculty assessment of each student’s accomplishments in performance and production.

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<td>World Literature: Beginnings to 1650 CE (ACTS Equivalency = ENGL 2113)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 2003</td>
<td>Introduction to Philosophy (ACTS Equivalency = PHIL 1103)</td>
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Total Hours 15

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This course is equivalent to a quintessentially American art form and its role in society. Prerequisite: Honors
Includes guided listening, and reading, viewing, and critically thinking about this
An introduction to musical theatre literature, history, process and artists.
THTR 1013H. Honors Musical Theatre Appreciation. 3 Hours.
Spring)
quintessentially American art form and its role in society. (Typically offered: Fall and
Includes guided listening, and reading, viewing, and critically thinking about this
An introduction to musical theatre literature, history, process and artists.
THTR 1013. Musical Theatre Appreciation. 3 Hours.
Prerequisite: Honors candidacy. (Typically offered: Fall and Spring)
This course is equivalent to THTR 1013.

Courses
THTR 1003. Basic Course in the Arts: Theatre Appreciation (ACTS Equivalency = DRAM 1003). 3 Hours.
Introduction to theatre arts; playwriting, directing, acting, and design. For the
general student. May not be presented towards satisfaction of the B.A. in fine arts
requirement by theatre majors. (Typically offered: Fall, Spring and Summer)
THTR 1003H. Honors Basic Course in the Arts: Theatre Appreciation. 3 Hours.
Introduction to theatre arts; playwriting, directing, acting, and design. For the
general student. May not be presented towards satisfaction of the B.A. in fine arts
requirement by theatre majors. (Typically offered: Fall and Spring)
This course is equivalent to THTR 1003.
THTR 1223. Introduction to Theatre. 3 Hours.
Examination of the various elements that make up the theatre art form. Provides hands-on experience in the artistic and technical aspects of theatre. Playwriting,
directing, acting and design principles are discussed. Covers dramatic history,
literature, theory, and the role of the theatre in society. Course culminates in
collaborative group projects. Prerequisite: Theatre major or minor. (Typically offered: Fall)
This course is equivalent to THTR 1003.
THTR 1313. Stage Technology I: Costumes and Makeup. 3 Hours.
Fundamentals of basic costume construction with an emphasis on techniques,
materials, planning and process. Training in the basic principles of theatrical makeup
application. Corequisite: Drill component. Prerequisite: Theatre major or instructor
consent. (Typically offered: Fall and Spring)
THTR 1323. Stage Technology II: Scenery and Lighting. 3 Hours.
Fundamentals of scenery and lighting technology with emphasis on theatre tools,
equipment, and basic drafting. Training in basic principles and skills of stage
carpentry, lighting technology and rigging. Prerequisite: Theatre major or instructor
consent. Corequisite: Drill component. (Typically offered: Fall and Spring)

THTR 1423. Script Analysis. 3 Hours.
Investigation of the dramatic forms and structures of play texts - from the classical
era to the present - with special emphasis on how actors, directors, and designers
encounter and realize texts in the production process. Prerequisite: THTR 1223.
(Typically offered: Spring)
THTR 1423H. Honors Script Analysis. 3 Hours.
Investigation of the dramatic forms and structures of play texts - from the classical
era to the present - with special emphasis on how actors, directors, and designers
encounter and realize texts in the production process. Prerequisite: THTR 1223 and
honors candidacy. (Typically offered: Spring)
This course is equivalent to THTR 1423.
THTR 1683. Acting I. 3 Hours.
An analytical approach to the actor’s art with emphasis on the techniques of
colorization. (Typically offered: Fall and Spring)
THTR 1883. Acting I for Theatre Majors. 3 Hours.
An introductory acting studio course for theatre majors, exploring the physical, vocal,
and imaginative processes required for performance of dramatic texts, and building a
vocabulary and technique for acting through exercises and scene-work that will build
a foundation for theatre classes within the major. Pre- or Corequisite: Theatre major or
minor. Prerequisite: THTR 1223. (Typically offered: Spring)
THTR 2313. Fundamentals of Theatrical Design. 3 Hours.
Principles and practices of theatre design including the elements of design and
the fundamental principles of art and its application to the areas of set, costume,
lighting and sound design. This course studies the designer's role in the production
process, design requirements, and aesthetics. Emphasis on the basic principles of
two-dimensional art and graphic forms through the use of various media. (Typically
offered: Fall)
THTR 2461. Alexander Technique Lessons. 1 Hour.
Students will become aware of habitual patterns of tension and how these patterns
interfere with performance, learning, and overall health. The Technique offers
practical skills for improving coordination and for re-gaining a sense of ease of
movement in all activities. (Typically offered: Fall, Spring and Summer) May be
repeated for up to 6 hours of degree credit.
THTR 2483. Stage Movement for the Actor. 3 Hours.
Instruction incorporates physical warm-up strategies and exercises designed to
improve relaxation; develop flexibility, alignment, strength, kinesthetic awareness,
and appreciation of mind/body unity; and to connect stage movement to imagination,
character development, and text. Techniques covered include Alexander
training, Michael Chekhov work, dance, theater games and gentle yoga practice.
Prerequisite: THTR 1223 and (THTR 1683 or THTR 1883). (Typically offered: Fall)

Herzberg, Amy, M.F.A. (California Institute of the Arts), B.A. (Arizona
State University), Distinguished Professor, 1989.
Hicks, Morgan, M.F.A. (University of Arkansas), M.A. (Missouri State
University), B.F.A. (Arkansas State University), Teaching Assistant
Professor, 2007.
Irish, Shawn D., M.F.A. (University of Arkansas), B.A. (Missouri Southern
State University), Assistant Professor, 2013.
Jilka, Elizabeth C., M.F.A., B.A. (University of Arkansas), Lecturer, 2017.
Landman, Michael, M.F.A. (Columbia University), B.A. (State University
of New York at Binghamton), Associate Professor, 2004.
Lane, Valerie Jean, M.F.A. (Pennsylvania State University), B.F.A.
(Memphis College of Art), Instructor, 2008.
Marzolf, Steven, M.F.A. (University of San Diego), B.A. (University of
Wisconsin–Green Bay), Lecturer, 2015.
Millett, Joseph D., M.F.A. (University of Southern California), B.A. (Union
College), Visiting Assistant Professor, 2015.
Riha, Michael, M.F.A. (Indiana University at Bloomington), B.F.A.
(University of Wisconsin), Professor, 1992.
Siebrits, Helene, M.F.A. (University of California, Los Angeles), B.A.
(University of California, Los Angeles), Associate Professor, 2020.
Smith, Ben Corbett, M.F.A. (University of Pittsburgh), B.A. (University of
Dallas), Assistant Professor, 2019.
Wade, Les, Ph.D. (University of California-Santa Barbara), M.F.A.
(University of Georgia), M.A. (Duke University), B.A. (Tulane University),
Professor, 2011.
Walch, John S., M.F.A. (University of Texas at Austin), B.A. (Colorado
College), Assistant Professor, 2016.
Wilkerson, Weston, M.F.A. (University of Tennessee), B.A. (Texas A&M
University), Assistant Professor, 2014.
THTR 2513. Drafting for the Theatre. 3 Hours.
Covers basic technical drawing and graphic skills necessary to communicate design ideas to fellow artisans. Both production and design-oriented drafting will be explored using both hand drafting and computer techniques. Prerequisite: THTR 1323 or instructor consent. (Typically offered: Fall Even Years)

THTR 2683. Acting II. 3 Hours.
An acting studio course deepening the exploration of techniques introduced in Acting I, including expanded work on characterization and script analysis through exercises, scene-work and monologue performance. Prerequisite: THTR 1223 or THTR 1003 or THTR 1003H and (THTR 1683 or THTR 1883). (Typically offered: Fall and Spring)

THTR 3001. Production Practicum. 1 Hour.
Credit for participation in technical assignments related to mainstage or faculty-directed productions: one (1) credit hour per production. Assignments shall be determined by the faculty. Credit will be awarded only after completion of assignments and only with faculty approval. (Typically offered: Fall and Spring) May be repeated for up to 2 hours of degree credit.

THTR 3011. Performance Practicum. 1 Hour.
Credit for performance in faculty directed productions; one credit hour per production. Assignments shall be determined by the faculty. Credit will be awarded only after satisfactory completion of assignment and with faculty approval. (Typically offered: Fall and Spring) May be repeated for up to 2 hours of degree credit.

THTR 3213. Costume Design. 3 Hours.
Study of the art and practice of stage costume design. Emphasis on the expression of character through costume. Development of rendering and research skills. Prerequisite: THTR 2313. (Typically offered: Fall Even Years)

THTR 3243. Costume Technology. 3 Hours.
Advanced methods of costume construction techniques and the exploration of theatrical pattern drafting will be practiced through projects. Prerequisite: THTR 1313. (Typically offered: Irregular)

THTR 3433. Stage Speech. 3 Hours.
An introduction to the basic skills of speech, voice production and communication for performance and broadcasting. Special focus on General American speech and the characteristics of speech regionalisms. The course will explore breath control, resonance, articulation, pitch, volume, voice quality and stress management. Prerequisite: THTR 1223 and either THTR 1683 or THTR 1883. (Typically offered: Fall and Spring)

THTR 3463. Introduction to the Alexander Technique. 3 Hours.
The Alexander Technique helps us to become aware of habits of tension and how these patterns interfere with performance, learning, and overall health. The technique offers a systematic process of re-learning how to move with more ease and coordination in all activities. (Typically offered: Irregular) May be repeated for up to 12 hours of degree credit.

THTR 3653. Directing I. 3 Hours.
Basic principles and techniques of play direction, including play analysis, audition and rehearsal organization, staging and collaborating with actors. Pre- or Corequisite: Theatre major and junior or senior standing, or instructor consent. Prerequisite: THTR 1223 or THTR 1003 or THTR 1003H, and THTR 1313, THTR 1323 and THTR 2683. (Typically offered: Fall and Spring)

THTR 3663. Acting Scene Study. 3 Hours.
An advanced acting studio building on techniques introduced in Acting I and II. Intensive work on script analysis, emotional preparation, awakening the imagination, characterization, partner work and playing action. Prerequisite: THTR 1683 or THTR 1883 and THTR 2683. (Typically offered: Spring)

THTR 3673. Auditioning for the Theatre. 3 Hours.
An advanced acting course, focusing on theatrical monologues and developing the actor's confidence and ability in theatre auditioning. In simulated auditions, students develop and explore contrasting monologues, including contemporary and classical pieces, comedy, and drama. Students practice slating techniques, cold and prepared callbacks, musical auditions, video submissions, and resume preparation. Prerequisite: (THTR 1683 or THTR 1883) and THTR 2683. (Typically offered: Irregular)

THTR 3683. Stage Management. 3 Hours.
Principles of stage management in the context of academic and professional theatre production. Issues of theatre management and producing are addressed as they relate to play production activities. Prerequisite: THTR 1223 or THTR 1003 or THTR 1003H and THTR 1313, THTR 1323. (Typically offered: Fall)

THTR 3733. Lighting Design. 3 Hours.
The study of the practical application and technology of stage lighting including history, electricity, conventional and moving lighting instruments, dimming systems, consoles and control systems and related paperwork. Ten lab hours to coincide with departmental productions is required. Prerequisite: THTR 1323 and THTR 2313. (Typically offered: Spring Odd Years)

THTR 3903. Theatrical Makeup. 3 Hours.
The techniques and skills of theatrical makeup and design involved in the creation and execution of character makeup for the stage. Prerequisite: THTR 1313. (Typically offered: Spring Odd Years) May be repeated for up to 6 hours of degree credit.

THTR 3923H. Honors Colloquium. 3 Hours.
Treats a special topic or issue, offered as part of the honors program. Prerequisite: Honors candidacy (not restricted to candidacy in THTR). (Typically offered: Irregular) May be repeated for degree credit.

THTR 399VH. Honors Thesis. 1-6 Hour.
The Honor student will complete a thesis. Prerequisite: Junior standing. (Typically offered: Fall, Spring and Summer) May be repeated for up to 12 hours of degree credit.

THTR 4063. Playwriting. 3 Hours.
A beginning workshop in the fundamentals of playwriting which culminates in the completion of an original play. Exercises in dialogue, character development, conflict and structure will be an essential part of the course. Prerequisite: THTR 1223 or THTR 1003 or THTR 1003H. (Typically offered: Spring)

THTR 4123. Rendering for the Theatre. 3 Hours.
Provides the fundamentals of visual communication for theatre in a variety of media and techniques. Investigation of traditional drawing and painting methods and materials used by theatrical designers. Application of computer technology and software training in creating documents necessary to the theatrical process. Prerequisite: THTR 2313. (Typically offered: Spring Even Years)

THTR 4141. Singing for Musical Theatre. 1 Hour.
Private study of the singing voice focusing on musical theatre vocal technique and repertoire. (Typically offered: Irregular) May be repeated for up to 3 hours of degree credit.

THTR 4153. Musical Theatre Performance. 3 Hours.
Principles and techniques of performing a singing role for the theatre. Examines the relationship between score and text. (Typically offered: Irregular) May be repeated for up to 6 hours of degree credit.

THTR 4161. Musical Theatre Orchestra. 1 Hour.
A music ensemble class made up of students from all majors who will rehearse together and perform as the pit orchestra for the musical produced by the Department of Theatre. Instrumentation and musical styles vary from show to show. (Typically offered: Irregular) May be repeated for up to 3 hours of degree credit.
THTR 4233. History of the Theatre I. 3 Hours.
A survey of dramatic literature, theatre practices and cultural contexts for dramatic presentation from classical Greece through the Restoration. Prerequisite: THTR 1223 or THTR 1003 or THTR 1003H. (Typically offered: Fall)

THTR 4333. History of the Theatre II. 3 Hours.
A survey of dramatic literature, theatre practices and cultural contexts for dramatic presentation from the 18th century to the mid-20th century. Emphasis is given to Western theatre practices. Prerequisite: THTR 1223 or THTR 1003 or THTR 1003H. (Typically offered: Spring)

THTR 4463. African American Theatre History -- 1950 to Present. 3 Hours.
A chronological examination of African-American theatre history from 1950 to the present through the study of African-American plays and political/social conditions. Upon completion of this course the student should be familiar with the major works of African-American theatre and have a deeper understanding of American History. (Typically offered: Spring)

THTR 4483. Meisner I. 3 Hours.
This course introduces students to the Sanford Meisner approach to acting. A progressive series of exercises focus on listening, concentration, imagination, working from impulse, and actively connecting to given circumstances. This class is the first in a two course sequence of Meisner study. Prerequisite: THTR 2683. (Typically offered: Fall)

THTR 4493. Meisner II. 3 Hours.
Continuation of Beginning Meisner Technique. A progressive series of exercises focus on emotional preparation, connection to impulse, and living fully under imaginative circumstances. Prerequisite: THTR 4483. (Typically offered: Spring)

THTR 4653. Scene Design. 3 Hours.
Theory and practice in the art of scenic design, including historical and contemporary styles and procedures. Prerequisite: THTR 1323, THTR 2313 and THTR 2513. (Typically offered: Fall Odd Years)

THTR 4683. Acting Shakespeare. 3 Hours.
An acting studio course exploring the performance of Shakespearean texts, with focus on scansion, verse and prose, poetry, characterization and voice and articulation. Prerequisite: THTR 1683 or THTR 1883, and THTR 2683. (Typically offered: Fall)

THTR 4833. Scene Painting. 3 Hours.
A studio class in painting techniques for the theatre. Exercises in color, textures, styles, and execution. Prerequisite: THTR 1323 and THTR 2313. (Typically offered: Spring Odd Years) May be repeated for up to 6 hours of degree credit.

THTR 490V. Independent Study. 1-3 Hour.
Individually designed and conducted programs of reading and reporting under the guidance of a faculty member. Prerequisite: Instructor consent. (Typically offered: Fall, Spring and Summer) May be repeated for up to 3 hours of degree credit.

THTR 491V. Special Topics. 1-3 Hour.
Classes not listed in the regular curriculum, offered on demand on the basis of student needs and changes within the profession. (Typically offered: Fall, Spring and Summer) May be repeated for degree credit.

THTR 492V. Internship. 1-12 Hour.
A practical, experiential approach to performance and production using the internship program to provide training and experience more advanced than that provided during the normal school year. Students will outline a contract of specific requirements based upon that individual's needs, goals, and skills. Prerequisite: Instructor consent. (Typically offered: Fall, Spring and Summer) May be repeated for up to 12 hours of degree credit.

THTR 4953. Theatre Study in Britain. 3 Hours.
Study of the components of stage production through attending and critiquing a wide variety of classical, modern, and avant garde theatre productions in England; includes tours of London and historical British sites and seminars with British theatre artists. (Typically offered: Summer)