ACTING/DIRECTING, THEATRE ARTS (BFA)

Degree: Bachelor of Fine Arts
Major: Theatre Arts
Concentration: Acting/Directing
Program Code: 3265

About This Major...

The Department of Theatre Arts offers one of the most successful theatre training degree programs in Colorado. Theatre Arts majors choose from three distinct concentrations in the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree (Acting/Directing, Music Theatre, or Design/Technology), the Bachelor of Arts degree (Theatre Arts), or the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Dance, and acquire a sound understanding of the performing arts in state-of-the-art facilities.

The Acting/Directing concentration is constructed to help students meet the rigorous demands of a professional acting career and provide a strong foundation and practical experience for future directors. Beginning with the first semester, students enroll in performance courses taught by academically and professionally experienced faculty. Unlike larger institutions, acting opportunities in all productions at Colorado Mesa University are open to motivated and talented freshmen. In acting courses, students are exposed to techniques and approaches that are industry standards today. Training is grounded in Stanislavski, Cohen, and Chekhov. Voice and movement courses are complemented by performance opportunities in student in faculty directed productions. Acting students also audition for one act plays directed by directing students each year. Experimental and other challenging productions are offered at the Mesa Experimental Theatre.

Colorado Mesa is strategically located at the hub of a circle of important entertainment centers such as Aspen, Telluride, Moab, and Park City, Utah. There are regional theatres of international repute within driving distance, such as the Utah Shakespeare Festival, the Denver Center for the Performing Arts, and the Colorado Shakespeare Festival. There is a thriving theatrical scene in Grand Junction that offers opportunities for summer employment, including CMUs own Mesa Repertory Theatre. At Colorado Mesa, we are committed to the philosophy of training theatrical entrepreneurs. We offer low teacher-to-student ratios so that personal attention and mentoring are possible. Our many graduates in the industry have informed us that Colorado Mesa’s approach was invaluable.

For more information on what you can do with this major, visit Career Services’ What to Do with a Major? resource.

All CMU baccalaureate graduates are expected to demonstrate proficiency in specialized knowledge/applied learning, quantitative fluency, communication fluency, critical thinking, personal and social responsibility, and information literacy. In addition to these campus-wide student learning outcomes, graduates of this major will be able to:

a. Communicate verbally contemporary and enduring concepts concerning Human Culture through participation and/or observation of the performing arts and speech. (Specialized Knowledge/Communication)
b. Communicate non-verbally contemporary and enduring concepts concerning Human Culture through participation and/or observation of the performing arts and speech. (Specialized Knowledge/Communication)
c. Create progressively more challenging projects through the use of intellectual and/or practical skills. (Applied Learning)
d. Demonstrate teamwork and problem solving skills through collaboration and cooperation on creative projects. (Critical Thinking)
e. Demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and versatility of the discipline from conceptualization to application. (Applied Learning)

Requirements

Each section below contains details about the requirements for this program. Select a header to expand the information/requirements for that particular section of the program’s requirements.

To print or save an overview of this program's information, including the program description, learning outcomes, requirements, suggested course sequencing (if applicable), and advising and graduation information, scroll to the bottom of the left-hand navigation menu and select "Print Options." This will give you the options to either "Send Page to Printer" or "Download PDF of This Page." The "Download PDF of This Page" option prepares a much more concise presentation of all program information. The PDF is also printable and may be preferable due to its brevity.

Institutional Degree Requirements

The following institutional degree requirements apply to all CMU baccalaureate degrees. Specific programs may have different requirements that must be met in addition to institutional requirements.

- 120 semester hours minimum.
- Students must complete a minimum of 30 of the last 60 hours of credit at CMU, with at least 15 semester hours in major discipline courses numbered 300 or higher.
- 40 upper-division credits (an alternative credit limit applies to the Bachelor of Applied Science degree).
- 2.00 cumulative GPA or higher in all CMU coursework.
- A course may only be used to fulfill one requirement for each degree/certificate.
- No more than six semester hours of independent study courses can be used toward the degree.
- Non-traditional credit, such as advanced placement, credit by examination, credit for prior learning, cooperative education and internships, cannot exceed 30 semester credit hours for a baccalaureate degree. A maximum of 15 of the 30 credits may be for cooperative education, internships, and practica.
- Pre-collegiate courses (usually numbered below 100) cannot be used for graduation.
- Capstone exit assessment/projects (e.g., Major Field Achievement Test) requirements are identified under Program-Specific Degree Requirements.
- The Catalog Year determines which program sheet and degree requirements a student must fulfill in order to graduate. Visit with your advisor or academic department to determine which catalog year and program requirements you should follow.
- See “Requirements for Undergraduate Degrees and Certificates” in the catalog for a complete list of graduation requirements.

Essential Learning Requirements

(31 semester hours)
See the current catalog for a list of courses that fulfill the requirements below. If a course is an Essential Learning option and a requirement for your major, you must use it to fulfill the major requirement and make a different selection for the Essential Learning requirement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Semester Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 111</td>
<td>English Composition I-GTCO1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 112</td>
<td>English Composition II-GTCO2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 110</td>
<td>Mathematical Investigations-GTMA1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

History
Select one History course 3

Humanities
Select one Humanities course 3

Social and Behavioral Sciences
Select one Social and Behavioral Sciences course 3
Select one Social and Behavioral Sciences course 3

Fine Arts
Select one Fine Arts course 3

Natural Sciences
Select one Natural Sciences course with a lab 4
Select one Natural Sciences course 3

Total Semester Credit Hours 31

1 Must receive a grade of "C" or better and must be completed by the time the student has 60 semester hours.

Program Specific Degree Requirements
(58 semester hours, must maintain a 2.0 cumulative GPA or higher in coursework in this area.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Semester Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>THEA 117</td>
<td>Play Production</td>
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<tr>
<td>THEA 118</td>
<td>Play Production</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>THEA 142</td>
<td>Make-up</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 145</td>
<td>Introduction to Dramatic Literature-GTAH1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 156</td>
<td>Acting II: Contemporary Scenework</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 217</td>
<td>Play Production</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>THEA 218</td>
<td>Play Production</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 253</td>
<td>Acting IV: Stage Movement</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 256</td>
<td>Auditions</td>
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<td>Play Production</td>
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<tr>
<td>THEA 318</td>
<td>Play Production</td>
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<tr>
<td>THEA 331</td>
<td>Theatre History I: 400 B.C. to 1642</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 332</td>
<td>Theatre History II: From 1642 to the Present</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>THEA 381</td>
<td>Directing I</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>THEA 417</td>
<td>Play Production</td>
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<tr>
<td>THEA 418</td>
<td>Play Production</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>THEA 401</td>
<td>Career Preparation</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>THEA 494</td>
<td>Performance Seminar: Acting/Directing and Musical Theatre Capstone</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 353</td>
<td>Advanced Acting: Styles in Acting</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 454</td>
<td>Acting V: Shakespeare</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Advanced Acting
Select 9 semester hours of the following: 9

1 Must receive a grade of "C" or better.

Other Lower Division Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Title</th>
<th>Semester Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KINE 100</td>
<td>Health and Wellness</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESSL 290</td>
<td>Maverick Milestone</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESSL 200</td>
<td>Essential Speech</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Semester Credit Hours 6

1 Essential Learning Capstone must be taken after completion of the Essential Learning English and Mathematics requirements, and when a student has earned between 45 and 75 hours.

Foundation Courses
(18 semester hours, Theatre courses must be completed prior to the student’s junior year)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>THEA 130</td>
<td>Script Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 153</td>
<td>Acting I: Beginning Acting</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPCH 112</td>
<td>Acting III: Voice and Diction</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 102</td>
<td>Introduction to Theatre Technology: Stagecraft</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>THEA 103</td>
<td>Introduction to Theatre Technology: Costume</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 104</td>
<td>Introduction to Theatre Technology: Lighting</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 105</td>
<td>Introduction to Theatre Technology: Sound Technology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESSL 200</td>
<td>Essential Speech</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>THEA 300</td>
<td>Advanced Acting: Stage Combat</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>THEA 354</td>
<td>Advanced Acting: The Meisner Approach</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>THEA 356</td>
<td>Advanced Acting: Dialects</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>THEA 369</td>
<td>Improvisation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 453</td>
<td>Advanced Acting: Acting for the Camera</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>
THEA 459  Advanced Acting: Chekhov Technique

Theatre Options
Select six semester hours of the following: 6
THEA 322  Stage Management
THEA 345  World Drama
THEA 380  Playwriting I
THEA 382  Directing II
THEA 411  American Drama
THEA 412  Contemporary Drama
ENGL 355  Shakespeare

Performance Options
Select three semester hours of the following: 3
THEA 119  Technical Performance
THEA 120  Technical Performance
THEA 219  Technical Performance
THEA 220  Technical Performance
THEA 319  Technical Performance
THEA 320  Technical Performance
THEA 419  Technical Performance
THEA 420  Technical Performance
THEA 147  Drama Performance
THEA 148  Drama Performance
THEA 247  Drama Performance
THEA 248  Drama Performance
THEA 347  Drama Performance
THEA 348  Drama Performance
THEA 447  Drama Performance
THEA 448  Drama Performance
DANC 156  Dance Performance
DANC 256  Dance Performance
DANC 356  Dance Performance
DANC 456  Dance Performance

Total Semester Credit Hours 58

General Electives
All college level courses appearing on your final transcript, not listed above that will bring your total semester hours to 120 hours, including 40 upper division hours. 4 semester hours, additional hours of upper division hours may be needed.

Select electives 4

Total Semester Credit Hours 54

Suggested Course Plan
While the sequencing below culminates in a total of 120-128 semester credit hours, students must complete a minimum of 120 semester credit hours as required for completion of this degree, including satisfactory completion of all required courses. Plan to complete requirements with varying hour options accordingly.

First Year
Fall Semester
ENGL 111  English Composition I-GTC01 3
MATH 110  Mathematical Investigations-GTMA1 (or higher) 3
Theatre Option 3
Select one of the following. Do not take the same course twice: 3
THEA 102  Introduction to Theatre Technology: Stagecraft
THEA 103  Introduction to Theatre Technology: Costume
THEA 104  Introduction to Theatre Technology: Lighting
THEA 105  Introduction to Theatre Technology: Sound Technology
THEA 117  Play Production (fall or spring) 0-1
THEA 153  Acting I: Beginning Acting 3

Semester Credit Hours 15-16

Spring Semester
ENGL 112  English Composition II-GTC02 3
Select one of the following. Do not take the same course twice: 3
THEA 102  Introduction to Theatre Technology: Stagecraft
THEA 103  Introduction to Theatre Technology: Costume
THEA 104  Introduction to Theatre Technology: Lighting
THEA 105  Introduction to Theatre Technology: Sound Technology
THEA 118  Play Production (fall or spring) 0-1
THEA 130  Script Analysis 3
THEA 145  Introduction to Dramatic Literature-GTAH1 3
THEA 156  Acting II: Contemporary Scenework 3

Semester Credit Hours 15-16

Second Year
Fall Semester
Foundation Course - Foreign Language 3
Essential Learning - Fine Arts 3
Essential Learning - Natural Science 3
KINE 100  Health and Wellness 1
SPCH 112  Acting III: Voice and Diction 3
THEA 217  Play Production (fall or spring) 0-1
Performance Option 1

Semester Credit Hours 14-15

Spring Semester
ESSL 290  Maverick Milestone 3
ESSL 200  Essential Speech 1
Essential Learning - Humanities 3
KINA Activity 1
THEA 218  Play Production (fall or spring) 0-1
THEA 253  Acting IV: Stage Movement 3
Theatre Option 3
Performance Option 1

Semester Credit Hours 15-16

Third Year
Fall Semester
Essential Learning - Social/Behavioral Sciences 3
THEA 317  Play Production (fall or spring) 0-1
THEA 331  Theatre History I: 400 B.C. to 1642 3
THEA 381  Directing I 3
THEA 454  Acting V: Shakespeare 3
Theatre Option 3
Performance Option 1

Semester Credit Hours 16-17

Spring Semester
Essential Learning - Social/Behavioral Sciences 3
THEA 142  Make-up 3
THEA 318  Play Production (fall or spring) 0-1
THEA 332  Theatre History II: From 1642 to the Present 3
Advising and Graduation

Advising Process and DegreeWorks

Documentation on the pages related to this program is intended for informational purposes to help determine what courses and associated requirements are needed to earn a degree. The suggested course sequencing outlines how students could finish degree requirements. Some courses are critical to complete in specific semesters, while others may be moved around. Meeting with an academic advisor is essential in planning courses and altering the suggested course sequencing. It is ultimately the student’s responsibility to understand and fulfill the requirements for her/his intended degree(s).

DegreeWorks is an online degree audit tool available in MAVzone. It is the official record used by the Registrar’s Office to evaluate progress towards a degree and determine eligibility for graduation. Students are responsible for reviewing their DegreeWorks audit on a regular basis and should discuss questions or concerns with their advisor or academic department head. Discrepancies in requirements should be reported to the Registrar’s Office.

Graduation Process

Students must complete the following in the first two months of the semester prior to completing their degree requirements:

- Review their DegreeWorks audit and create a plan that outlines how unmet requirements will be met in the final semester.
- Meet with their advisor and modify their plan as needed. The advisor must approve the final plan.
- Submit the “Intent to Graduate” form to the Registrar’s Office to officially declare the intended graduation date and commencement ceremony plans.
- Register for all needed courses and complete all requirements for each degree sought.

Submission deadlines and commencement details can be found at [http://www.coloradomesa.edu/registrar/graduation.html](http://www.coloradomesa.edu/registrar/graduation.html).