Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Theatre Arts

Minor in Theatre Arts
See also sections in the catalog on Dance, Dance Studies, and Film.

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The Program
Students completing this program will be able to:
- appropriately use vocabulary and historical knowledge from a wide range of theatre sub-disciplines;
- apply concepts of performance, design and technology;
- analyze and evaluate scripts and projects and contribute to department productions;
- create new designs, scripts, interpretations, and solutions;
- apply principles of effective communication and collaboration.

The goal of the theatre arts major is to provide a solid and broad foundation of knowledge, skills, and hands-on practice in performance, design, and technology in order to prepare students for jobs in professional and not-for-profit theatre and other careers; work in community and non-professional theatre, and further graduate study.

At every level of their education, students in our program are strongly encouraged to actively participate in departmental and student productions to translate their classroom knowledge into practical learning and experience. In addition, most of our classes incorporate activities and project work. Students will begin their theatre training by approaching foundational knowledge in history, vocabulary, and other skills that will strengthen their experiential learning. They will build on their understanding of principles of performance, design, and technology in class projects and productions. As they progress through the program, students will be able to analyze productions and apply their skills and knowledge in more sophisticated and prominent ways. In their project work, students will step beyond standard solutions to develop their creative thinking and problem solving skills. Throughout their education, they develop strong collaboration skills and experiences that enhance their appreciation for the importance of team work in any endeavor.

The theatre arts major allows students the flexibility to study performance or design/technology or a combination of the two through elective units. The major shares 6 units with the film major to explore commonalities and differences between the two popular arts. The theatre arts major prepares students for careers in theatre and offers skills essential in film, television, radio, and other production oriented fields. In addition, students in theatre develop skills in problem solving, teamwork, creative processing, collaboration, accountability, and communication of ideas: skills and practices demanded in a wide range of careers.

Our annual theatre production season involves students at all levels in a variety of plays by the masters, contemporary playwrights, and students. Musical productions, in collaboration with the Music Department, provide opportunities for students every year.

Humboldt’s production facilities include a 750-seat proscenium theatre, two smaller studio theatres, and an intimate thrust theatre. The program participates in the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival and the United States Institute for Theatre Technology.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR

For a description of degree requirements to be fulfilled in addition to those listed below for the major, please see “The Bachelor’s Degree” section of the catalog, pp. 67-82.

Unit Requirements
Total units in the major: 48
Total units required for the degree: 120

Special Grade Requirement
A minimum grade of C is required for all courses in the major.

Required Courses [34 units]

- TA 237 [3] Production Techniques
- TA 328 [4] Production Practicum [1 unit course taken for 4 semesters]
- TA 494 [2] Senior Seminar

Complete one of the following courses.
- TA 333 [4] Lighting Design Stage & Screen

Elective Courses [14 units]

- TA 333 [4] Lighting Design Stage & Screen
- TA 377 [1] Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival
- TA 480 [1-4] Special Topics in Theatre Arts

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MINOR

Total units required for the minor: 15

Required Courses [5 units]

- TA 328 [1] Production Practicum

Elective Courses [10 units]

Complete 10 units focused on performance, design and technology, or a combination of the two areas selected in consultation with a departmental advisor. Note: No more than 3 units total of TA 328 may count toward minor unit requirements.