Theatre Arts

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.

Department Chair
Ann Alter, MFA

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Program Leader
Rae Robison, MFA

The Program

Students completing this program will have demonstrated:
- appropriate use of foundational vocabulary and knowledge of history in effective written work
- application of fundamental concepts of theatre performance, design, and technology through class projects and exams
- use of theatre knowledge to analyze projects and appropriately contribute to theatre productions
- evaluation of their own and others; project oriented work and productions
- creation of new designs, scripts, interpretations, and solutions as demonstrated through classroom and outside projects
- the ability to apply principles of effective communication and collaboration as demonstrated in course work and productions.

The goal of the theatre arts major is to provide a solid and broad foundation of knowledge, skills, and hands-on practice, while allowing concentration in either performance or design/technology. Ten core units are shared with the film major, exploring 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 Theater 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. 66-81.

A minimum grade of C- is required for all courses in the major.

Core Courses [36 units]

TA 104 (4) Story Through Word & Image
TA 105 (3) Acting I: Principles of Performance
TA 137 (4) Production Techniques
TA 340 (4) Theatre History I
TA 341 (4) Theatre History II [DCG-n]
TA 351 (4) Principles of Stage Directing
TA 448 (4) Critical Analysis Stage & Film
TA 494 (2) Senior Seminar

Three units from the following:

TA 327 (1) Pre-Production Practicum
TA 328 (1) Production Practicum

One of the following courses:

TA 331 (4) Scenic Design & Art Direction, or
TA 333 (4) Lighting Design Stage & Screen, or
TA 336 (4) Costume Design Stage & Screen

Select one of the following emphases.

Performance Emphasis [16 units]

TA 121 (2) Makeup for Stage & Screen
TA 215 (4) Acting 2: Principles of Voice & Movement
TA 315 (4) Acting 3: Advanced Principles of Acting for the Stage
TA 415 (4) Acting 4: Advanced Principles of Acting for the Camera

Two units from the following:

TA 326 (1) Performance Practicum
TA 480 (1-4) Special Topics in Theatre Arts [Topics in Performance Studies as available]

Design & Technology Emphasis [16 units]

Ten units from the following:

TA 121 (2) Makeup for Stage & Screen
TA 231  (2) Production & Stage Management
TA 331  (4) Scenic Design & Art Direction
TA 333  (4) Lighting Design Stage & Screen
TA 336  (4) Costume Design Stage & Screen

Six units from the following:
TA 431  (2-4) Scene Design Technology
TA 433  (2-4) Lighting Design Technology
TA 436  (2-4) Costume Design Technology
TA 480  (1-4) Special Topics in Theatre Arts (Topics in Design & Technology as available.)

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MINOR
A minor requires a minimum of 15 units, with a minimum of 6 upper division units. All students must take four units of either TA 340 or TA 341 plus at least one, but no more than three units (counting toward the minor), of TA 326, TA 327, or TA 328. Students can focus on either performance or design and technology. Students should contact a departmental advisor to individualize their program.