

THEATER AND DANCE

Performance

College of Arts and Sciences • Department of Theater and Dance

Degrees Available at SIUE

Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science

Why Theater and Dance Performance?

Students who desire to share their artistic gifts with a wider audience are well suited for this degree.

Curriculum for performance majors is grounded in the theory and practice of the art of theater. Because the performing arts are collaborative by nature, majors often participate in all aspects of production, both artistic and technical, so that they develop a critical understanding and enhanced appreciation for theater and dance arts.

Theater and Dance Performance at SIUE

The Theater and Dance program at SIUE offers an intense foundational curriculum that prepares students for a professional career or for graduate study. It allows students to take the next step with their artistic gifts.

The performance program is distinguished by its small class sizes and the artistic freedom it affords students. Faculty members do not censor student works and, in fact, they encourage students to take risks so that they may discover the creative person living within. The Metcalf Theater is the primary venue for students who want to act, direct shows, or design lights, costumes, or sets. These opportunities usually are reserved for graduate students, but at SIUE, undergraduates are limited only by their ambition.

Performance majors never lack for performance opportunities. Each year, the department offers four theater productions, a dance concert, two student theater productions, a one-act festival, summer stock theater productions, the Black Theater Workshop, and an annual dance festival. In June, the department hosts a four-day experimental theater festival (Xfest), with companies from across the nation. Each event is a chance for students to get hands-on experience.

Career Outlook

Performance graduates can find careers as actors, playwrights, screenwriters, directors, and critics. There are hundreds of other direct or indirect jobs related to their skills.

Employment in the field is intense. SIUE graduates are at an advantage in this competitive environment because their theater education is embedded in a liberal-arts-influenced curriculum that stresses creativity, critical thinking and communication skills, all of which are valued in most job settings.

Admission Requirements

Students seeking admission to the Theater and Dance Department must first be admitted to the University by contacting the Admissions Office. Students who are considering theater and dance as a major should call or visit the department – Dunham Hall, room 1031, telephone (618) 650-2773. They will be referred to a faculty advisor who will provide them more information about the curricula and the department as well as help them plan an academic program. Early advisement will enable students to complete their programs with minimal conflicts and within the shortest possible time.



Faculty (Performance Faculty in Red)

Professors

J. Calvin Jarrell, M.F.A.

1980, University of Oklahoma

Associate Professors

Peter Cocuzza, (Chair), M.F.A.

1986, Ohio University

Laura M. Hanson, Ph.D.

2001, New York University

Chuck Harper, M.F.A.

1997, University of Washington

Johanna Schmitz, Ph.D.

2001, University of California, Davis

Kerry Shaul, M.F.A.

1973, Southern Methodist University

James Wulfson, M.F.A.

1998, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

Assistant Professors

Kathryn Bentley, M.F.A.

2006, Lindenwood University

Diane Sol, Ph.D.

1994, University of California, Davis

Alex Van Blommestein, M.F.A.

2008, Wayne State University

Instructors

Kristin Best-Kincherff, M.F.A.

2006, University of Iowa

Kim Bozark, M.A.

2006, Webster University

Valerie Goldston, M.F.A.

1984, University of Wisconsin, Madison

Lana Hagan, M.A.

1996, Roosevelt University

Nina Reed, B.F.A.

1989, Webster University

Roger Speidel, M.F.A.

2000, University of South Dakota

Sample Four-Year Curriculum - BA

	FALL	SPRING
YEAR 1	THEA 112a Introduction to Acting (3) + THEA 114a Forms of Dramatic Action (3) + DANC 114 Movement Fundamentals (3) + ENG 101 English Composition I (3) Foreign Language 101 (4) ** Total 16	THEA 112b Creating a Role (3) THEA 114b Forms of Dramatic Action (3) + THEA 150, 160, or 170 Technical Theater (3) + ENG 102 English Composition II (3) Foreign Language 102 (IC) (4) ** Total 16
YEAR 2	THEA 199 Theater Production (0) THEA 201a History of the Theater (3) + THEA 210a Acting III (3) PHIL 106, STAT 107, CS 108, or CMIS 108 (3) ** Introductory Fine Arts & Humanities (3) Introductory Social Sciences (3) Total 15	THEA 199 Theater Production (0) THEA 201b History of the Theater (3) THEA 220 Directing for the Stage (3) THEA 210b Improvisation (3) Introductory Natural Sciences & Math (3) Introductory General Education (3) Total 15
YEAR 3	THEA 230 Rehearsal and Performance (3) THEA 235 Intro to T'ai Chi Ch'uan (2) THEA 312 Multi-Cultural Theater in America (IGR) (3) Distribution Fine Arts & Humanities (3) Introductory General Education (3) Total 14	THEA 199 Theater Production (0) THEA 265 Theater Makeup (2) THEA 315a Dialects for the Stage (3) THEA 315b Advanced Movement (3) Interdisciplinary Studies (IS) (3) Distribution Social Sciences (3) Total 14
YEAR 4	THEA 199 Theater Production (0) THEA 410 Acting for the Camera (3) THEA 420 Projects in Directing (3) THEA Elective, as needed (3) Distribution Natural Sciences & Math (3) Approved Elective (3) Total 15	THEA 430 Rehearsal and Performance (3) THEA 499a Senior Assessment Performance (3) Approved Elective (3) Elective (3) Elective (3) Elective (4) Total 19

TRANSFER STUDENTS Maximize your transfer experience - complete the **bolded** courses/requirements pre-transfer **AND** satisfy the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) General Ed Core or receive an AA, AS, or AAT (early childhood, special ed, or math) degree from an IAI community college. If 'Minor' requirements are shown, discuss careful course selection with the academic advising contact listed. Transfer Credit Equivalency Guides are located at siue.edu/transfer/

BA degree requires two semesters of same foreign language.

+ Core Courses must be completed within the first two years in order to make progress toward degree completion.

** For BS = Choose SP 103/105, FL 106, PHIL/MATH 106 and CS/CMIS 108 or STATS 107 in lieu of FL

Exit Requirements

- Complete all specific program requirements.
- Complete all University requirements including:
 - all general education requirements
 - a minimum of 124 credit hours
 - at least 30 of which must be completed at SIUE
 - at least 60 of which must be completed at a regionally accredited 4-year institution
 - A minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0
 - Bachelor of Arts only: one year of the same foreign language
- File an Application for Graduation by the first day of the term in which you plan to graduate.

Other Theater and Dance Programs at SIUE

Dance, Design/Technical, and History/Literature/Criticism.

Academic Advising Information

Brian Hinterscher
 College of Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Advising
 Campus Box 1609, SIUE, Edwardsville, IL 62026-1609
 (618) 650-5525

Contact Info

Department of Theater and Dance
 Campus Box 1777, SIUE
 Edwardsville, IL 62026-1777
 (618) 650-2773

