

III. THEATRE

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The Department of Theatre offers a rigorous exploration of historic and contemporary theatre practice within a vibrant liberal arts program. Our curriculum cultivates the stewardship of intellect and imagination from a variety of Christian perspectives. In a dynamic exchange between learning and doing students engage theatre through a wealth of hands-on experiences. Our students participate in theatre as a forum for civic dialogue where history, culture, politics and religion meet to give form and meaning to the human experience. Upon graduation our students are not only prepared to meet the artistic and technical challenges of twenty-first century theatre, but also to serve and lead a new generation of artists and scholars.

The B.A. in Theatre

The B.A. in Theatre is designed to develop your creative gifts as you gain knowledge and experience within a broadly-based liberal arts education. Our curriculum includes course work in dramatic literature, theatre history, and theory as well as applied studio courses in acting, directing, and technical theatre. During the second semester of the sophomore year the student declares an emphasis in acting, directing or technical production and design.

Acting Emphasis

The acting emphasis offers individualized attention in an intimate environment. Studio courses, workshops, and master classes are complemented by a robust production season that includes three mainstage, one black-box, and several student-directed venues each year. The January term provides an intensive exploration of musical theatre or theatre for young audiences culminating in a fully-mounted production.

Directing Emphasis

The directing emphasis is designed to equip directors with both foundational and intimate knowledge of the theatrical process. Directors apply coursework in directing theory, acting, design and production to studio projects as well as a fully-mounted, one-act play in the Senior Capstone Project.

Technical Production and Design Emphasis

The technical production and design emphasis provides more than just working skills. Along with learning about and experiencing current technological advances in theatre production, our curriculum assists students in developing an aesthetic perception of their art. With a combination of classroom and realized production and design experiences, the student will learn the communication skills necessary to work effectively not only with actors and directors, but also with other designers and technicians.

Enrichment Program

Professional theatre thrives in urban centers. For this reason it is essential for the theatre major to learn about themselves and their craft in the city. During the first semester of the junior year students attend the Messiah College Philadelphia Campus, at Temple University. Enrichment credits may also be earned at Department approved programs throughout North America and Europe. Our students have enriched their Grantham education through theatre training at the Gaiety School of Acting, Dublin; Royal Holloway, University of London; and a variety of internships with professional theatre companies.

Senior Capstone Project

During the second semester of the junior year each student proposes a Senior Capstone Project. This portfolio project represents the culmination of the student's training and serves as a bridge to graduate programs, professional theatre or other job opportunities.

Planning Your Academic Program

In planning your program at Messiah, turn to the Theatre section in the catalog to find course descriptions and major requirements. General education and major requirements are also listed on the checklist in this handbook.

To help you plan, the following list of major courses is *normally* scheduled according to this plan. These offerings are based on staffing, and you must check with your advisor about departmental offerings.

EVERY SEMESTER

Introduction to Theatre	Theatre Production
Introduction to Acting	Topics in Theatre
Introduction to Technical Theatre and Design	

FALL SEMESTER ONLY

History of Theatre I	Senior Capstone Seminar
Survey of Dramatic Literature	

SPRING SEMESTER ONLY

History of Theatre II	Studies in Irish Theatre – (<i>J-Term</i>)
Musical Theatre (<i>J-Term</i>), three consecutive years, Theatre for Young Audiences offered in the fourth year	

ALTERNATE YEARS ONLY

Theatre for Young Audiences	Fundamentals of Play Directing
Movement and the Actor	Voice and the Actor
Acting Technique	

Remember:

1. You must complete all major and general education requirements with a minimum total of 126 credit hours.
2. The last thirty (30) credits preceding the conferring of the degree must be earned at Messiah College with a minimum of twelve (12) credits in the major.
3. To continue at Messiah, you will need to maintain a cumulative grade point of 1.80 (0 - 23 credits), 1.90 (24 - 56 credits), and 2.00 (57 credits or above) thereafter.
4. All students are required to take and pass the English Proficiency Test.
5. You must have a 2.00 in your major to graduate from Messiah College.

Guidelines for Mathematical Sciences Courses

There is no specific math course required for Theatre majors. We recommend students enroll in MATH101, MATH102, or COSC171 in their first year, unless you have had a precalculus course; then you should take MATH107 or MATH108. Statistical literacy is another important area of mathematical study, and STAT 269 is a course that gives a good introduction to statistical methods and meets the General Education requirement.

Students with Advanced Placement credit:

Requirements for courses in mathematical sciences can be met through Advanced Placement exam credit. Students who have taken AP exams in calculus, computer science, or statistics should go to the math department's website (<http://www.messiah.edu/acdept/depthome/mathsci/APCredit.htm>) to find out how credit is awarded for your scores.

Theatre

(Department of Theatre)

General Education requirements on reverse side

Major Requirements

Theatre majors spend their first two years training at the Climenhaga Fine Arts Center at Grantham. During their junior year, students select a pre-approved enrichment program where they continue their training (current enrichment programs include Temple University, Gaiety School of Acting in Dublin, O'Neill Institute, and Arcadia University). Upon returning to the Grantham Campus, each theatre major is required to complete a capstone portfolio project within his or her chosen emphasis.

<u>Major Courses</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Semester Completed</u>
[THEA 115] Production Practicum (1 credit per semester, Grantham Campus)	8	_____
[THEA 120] Introduction to Acting	3	_____
[THEA 150] Introduction to Technical Theatre and Design	3	_____
[THEA 240] Survey of Dramatic Literature and Criticism	3	_____
[THEA 340] History of Theatre I: Antiquity to Renaissance	3	_____
[THEA 341] History of Theatre II: Renaissance to Postmodernism	3	_____
[THEA 470] Theatre Capstone Practicum	1-3	_____
[THEA 475] Theatre Capstone Seminar	3	_____
Enrichment Program (see College Catalog for description)		_____
Minimum of 11 credits at a department-approved institution	11	_____
One of the following Emphases:		
Acting Emphasis		
[THEA 220] Voice and the Actor	3	_____
[THEA 225] Movement and the Actor	3	_____
[THEA 320] Acting Techniques	3	_____
THEA xxx Elective in Theatre	3	_____
Directing Emphasis		
[ENGL 348] Shakespeare	3	_____
[THEA 230] Fundamentals of Play Directing	3	_____
[THEA 320] Acting Techniques	3	_____
THEA xxx Elective in Theatre	3	_____
Technical Production and Design Emphasis		
[THEA 230] Fundamentals of Play Directing	3	_____
[THEA 350] Introduction to Scenographic Techniques	3	_____
[THEA 450] Theatre Design	3	_____
THEA xxx Elective in Theatre	3	_____

Theatre

(Department of Theatre)

Major requirements on reverse side

General Education Requirements

<u>Courses</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Semester Completed</u>
First Year Seminar	3	_____
Oral Communications	3	_____ waived _____
Created and Called for Community	3	_____
Mathematical Sciences	3 or 4	_____
Laboratory Science	3 or 4	_____
Science, Technology & the World	3	_____
Two of the following:	6	_____
Social Science (3 credits)		_____
European History (3 credits)		_____
United States History (3 credits)		_____
Literature	3	_____
Philosophy and Religion	3	_____
Arts ([THEA 120] or [THEA 150])	3	_____ met by major _____
Language/Cross Cultural		
First Semester of Language	3	_____
Second Semester of Language	3	_____
Third Semester of Language or Cross Cultural	3	_____
Non-Western Studies	2 or 3	_____
Bible	3	_____
Christian Beliefs	3	_____
Health and Physical Fitness		
Introduction to Wellness	2	_____
Activity Course	1	_____
One of the following:	3	_____
Ethics (3 credits)		_____
World Views (3 credits)		_____
Pluralism in Contemporary Society (3 credits)		_____
Writing Enriched Course		_____

SUMMARY OF DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:

General Education	50-53
Major Core Requirements	27-29
Enrichment Program Requirements	11
Emphasis Requirements	12
Free Electives	18-23
Total	123

Theatre

Career Center for Vocation and Development, Messiah College

The Career Center offers comprehensive services to all students throughout their program of study. From identifying skills and personality traits, to choosing a major, to gaining related experience and preparing for graduate school or job interviews, the staff at the Career Center are available at every step along the path.

Identification of Strengths

Common characteristics and skills of students pursuing study in the Department of Theatre:

- Ability to concentrate and practice intensely for long periods
- Ability to work well under pressure and meet deadlines
- Aptitude for spatial differences as well as recognizing differences in shapes, shading and color
- Independence, creativity, curiosity and self-discipline
- Sense of drama and aesthetics

We can help you identify your strengths through individual career counseling and self-assessment inventories like the Myers-Briggs, Self-Directed Search, and the Strong Interest Inventory. Understanding your unique skills and interests allows you to translate your personal characteristics into professional opportunities.

Resources for Career Exploration and Employment Connections

- *Individual Career Coaching; creating a Career Plan*
- *Careers for Color Connoisseurs and Other Visual Types*
- *Great Jobs for Theater Majors*
- *Careers for Film Buffs and Other Hollywood Types*
- *Careers for Culture Lovers and Other Artsy Types*
- Individual handouts — “I’m interested in…” Theatre
- Individual handouts — “What can I do with this degree?” Theatre
- Alumni Contacts for Information Interviews & Job Shadowing
- On-campus Recruitment and Interviews
- *Stage Directors Handbook*
- *Careers in Communications and Entertainment*
- *Job Choices* magazines
- *E-Recruiting Service* <http://messiah.erecruiting.com>
- *Career Center Alumni Survey of Recent Grads*
- *Performing Arts Career Directory*
- *National Resource Guide for the Placement of Artists*
- *Directory of Theater Training Programs*
- *Summer Theater Directory*

Internship Center

The Internship Center offers off-campus exploration and internships to all majors and can help you explore career areas through the following:

- Internships
- Practica

Sample Internship Opportunities

- Open Stage in Harrisburg
- Temple University in Philadelphia
- Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts
- Gaiety School of Acting in Dublin

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“Even though my career path was slanted toward acting, taking an assessment helped me get a greater sense of the ‘big picture’ and what kind of work environment would best suit me. Consequently, I am currently employed during the day and am contemplating taking courses in the evenings.”

—’02 Grad

Career and Job Preparation Assistance

- Individual Career Coaching
- *Career action plan*
- “Snapshots of Vocation”—alumni stories (brochure and website)
- Senior focus events—sponsored by the Career Center and Alumni Office
- Resume and cover letter development, samples and individual critiques
- Job and Graduate School Preparation Workshops
- Interview preparation and practice interviews
- Job and Graduate School Fairs
- Workshops on a variety of career-related topics.
- Online job and resume posting (<http://messiah.erecruiting.com>)

College-Sponsored Job and Internship Fairs

- Career & Graduate School Expo
- Capital Region Internship Fair
- CPEC Internship and Job Fair
- CVC Internship and Job Fair
- TRD (Teacher Recruitment Day)

Home Page Connections www.messiah.edu/offices/career

Visit our home page to access information on majors, employment opportunities, graduate and professional school preparation, and alumni stories of vocation. A complete calendar of events and registration options, resume referrals, and sign-up options for on-campus interviews are available through eRecruiting. Visit job searches by major, as well as general employment information.

Graduate School Preparation

- *Graduate School Handbook*
- Assistance with graduate and professional school resumes, essays, applications, and interviews
- The *Graduate School Guide* and the *Christian Graduate* magazine (both free)
- Peterson’s grad school directories; test preparation booklets and guides
- Graduate School Fair and Seminary & Theological Studies Fair—held on campus, fall semester
- Gradschools.com—one of many sites for graduate school and program searches
- Kaplan Practice Test Sessions: GRE, GMAT, LSAT, and MCAT
- Celebration Reception for students accepted to grad school

C A R E E R C E N T E R

“The Career Center helped me evaluate my God-given gifts and helped apply them to a career.”

—’98 Grad

Theatre

EpiCenter, Messiah College

Although EpiCenter programs are open to all students, there are some programs that may be of particular interest to students in the Department of Theatre. Below is a description of these opportunities. For more details, stop by the EpiCenter.

“The world is a great book, of which they who never stir from home read only a page.”

Resources available in the EpiCenter include:

- Applications
- Brochures / Catalogs / Videos
- Course Listings
- International Student Identity Cards
- Fact Sheets
- Passport Photos

Information is provided about:

- Costs
- Deadlines
- Names of Program Advisors
- Passports
- Requirements
- Traveling/Studying Abroad

Australia Studies Centre

Adventure, academics and art! The Sidney-based Wesley Institute provides students with an opportunity to live in this coastal city, to experience Australian culture, and to study visual, theatrical, and musical arts. Students travel to the Blue Mountains and Jenolan Caves and to the capital city of Canberra.

- ✓ Junior or senior status (Will consider sophomores).
- ✓ 2.75 GPA

Options include courses such as: Acting, Voice, Movement, Theatre History, Introduction to Production, Introduction to Drama, Musical Theatre Performance, Performance Project, Production Project, and dance classes, as well as The Christian Artist in Culture, and The Christian Artist in the Industry.

Gaiety School of Acting

This three-week January Term course takes place in Dublin, Ireland. According to the program syllabus, the course “combines the literary study of plays with work in the craft of acting” In addition to classroom instruction, students visit various Irish museums and theaters, as well as participate in a final performance / reception.

- ✓ Junior or senior status
- ✓ 3.0 or better in two theatre courses
- ✓ Permission of the theatre faculty

Internships

Students who participate in the Messiah College Internship Program have opportunities to test their educational theories as they preview possible career options.

- ✓ Junior or senior status
- ✓ 2.5 GPA

Recent internships include the Arden Theatre (Philadelphia), Ohio Light Opera (Wooster, OH), Shakespeare and Company (Lennox, MA).

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“The opportunity to work with professionals in the Irish theatre and to witness performances by professional Irish companies has put my own work here in the states in context...”

—Theatre major,
Gaiety School of
Acting (Ireland)

London Internship Program

The London Internship Program, sponsored by Arcadia University: Center for Education Abroad, offers internships and academic study for a semester in London, England. Students are placed in field experiences related to their majors and take classes offered by faculty at Arcadia or City University.

- ✓ Junior or senior status
- ✓ 3.0 GPA
- ✓ Completion of at least three theatre courses

Internships are offered in a variety of areas. Students have interned at Green Candle Dance Company, Shaftesbury Theatre, and Battersea Arts Centre.

O'Neill National Theatre Institute

This intensive theater program offers students a unique opportunity to study acting, directing playwriting, movement, and voice, and design in a conservatory setting. Students are immersed in theater studies; classes take place seven days a week! Students typically take educational excursion to train with professional theater companies in Stratford-upon-Avon, England or St. Petersburg or Moscow, Russia

- ✓ Sophomore, junior, or senior status
- ✓ Must be in good academic standing

Philadelphia Campus

Studying at Philadelphia allows students to have the benefits of a large university and the closeness of a small community as they experience an urban culture.

- ✓ Sophomore, junior, or senior status
- ✓ 2.5 GPA

Students can take classes from Temple's theatre department, such as Technical Theatre Production, Stage Management, Acting Technique, and costume design. There are also opportunities for students to participate in internships in Philadelphia.

*To discover more opportunities, visit the EpiCenter Online:
www.messiah.edu/studyabroad*

*For More Information Contact:
Wendy Lippert (ext. 6089) or Fatih Minnich (ext. 7373)
epicenter@messiah.edu*

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