

College: COTA
Department: Theater Arts
Degree: B.A., B.S.

Introduction

The Department of Theatre and Film is committed to providing liberal arts based pre-professional training which imaginatively balances theory and practice. Through classroom study, studio/laboratory preparation, field studies, and stage productions, students are challenged to pursue a commitment to individual excellence, collaboration, and a passion for their discipline, and to develop a firm grounding in the core aspects of live and mediated performance. Students seeking professional careers, preparing for advanced degree programs, training to be educators, or pursuing interdisciplinary study in the arts participate in contemporary production practices encompassing new, modern, and classic works interpreted to confront and illuminate the diverse concerns of contemporary life.

Production is an essential and integral part of the department's educational mission. Students are provided with a variety of opportunities to gain experience and develop creative and collaboration skills both before and behind the scenes. In the selection of dramatic narrative and other works, the department seeks to reflect vital contemporary issues, personal and public, in varied and challenging forms, new and classic, thereby creating a forum for cultural and social concerns. The program actively pursues the development of new works and practice, collaborations with urban arts and educational institutions, and the expansion of cultural exchange.

The Department of Theatre and Film is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Theatre.

The university's urban location enables the Department of Theatre and Film to provide students with the richest diversity of teaching staff in the studio and the maximum of diverse educational experiences without. The resident faculty are active members of the region's arts and creative community, as professional practitioners as well as educators. Their work is represented at every major theater company in the area, as well as through other arts organizations including smaller theaters, film units, dance companies, production companies, the media, and educational institutions. They frequently engage their students as assistants on creative projects, and they facilitate student placements as interns and regular employees with a variety of organizations. The associate faculty are of the highest caliber, both as practicing artists and as teachers of their craft.

Graduates of the program have gained admission to both university graduate programs and professional training programs, they have entered the profession directly, they have become teachers and university professors, and they have pursued a range of related professions in the arts, commerce, law, social services and the public sector.

Undergraduate Program Learning Outcomes

Acquaintance with the many roles involved in the theater collaboration (author, performer, director, designer, technician, critic, audience, producer, etc).

Awareness of the vital and complex nature of the theoretical event relation to human and social perspectives.

Familiarity with the diverse body of dramatic literature.

Fluency in the historic, culture, and stylistic framework of theatre.

To apply analytical and practical (technical) tools in understanding dramatic texts and theoretical events.

To effectively and safely function in the environment of contemporary state technology.

To effectively communicate in multiple forms the outcomes of research, critical analysis, and creative output.

To master sufficiently a specific function (acting, design, dramaturgy, etc.) to successfully create or transform play text into a vital and effective theater.

To relate theater practice to critical theory.

To research and apply that research to the actualization of the theatrical concepts.

Understanding of contemporary viewpoints and conversations within the national and international performance community.