The Department of Theatre at The Ohio State University is dedicated to the education and training of theatre artists, scholars and teachers in an atmosphere conducive to creative scholarship and performance. Students in the theatre program develop and create new performance work while maintaining connections to theatre history through productions of classic, modern and contemporary texts.

The department offers the citizens of Ohio, the United States and the international community opportunities for theatre education and production through courses, institutes, productions, lectures and consultation. The department also provides opportunity for all members of the Ohio State community—students, faculty, staff and alumni—to participate in theatre as practitioner or as audience member.

Pursuing Theatre at Ohio State
All freshman applicants are considered within a competitive admission process for the Columbus campus; find admissions criteria at go.osu.edu/admissions.

Upon admission to the university, students can declare a major in theatre. Interested students should contact the undergraduate studies coordinator and an arts advising counselor.

Theatre students will be pursuing a liberal arts degree with strong focus in theatre but without specialization in a specific area of theatre. Auditions are not required. Students learn basic principles of theatre and participate in the ensemble nature of this art form. The BA degree meets the specifications of the National Association of Schools of Theatre and prepares students for major theatre graduate programs in acting/directing, theatre history and theory, playwriting, or theatre technology and design.

Theatre faculty advisors will be assigned to students when they declare a major in theatre. The advisor will assist the student throughout the course of study with the selection of theatre courses. In addition, an advisor from the College of Arts and Sciences will assist the student in planning for the successful completion of General Education (GE) requirements.

Theatre Requirements
The Bachelor of Arts program is based on the traditional values of a liberal arts education. Within this major program, student receive broad exposure to and practice in a variety of theatre arts, literature and history. The program is designed for students who want to create their own work, go on to graduate school, teach, work in the entertainment industry, or benefit from a liberal arts education.

Educational Objectives
Students majoring in theatre will achieve the following learning outcomes:

- To exhibit broad knowledge, appreciation and understanding of live theatrical performance as a diverse and malleable art form that influences history, politics and society.
- To apply a variety of critical theories, methods and research sources in the analysis of play texts and their performance.
- To obtain experiences as generative theatre scholar/artists through the creation of new work in diverse approaches.
- To understand the technical, physical and vocal skills required by live performers and to develop these skills in practical and in theoretical contexts.
- To value lighting, scenic, costume, sound and media design practice, as well as technical support like stage management and technical direction, and to develop these skills in practical and theoretical contexts.
- To communicate effectively with the variety of artists involved in this unique collaborative art form through the skillful use of theatre vocabulary.
- To respond as an informed audience member who is able to make value judgments as to the quality of performance.
- To possess the requisite skills and educational background to gain entry into graduate education programs in theatre throughout the country for further training should that be their desire.
- To demonstrate an understanding of the theatre production process within the highest professional standards of the industry.
- To participate in performance, in design and technology work, in writing, in speaking, or as an audience member throughout his/her life with a basic enthusiasm for the theatre.

Co-Curricular Opportunities
Ohio State offers many opportunities for students to learn and grow outside of the classroom. These range from cooperative education (co-op) and internships to study abroad programs to student organizations. Co-ops and internships place students in professional environments while they are Ohio State students.

Ohio State offers more than 100 study abroad programs in 40 countries around the world. Theatre supports study abroad programs in London Theatre, Prague Theatre and Cuban performance.

The Wexner Center for the Arts compliments the department with innovative offerings of cutting edge performing artists from around the globe. Learn more about opportunities at the Wexner Center at wexarts.org.

For more information, check these websites:

Department of Theatre: theatre.osu.edu
Arts and Sciences: artsandsciences.osu.edu
Ohio State: osu.edu
Admissions: undergrad.osu.edu
Multicultural Center: multiculturalcenter.osu.edu
First Year experience Program: fye.osu.edu
Students in the theatre program may want to live in the Visual and Performing Arts Learning Community. Learn more at go.osu.edu/vpalc.

These co-curricular experiences enable students to gain valuable work experience, learn about other cultures, and take on leadership roles before they enter the workforce. All of these experiences enhance learning and may provide an advantage in the job market.

**Honors & Scholars Programs**
Ohio State offers the Honors and Scholars programs to create an environment of intellectual support and stimulation within a close-knit community of high-ability undergraduate students. Through these programs, students have access to smaller classes, undergraduate research opportunities, close working relationships with faculty, priority scheduling and unique housing options. Learn more at honors-scholars.osu.edu.

**Career Prospects in Theatre**
Persons who graduate with a degree in theatre are found in just about all walks of life. Most people assume that the theatre profession is limited to actors who specialize in performing on stage, on television or in films. The truth is, there are many professional positions including designers, stage managers, technicians, audience education specialists, box office managers, marketing and development personnel, and arts administrators that involve theatre expertise. These positions are not just found in regional, summer stock and other theatre venues. People with theatre expertise are sought after in theme parks, museums, schools and educational institutions, digital media companies, and throughout the entertainment industry.

Competition is intense in most theatre positions, but those who are willing to work hard, develop the proper skills and stay open to creative possibilities can find meaningful employment in the theatre or the broader cultural sector. Graduate programs in theatre offering a Master of Fine Arts or PhD degree are open to those with a theatre undergraduate degree to further their education and to become more specialized in the field. Many colleges and universities seek out theatre majors as ideal graduate students due to their unique exposure to such a varied discipline.

**More About Theatre**
Ohio State’s theatre facilities include two theatres, three acting studios, a design studio, a new works lab, and scenery, lighting and costume laboratories. Thurber Theatre, a proscenium-style theatre, seats 624 people. Bowen Theatre is an intimate thrust-style space, which seats 250 people. These two theatres support a six production season and numerous rental activities, remaining very busy. The New Works Lab, which seats 50, hosts the Lab Series, a student-run, department-nurtured production series that features 15 to 20 student-created performances per academic year.

Curriculum Sample
This is a sample list of classes a student will take to pursue a degree in theatre. Since university students need more than specific education in a narrow field, they also will take classes to complete General Education (GE) requirements. Because GE courses come from a variety of academic areas of study, this course work helps students develop fundamental skills essential to collegiate success and allows them to tailor these courses toward their interests. Note: This sample represents one of several possible paths to a degree in theatre. Consult the departmental website, theatre.osu.edu, for details on each specific track.

**Freshman Year:**
Survey course 1
Freshman Seminar 1
Introduction to Theatre 3
Introduction to Production Design 3
Technical Production Practicum 1
The Craft of Acting 3
GE courses 19
**Total hours** 31

**Sophomore Year:**
Script Analysis 3
Special Topics in Production Design 3
Technical Production Practicum 1
Production Run Crew Practicum 2
GE courses 21
**Total hours** 30

**Junior Year:**
Production Practicum 3
Theatre Histories and Literatures 3
Special Topics in Theatre Histories and Literatures 3
Theatre electives 7
GE courses 14
**Total hours** 30

**Senior Year:**
Stage Directing 3
Theatre Electives 8
GE courses 19
**Total hours** 30

Revised June 2015. Information subject to change. For the most up-to-date information on the theatre program, please visit theatre.osu.edu.

Contact information:
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