

# School of Theatre and Dance

*William J. Buck, Director*

Phone: (540) 568-6342

Location: Theatre II

E-mail: buckwj@jmu.edu

Web sites: <http://www.jmu.edu/theatre/>

<http://www.jmu.edu/dance/>

## Professors

W. Buck, R. Hall, P. Johnson, S. O'Hara, C. Thompson, K. Trammell

## Associate Professors

D. Beck, R. Finkelstein, S. Miller-Corso

## Assistant Professors

K. Arecchi, E. Becher-McKeever, J. Burgess, L. Lindsay, K. Sherrill

## Mission Statement

Study in the School of Theatre and Dance leads to a Bachelor of Arts degree. The theatre, dance and musical theatre concentrations will provide students with the skills required for graduate study and for employment in theatre and dance. The theoretical lessons of the classroom are complete only when applied in the context of active learning with practical work in studios and theatres. The course work includes: performance techniques, business management, dance composition, directing, scenic and costume design, technology, theatre and dance history and literary theory. Students think critically as they evaluate performances, designs, literary texts and practical projects. Such a broad-based liberal arts curriculum prepares students to pursue lifelong learning.

## Goals

The School of Theatre and Dance aims to provide students with:

- an ability to understand and express conceptual knowledge.
- an appreciation of the great works of theatre and dance.
- an appreciation of theatre and dance as they exist on television, in films and on the stage.
- preparation to work within a group toward a defined goal.
- preparation for a professional career in theatre and dance.
- preparation for graduate-level studies in theatre and dance.

The school also seeks:

- to support and enrich interdisciplinary and other academic programs at James Madison University.
- to provide artistic stimulation and cultural enrichment to the extended community of James Madison University and the Shenandoah Valley.

## Career Opportunities

For information about career opportunities in theatre and dance, contact the appropriate coordinator.

- Dr. Dennis Beck, theatre coordinator
- Mr. Shane O'Hara, dance coordinator
- Ms. Kate Arecchi, musical theatre coordinator

## Co-curricular Activities and Organizations

The School of Theatre and Dance offers a number of co-curricular activities and organizations. They allow students to apply and experiment with the theories they learn in the classroom and gain practical experience in their field.

- Alpha Psi Omega
- Children's Playshop
- Contemporary Dance Ensemble
- Dance Studio Productions
- Dance Theatre
- Experimental Theatre Productions
- Mainstage Productions
- Stratford Players
- Virginia Repertory Dance Company
- USITT Student Chapter

## Special Admission and Retention Requirements

Admission to the dance concentration is competitive and an audition/interview is required. Contact the dance office by calling (540) 568-6511 for current audition information.

Admission to the musical theatre concentration is competitive and an audition is required. Contact the school office by calling (540) 568-6342 for current audition information.

A grade of "C-" or better must be achieved in all courses that apply to a major in the School of Theatre and Dance. All School of Theatre and Dance majors must complete the General Education program. Theatre/Musical Theatre concentration students cannot take *GT*HEA 210. Introduction to Theatre, to meet the fine arts/aesthetics requirements. Courses from other departments may not be counted both for the School of Theatre and Dance major and for another major.

## Degree and Major Requirements

### Bachelor of Arts in Theatre and Dance

The School of Theatre and Dance offers one B.A. major with a choice of three concentrations: theatre, dance or musical theatre. A theatre and dance major must fulfill core requirements and the requirements of a particular concentration.

### Degree Requirements

Required Courses	Credit Hours
General Education <sup>1</sup>	41
Foreign Language classes (intermediate level required) <sup>2</sup>	0-14
Philosophy course (in addition to General Education courses)	3
University electives	4-34
Major requirements (listed below)	42-58
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<sup>1</sup> The General Education program contains a set of requirements each student must fulfill. The number of credit hours necessary to fulfill these requirements may vary. <sup>2</sup> The foreign language requirement may be satisfied by successful completion of the second semester of the intermediate level of the student's chosen language (typically 232) or by placing out of that language through the Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures and Cultures' placement test.

### Major Requirements

All students pursuing a B.A. degree in the School of Theatre and Dance must complete the core requirements listed below.

Core Requirements	Credit Hours
Choose one of the following:	2
DANC 140. Elementary Modern Dance <sup>1</sup>	
DANC 142. Elementary Ballet	
DANC 143. International Folk Dance	
DANC 144. Ballroom Dance	
DANC 146. Jazz Dance <sup>2</sup>	
DANC 147. Tap Dance	
DANC 245. Dance Improvisation <sup>1</sup>	
THEA/DANC 171. Performance Production	3
THEA 273. Visual Aspects	3
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<sup>1</sup> DANC 140 and DANC 245 are not core options for the dance concentration.

<sup>2</sup> DANC 146 is not a core option for the musical theatre concentration

### Concentrations

In addition to meeting the core requirements, students must choose a concentration and complete the concentration requirements. The concentrations and their requirements are listed here.

### Theatre Program

*Dr. Dennis C. Beck, Coordinator*

Phone: (540) 568-6386

E-mail: beckdc@jmu.edu

Courses	Credit Hours
Core requirements	8
Concentration requirements:	
THEA 211. Performance Analysis	3
THEA 251. Acting I: Basic Acting	3
THEA 315. The European Theatre Tradition to 1800	3
THEA 316. The European Theatre Tradition from 1800	3
Choose one of the following:	3
THEA 441. Senior Seminar in Theatre	
THEA 499. Honors Thesis <sup>1</sup>	
THEA 481. Theory and Performance Studies	3

THEA 200 or 300. Theatre Practicum	4
(Choose four different areas of main stage productions for one credit each from scenery, lighting, costumes, management or performance)	
Group A electives (choose one of the following courses):	3
THEA 351. Acting II: Intermediate Acting	
THEA 355. Directing	
THEA 452. Acting III: Contemporary Scene Study	
THEA 453. Acting IV: Approaches to Heightened Language	
THEA 466. Media Performance	
Group B electives (choose one of the following courses):	3
THEA 271. Technical Theatre	
THEA 331. Technical Costuming	
THEA 332. Survey of Costume	
THEA 333. Costume Design	
THEA 371. Advanced Technical Theatre	
THEA 374. Stage Lighting	
THEA 376. Scene Design	
Group C electives (choose one of the following courses):	3
THEA 449. London Theatre	
THEA/ENG 485. American Theatre	
ENG 333. Modern Drama	
ENG 334. Contemporary Drama	
ENG 456. Shakespeare's Tragedies and Romances	
ENG 457. Shakespeare's Comedies and Histories	
ENG 458. Shakespeare on the Page and Stage in London	
Group D electives (choose a course from group A, B or C that has not been applied already to the concentration requirements, or SCOM 243, Oral Interpretation, or any other course offered by the Theatre or Musical Theatre programs.)	3
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<sup>1</sup> THEA 390, Directed Projects; THEA 490, Special Studies; THEA 499 Honors: No more than four hours of practicums may be applied to the theatre concentration, and no more than 10 hours of special studies (including practicums) may be applied to the theatre concentration.

### Recommended Schedule for Majors

#### First Year

THEA 171. Performance Production  
THEA 211. Performance Analysis  
THEA 251. Acting I: Basic Acting

#### Second Year

THEA 273. Visual Aspects  
THEA 315. The European Theatre Tradition to 1800  
THEA 316. The European Theater Tradition from 1800  
Theatre Group Elective  
Dance Core Requirement  
Practicum

#### Third Year

THEA 481. Theory and Performance Studies  
Theatre Group Elective  
Practicum

#### Fourth Year

THEA 441. Senior Seminar in Theatre  
Theatre Group Elective  
Theatre Group Elective  
Practicum

## Dance Program

*Shane O'Hara, Coordinator*

Phone: (540) 568-6511

E-mail: oharast@jmu.edu

Courses	Credit Hours
Core Requirements	8
Dance Concentration Requirements:	
DANC 245. Dance Improvisation	2
DANC 248. History of Dance	3
DANC 320. Anatomy and Somatic Studies for the Dancer	3
DANC 345. Dance Composition I	3
DANC 445. Dance Composition II	3
DANC 449. The Dance Professional	3
DANC 479. Methods of Teaching Dance	3
Select four credits from the following courses: <sup>1</sup>	4
DANC 240. Intermediate Modern Dance I	
DANC 340. Intermediate Modern Dance II	
Select four credits from the following courses:	4
DANC 242. Intermediate Ballet I	
DANC 342. Intermediate Ballet II	
DANC 110. Associate Group Dance Repertory I	1
DANC 210. Associate Group Dance Repertory II	1
DANC 211 A, B. Contemporary Dance Ensemble Repertory I	2
DANC 311 A, B. Contemporary Dance Ensemble Repertory II	2
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<sup>1</sup> The student is required to complete four credits each in modern and ballet technique at the intermediate to advanced-intermediate level, with placement to be assessed in conference with dance faculty. Modern, ballet and jazz technique classes all have an advanced level course in the curriculum. Above requirements are the minimum level expected of dance concentration students. Most majors will take technique courses as university electives through out their study in the dance program.

## Recommended Schedule for Majors

### First Year

DANC 110. Associate Ensemble (fall)  
 DANC 171. Performance Production  
 DANC 210. Associate Ensemble (spring)  
 DANC 240. Intermediate Modern (fall and spring)  
 DANC 242 or 342. Intermediate I or Intermediate Ballet II  
 DANC 248. History of Dance

### Second Year

THEA 273. Visual Aspects  
 DANC 143, 144 or 146. Folk, Ballroom or Jazz Dance  
 DANC 211. Contemporary Dance Ensemble Repertory I (fall)  
 DANC 245. Dance Improvisation  
 DANC 311. Contemporary Dance Ensemble Repertory II (spring)  
 DANC 340. Intermediate Modern II (fall and spring)  
 DANC 342 or 442. Intermediate or Intermediate Ballet II

### Third Year

DANC 320. Anatomy and Somatic Studies for the Dancer  
 DANC 345. Dance Composition I  
 DANC 479. Methods of Teaching Dance  
 DANC 411 or 312. Contemporary Dance Ensemble  
 Repertory III or Virginia Repertory Co.  
 Other dance technique courses to fit the student's schedule.

### Fourth Year

DANC 445. Dance Composition II  
 DANC 449. The Dance Professional  
 Other dance technique courses to fit the student's schedule.

## Musical Theatre Program

*Kate Arcchi, Coordinator*

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As of January 2007 all students must audition and be accepted into the musical theatre concentration in order to declare the concentration.

Courses	Credit Hours
Core requirements	8
Concentration requirements:	
THEA 211. Performance Analysis	3
THEA 251. Acting I: Basic Acting	3
THEA 200 or 300 Theatre Practicum	4
(Choose three different areas of main stage production for one credit each from scenery, lighting, costumes, or management and one additional credit in performance):	
THEA 315. The European Theatre Tradition to 1800	3
THEA 316. The European Theatre Tradition from 1800	3
THEA 351. Acting II: Intermediate Acting	3
THEA 353. Music Theatre Performance	2
THEA/MUS 357. Music Theatre History and Analysis	3
THEA 441. Senior Seminar in Theatre	3
THEA 454. Advanced Music Theatre Performance	2
One course from Music Theatre Electives list (see below)	3
DANC 146. Jazz Dance	2
DANC 246. Intermediate Jazz	2
DANC 346. Intermediate Jazz II/Musical Theatre Styles	2
MUAP 114. Group Voice for Musical Theatre Concentrators	1
MUAP 115. Group Voice for Theatre/Dance	1
MUAP 214. Private Voice for Musical Theatre Concentrators <sup>1</sup>	4
MUS 141. Theory I: Writing and Analysis	3
MUS 143. Theory I: Aural Perception and Analysis	1
MUS 100. Keyboarding Skills I	1
MUS 101. Keyboarding Skills II	1
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<sup>1</sup> Four enrollments of one credit each.

### Musical Theatre Electives

THEA 271. Technical Theatre  
 THEA 331. Technical Costuming  
 THEA 332. Survey of Costume  
 THEA 333. Costume Design  
 THEA 336. History, Theory and Practice of Stage Make-Up  
 THEA 355. Directing  
 THEA 371. Advanced Technical Theatre  
 THEA 374. Stage Lighting  
 THEA 376. Scene Design  
 THEA 382. Contemporary Theatre  
 THEA 450. The Open Studio  
 THEA 449. London Theatre  
 THEA 471. Stage Management  
 THEA 481. Theory and Performance Studies  
 THEA 485. American Theatre  
 THEA 488. Experimental Theatre

## Recommended Schedule for Majors

### First Year

THEA 171. Performance Production  
 THEA 211. Performance Analysis  
 THEA 251. Acting I: Basic Acting  
 DANC 146. Jazz Dance  
 MUAP 114/115. Group Voice  
 Dance Core (DANC 147. Tap Dance)  
 or MUS 100/101. Keyboard Skills I & II

**Second Year**

THEA 273. Visual Aspects of Theatre  
 MUS 100/101. Keyboard Skills I & II or Dance core (DANC 147. Tap)  
 THEA 315. The European Theatre Tradition to 1800 and/or  
 THEA 316. The European Theatre Tradition from 1800  
 THEA 351. Acting II: Intermediate Acting or MUS 141. Theory I: Writing  
 and Analysis & MUS 143. Theory I: Aural Perception and Analysis  
 DANC 246. Intermediate Jazz  
 MUAP 214. Private Voice  
 THEA 353. Music Theatre Performance

**Third Year**

THEA 316. The European Theatre Tradition From 1800 and/or  
 THEA 315. The European Theatre Tradition to 1800  
 MUS 141. Theory I: Writing and Analysis & MUS 143. Theory I: Aural  
 Perception and Analysis or THEA 351. Acting II: Intermediate Acting  
 DANC 346. Advanced Jazz/Musical Theatre Styles  
 MUS 214. Private Voice  
 Practicum

**Fourth Year**

THEA 454. Advanced Music Theater Performance  
 Theatre elective  
 MUS/THEA 357. Music Theatre History and Analysis  
 Practicum  
 Senior Seminar

**Teacher Licensure in Dance***Suzanne Miller-Corso, Adviser*

Phone: (540) 568-3924

E-mail: mille2sm@jmu.edu

In addition to general education and theatre and dance requirements, students desiring PreK-12 teaching licensure in dance must complete 19 credits of additional course work in kinesiology, health science, education and psychology and 12 credits of student teaching. It is necessary to be admitted to the teacher education program prior to enrolling in professional education courses.

**Course Requirements**

Students seeking licensure are encouraged to consult regularly with the faculty adviser of dance education. The undergraduate degree leading to licensure must include the following minimum requirements in dance:

Credit must be earned in each area – ballet, folk, jazz and modern dance (8 credits)

Credit must be earned beyond the beginning level of ballet, folk, jazz or modern dance (3 credits)

Credit must be earned in dance composition, dance improvisation and dance production (minimum of 7 credits)

Credit must be earned in human anatomy, kinesiology, and injury prevention and care for dance (9 credits)

Credit must be earned in history of dance (3 credits)

The following is a list of the required courses leading to PreK-12 dance licensure and a suggested sequence of when each may be taken.

Courses	Credit Hours
KIN 311. Elementary Curriculum in Physical Education (fall, junior)	3
KIN 202. Biological Foundations in Kinesiology and Recreation (fall, junior)	3
ATEP 205. Prevention and Care of Athletic Injuries (spring, junior)	3
DANC 490. Special Studies in Dance: Teaching Practicum (prior to student teaching)	2
Required Education & Psychology Courses	Credit Hours
GPSYC 160. Life Span Human Development (may double count)	3
EDUC 360. Foundations of American Education	3

EDUC 480. Student Teaching	12
READ 420. Content Area Literacy, K-12	2

**Minor Requirements**

The School of Theatre and Dance offers a minor with options in theatre or dance. The following chart outlines each option's specific requirements.

**Theatre Minor**

Choose one of the following:	3
THEA 171. Performance Production	
THEA 273. Visual Aspects	
Choose one of the following:	3
THEA 315. The European Theatre Tradition to 1800	
THEA 316. The European Theatre Tradition from 1800	
Electives selected from the theatre-designated courses with the approval of the minor adviser	15
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**Dance Minor**

DANC 245. Dance Improvisation	2
DANC 248. History of Dance	3
Electives from contemporary dance techniques and/or folk and ballroom techniques with approval of minor adviser	10
Electives selected from dance-designated courses and/or dance related courses at the 300 or 400 level with approval of minor adviser.	6
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**Creative Writing Minor**

The interdisciplinary minor in creative writing is designed to give students an opportunity to develop their writing talents across a number of literary forms and communication contexts. For more detailed information on the minor in creative writing, refer to the section on "Interdisciplinary Programs," Page 102.

**Film Studies Minor**

The interdisciplinary minor in film studies is designed for students who wish to extend their critical understanding of visual communication and narrative form by studying how movies tell stories, convey information and influence audiences. For more detailed information on the minor in film studies, refer to the section on "Interdisciplinary Programs," Page 106.

**Credit by Examination**

A student may earn credit for a course in the School of Theatre and Dance by passing an examination. The school administers credit by examination tests during only the first two weeks of a fall or spring semester. The tests will not be offered during summer sessions. A student can take a credit by examination test only once during a semester.

A student must request permission for credit by examination by the end of the semester that precedes the semester in which he or she wants to take the examination. Theatre and dance majors who want to meet a major requirement through examination must take the examination before their final year of study. The school does not offer credit by examination for performance or design courses such as acting, directing, scene design, lighting design, costume design, makeup, stage management, dance technique, composition and ensembles.