School of Theatre and Dance

Terry Brino-Dean, Director

Phone: (540) 568-6342
Location: Forbes Center for the Performing Arts

Web site: http://www.jmu.edu/theatre/
Web site: http://www.jmu.edu/dance/

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

Associate Professors
E. Becher-McKeever, T. Brino-Dean, D. Beck, R. Finkelstein, S. Miller-Corso

Assistant Professors
K. Arecchi, J. Burgess, K. Sherrill

Mission Statement
The School of Theatre and Dance is rooted in the belief that the relevant artist is the thinking artist who couples the mastery and embodiment of concrete skills with knowledge of and sensitivity to the cultural environments of ideas, artistic forms and other persons. The school trains and educates artists, scholars and teachers in the rich traditions and current practices of dance, theatre and musical theatre. Dedicated to the value of the intensive B.A., the school’s programs blend liberal arts education and critical thinking with intensive, pre-professional training and practice. Faculty foster an environment that values and cultivates creative, passionate, disciplined, curious, innovative, engaged, articulate, collaborative and independent-thinking artists and scholars. Committed to a teaching approach that emphasizes mentorship and individual attention to students, faculty members of the school empower students in the development of their own personal strengths, provide them with tools and opportunities to realize their potential, and equip them for successful work in professional environments, graduate programs and as lifelong learners.

Goals
To realize this mission, the School of Theatre and Dance strives to:
- Develop in students the ability to work productively and sensitively in creative and collaborative processes.
- Offer multiple opportunities for students to self-initiate and self-produce work in a context supportive of experimentation.
- Produce performances and creative experiences of high quality.
- Present performances by and learning experiences with visiting artists.
- Motivate students to take active responsibility for their work, processes and careers.
- Promote, support and enable faculty professional development so that teachers continue to provide the education for students that only growing, current and active creative artists and scholars can provide.
- Inspire and prepare students to be advocates for the arts.
- Foster an understanding of the roles of the artist and the arts in society.
- Advance dynamic partnerships with diverse communities.

Career Opportunities
For information about career opportunities in theatre and dance, contact the appropriate coordinator:
- Dr. Dennis Beck, Theatre Coordinator
- Ms. Cynthia Thompson, 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
- Studio Theatre Productions
- Experimental Series 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 school office by calling (540) 568-6342 or visit the School of Theatre and Dance Web site at www.jmu.edu/dance/ for current audition information.
Admission to the musical theatre concentration is competitive and an audition or portfolio review is required. Contact the school office by calling (540) 568-6342 or visit the School of Theatre and Dance Web site at www.jmu.edu/theatre/ for current audition information.
Admission to the theatre concentration is competitive and an audition or portfolio review is required. Contact the school office by calling (540) 568-6342 or visit the School of Theatre and Dance Web site at www.jmu.edu/theatre/ 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 GTHEA 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 1 41
Foreign Language classes (intermediate level required) 2 0-14
Philosophy course (in addition to General Education courses) 3
University electives 4-31
Major requirements (listed below) 42-58

1 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.
2 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:
  DANC 140. Elementary Modern Dance 1
  DANC 142. Elementary Ballet
  DANC 143. International Folk Dance
  DANC 144. Ballroom Dance
  DANC 146. Jazz Dance 2
  DANC 147. Tap Dance
  DANC 245. Dance Improvisation 1
  THEA/DANC 171. Performance Production 3
  THEA 273. Visual Aspects 3

1 DANC 140 and DANC 245 are not core options for the dance concentration.
2 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

Dr. Dennis C. Beck, Coordinator
Phone: (540) 568-8386

Courses Credit Hours
Core Courses 8
Concentration General Requirements 22
THEA 200 or THEA 300. Theatre Practicum

Theatre Concentration General Requirements

- Choose four different areas of main stage productions for one credit each from scenery, lighting, costumes, management or performance
- Choose two courses not already applied to the major:
  THEA 460. Auditioning and Professional Issues
  THEA 453. Acting IV: Approaches to Heightened Language
- THEA 452. Acting III: Contemporary Scene Study
- THEA 453. Acting IV: Approaches to Heightened Language
- THEA 460. Auditioning and Professional Issues
- THEA 481. Theory and Performance Studies

Theatrical Performance or Design/Technology Track

THEA 390/490. Special Topics (with permission)
THEA 316. The European Theatre Tradition from 1800
THEA 315. The European Theatre Tradition to 1800
THEA 481. Theory and Performance Studies
THEA 452. Acting III: Contemporary Scene Study
THEA 453. Acting IV: Approaches to Heightened Language
THEA 460. Auditioning and Professional Issues

Design/Technology Track

THEA 376. Scene Design
THEA 374. Stage Lighting
THEA 373. Costume Design
THEA 332. Survey of Costume
THEA 333. Costume Design
THEA 475. Advanced Design and Rendering
THEA 485. Costume Design
THEA 474. Stage Management
THEA 371. Advanced Technical Theatre
THEA 471. Stage Management
THEA 473. Advanced Design and Rendering
THEA 490. Special Topics (with permission)

Recommended Schedule for Theatre Concentration

First Year
THEA 171. Performance Production
THEA 211. Performance Analysis
Concentration General Requirements

Second Year
THEA 273. Visual Aspects
THEA 315. The European Theatre Tradition to 1800
THEA 316. The European Theatre Tradition from 1800
THEA 481. Theory and Performance Studies
THEA 452. Acting III: Contemporary Scene Study
THEA 453. Acting IV: Approaches to Heightened Language
THEA 460. Auditioning and Professional Issues

http://www.jmu.edu/catalog/11
Third Year
THEA 481. Theory and Performance Studies
Theatre Concentration General Requirements
Theatre Concentration Performance or Design/Technology Requirements
Track Requirements

Fourth Year
THEA 441. Senior Seminar in Theatre
Theatre Concentration Performance or Design/Technology Requirements
Track Requirements

Dance Program
Cynthia Thompson, Coordinator
Phone: (540) 568-3926

Courses
Credit Hours
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: 1
DANC 240. Intermediate Modern Dance I 1
DANC 340. Intermediate Modern Dance II 1
Select four credits from the following courses:
DANC 242. Intermediate Ballet I 1
DANC 342. Intermediate Ballet II 1
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

1 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 throughout their study in the dance program.

Recommended Schedule for Dance Concentration

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 DANC 342. Intermediate I or Intermediate Ballet II
DANC 248. History of Dance

Second Year
THEA 273. Visual Aspects
DANC 143, DANC 144 or DANC 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 DANC 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 DANC 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 Arecchi, Coordinator
Phone: (540) 568-6009

Courses
Credit Hours
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 214. Private Voice for Musical Theatre Concentrators 1
MUAP 115. Group Voice for Theatre/Dance 1
MUAP 214. Private Voice for Musical Theatre Concentrators 1
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

1 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 449. London Theatre
THEA 450. The Open Studio
THEA 471. Stage Management
THEA 481. Theory and Performance Studies
THEA 485. American Theatre
THEA 488. Experimental Theatre

Recommended Schedule for Musical Theatre Concentration

First Year
THEA 171. Performance Production
THEA 211. Performance Analysis
THEA 251. Acting I: Basic Acting
DANC 146. Jazz Dance
MUAP 115. Group Voice
DANC 147. Tap Dance or MUS 100/101. Keyboarding Skills I & II
Teacher Licensure in Dance
Suzanne Miller-Corso, Adviser

Phone: (540) 568-3924

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 and 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 lists the required courses leading to PreK-12 dance licensure and recommends the sequence of when each may be taken:

### Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Description</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KIN 202. Biological Foundations in Kinesiology and Recreation (fall, junior)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KIN 311. Elementary Curriculum in Physical Education (fall, junior)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATEP 205. Introduction to Athletic Training (spring, junior)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 490. Special Studies in Dance: Teaching Practicum (prior to student teaching)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courses</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Choose one of the following:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 171. Performance Production</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 273. Visual Aspects</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Choose one of the following:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>THEA 315. The European Theatre Tradition to 1800</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 316. The European Theatre Tradition from 1800</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives selected from the theatre-designated courses with the approval of the minor adviser</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Dance Minor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courses</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DANC 245. Dance Improvisation</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 248. History of Dance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives from contemporary dance techniques and/or folk and ballroom techniques with approval of minor adviser</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives selected from dance-designated courses and/or dance related courses at the 300 or 400 level with approval of minor adviser</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Creative Writing Minor

The cross disciplinary 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 information, refer to “Cross Disciplinary Programs.”

#### Film Studies Minor

The cross disciplinary 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. Refer “Cross Disciplinary Programs” for more detailed information.

#### 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.