School of Theatre and Dance

Terry Brino-Dean, Director

Cynthia Thompson, Associate Director

Phone: (540) 568-6342
Location: Forbes Center for the Performing Arts
Website: http://www.jmu.edu/theatredance

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

Associate Professors

Assistant Professors
J. Burgess, M. Conti, R. Corriston, I. DeSanctis, Z. Dorsey, B. Lambert, R. Lustig, J. Stewart

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.

Objectives
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:

- Theatre Coordinator: Dr. Terry Brino-Dean
- Dance Coordinator: Ms. Cynthia Thompson
- Musical Theatre Coordinator: Ms. Kate Arecchi

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
- Associate Dance Ensemble
- Children’s Playshop
- Contemporary Dance Ensemble
- Dance Studio Productions
- Dance Theatre
- Studio Theatre Productions
- Experimental Series Productions
- Mainstage Productions
- National Honor Society for Dance Arts
- 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 website for current audition information.

Admission to the musical theatre 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 website for current audition information.

Admission to the theatre concentration is competitive and an audition or portfolio review and interview is required. Contact the school office by calling (540) 568-6342 or visit the School of Theatre and Dance website for current audition information.

http://www.jmu.edu/catalog/14
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 THEA 210. Introduction to Theatre, to meet the visual and performing arts 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 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: 2-3
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 245. Dance Improvisation 1
DANC 325. Dance in Community (3 credits) 2
DANC 390. New Directions in Dance 3
THEA/DANC 171. Performance Production 3
THEA 273. Visual Aspects 3
THEA/DANC 100. Theatre and Dance Colloquium (6 enrollments) 0

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.
3 DANC 325 and DANC 390 are not core options for the musical theatre concentration or the theatre concentration options.

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
Coordinator: Dr. Terry Brino-Dean
Phone: (540) 568-4850

Courses Credit Hours
Core Courses 8-9
Concentration General Requirements 4
Theatre Practicum
Choose four different areas of main stage productions for one credit each from scenery, lighting, costumes, management or performance.
THEA 204 or 304. Theatre Practicum: Scenery
THEA 205 or 305. Theatre Practicum: Lighting
THEA 206 or 306. Theatre Practicum: Costume
THEA 207 or 307. Theatre Practicum: Management
THEA 208 or 308. Theatre Practicum: Performance
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
THEA 481. Theory and Performance Studies 3
Choose one of the following:
THEA 441. Senior Seminar in Theatre 3
THEA 442. Senior Seminar (1 credit) and THEA 499. Honors Thesis (2 credits)
Performance Requirements (choose one) 3
THEA 351. Acting II: Intermediate Acting 3
THEA 355. Directing 3
Design/Technology Requirements (choose one) 3
THEA 271. Technical Theatre 3
THEA 331. Technical Costuming 3
THEA 332. Survey of Costume 3
THEA 374. Stage Lighting 3
THEA 376. Scene Design 3
Track Options 9
Theatre concentrators may fulfill the requirements for one or more tracks listed below or complete nine THEA credits not already applied to the major. 2

Theatre Studies Track
Choose any nine THEA credits not already applied to the major or six
THEA credits and one of the following courses:
ENG 317. Shakespeare’s Tragedies and Romances
ENG 318. Shakespeare’s Comedies and Histories
ENG 320L. Shakespeare on the Page and Stage in London
ENG 333. Modern Drama
ENG 334. Contemporary Drama
THEA 449. London Theatre
THEA 485. American Theatre

Performance Track
THEA 452. Acting III: Contemporary Scene Study
THEA 453. Acting IV: Approaches to Heightened Language
THEA 460. Auditioning and Professional Issues

Design/Technology Track
Choose two courses not already applied to the major:
THEA 333. Costume Design
THEA 374. Stage Lighting
THEA 375. Sound Design
THEA 376. Scene Design

http://www.jmu.edu/catalog/14
Choose one course not already applied to the major:
THEA 271. Technical Theatre  
THEA 331. Technical Costuming  
THEA 332. Survey of Costume  
THEA 336. Stage Makeup  
THEA 371. Advanced Technical Theatre  
THEA 375. Sound Design  
THEA 471. Stage Management  
THEA 473. Advanced Design and Rendering  
THEA 390/490. Special Topics (with permission)1

Theatre Education Track  
(Students who complete the theatre education track fulfill the requirements to earn PreK-12 teaching licensure in theatre. This track requires 12 THEA credits.)
THEA 303. Topics in Theatre (Methods – Primary) 
THEA 303. Topics in Theatre (Methods – Secondary) 
THEA 310. Theatre for Young Audiences 
THEA 490. Special Studies in Theatre (Practicum)  
For the theatre education track, the following courses (20 credit hours) are required in addition to the track courses with THEA designations:
GP/PSYC 160. Life Span Human Development (may double count)  
EDUC 300. Foundations of American Education  
EDUC 480. Student Teaching  
READ 420. Content Area Literacy, K-12

1 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.  
2 Students in tracks receive track-related advising. In order to formally pursue a track option, students must apply for the track at the end of the sophomore year.

Recommended Schedule for Theatre Concentration
First Year
THEA 171. Performance Production  
THEA 211. Performance Analysis  
Theatre 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  
Theatre Concentration General Requirements  
Theatre Concentration Performance or Design/Technology Requirement  
Dance Core Requirement

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  
or THEA 442. Senior Seminar AND THEA 499. Honors Thesis  
Theatre Concentration Performance or Design/Technology Requirements  
Track Requirements

Teacher Licensure in Theatre  
Adviser: Leah Kirkpatrick  
Phone: (540) 568-2337

In addition to general education and theatre and dance requirements, students desiring PreK-12 teaching licensure in theatre must complete eight credits of additional course work in education and psychology and 12 credits of student teaching. Within the major requirements, students interested in licensure must complete 12 hours of theatre education courses as part of their theatre education track. It is necessary to be admitted to the teacher education program prior to enrolling in professional education courses. For a complete description of admission and retention policies and procedures for teacher education, refer to the College of Education.  
Students seeking licensure are encouraged to consult regularly with the program adviser of theatre education. The undergraduate degree leading to licensure must include the following minimum requirements in theatre:

- Theatre education track requirements (12 credits)  
- All theatre and dance major core requirements (8 credits)  
- All theatre concentration non-track requirements (28 credits)  
- Directing to fulfill the concentration performance requirement (three credits)  

The following is a list of the required courses leading to PK-12 theatre licensure and a suggested sequence of when each may be taken. The first four theatre courses are track requirements; THEA 355 fulfills the performance requirement for the concentration and Virginia teacher licensure.

Required Theatre Courses Credit Hours
THEA 310. Theatre for Young Audiences (second or third year) 3  
THEA 303. Topics in Theatre (Methods–Primary) (second or third year) 3  
THEA 303. Topics in Theatre (Methods–Secondary) (second or third year) 3  
THEA 490. Special Studies in Theatre (Practicum) (fall semester fourth year) 3  
THEA 355. Directing (must be taken to fulfill the concentration performance requirement) 3  

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Required Education and Psychology Courses Credit Hours
GP/PSYC 160. Life Span Human Development 3  
EDUC 300. Foundations of American Education 3  
READ 420. Content Area Literacy, K-12 2  
EDUC 480. Student Teaching 12  

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

Courses Credit Hours
Core Requirements 8-9  
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  
Four semesters for a total of six credits 6  
DANC 110. Associate Group Dance Repertory I  
DANC 210. Associate Group Dance Repertory II  
DANC 211. A.B. Contemporary Dance Ensemble Repertory I  
DANC 311. A.B. Contemporary Dance Ensemble Repertory II

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Two semesters for a total of four credits:
- DANC 240. Intermediate Modern Dance I
Two semesters for a total of four credits:
- DANC 340. Intermediate Modern Dance
One semester for a total of two credits:
- DANC 440. Advanced Modern Dance
Select four credits from the following courses:
- DANC 242. Intermediate Ballet I
- DANC 342. Intermediate Ballet II

The student is required to complete 10 credits in modern and four credits in ballet technique, 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. The requirements listed above are the minimum level expected of dance concentration students. Most majors will take additional 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 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 242 or DANC 342. Intermediate I 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 Company

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**

Coordinator: Kate Arecchi  
Phones: (540) 568-6009

**Courses**  
**Credit Hours**

| Core requirements | 8-9 |
| Theatre Practicum | 3 |

Choose three different areas of main stage production for one credit each from scenery, lighting, costumes or management:
- THEA 204 or 304. Theatre Practicum: Scenery
- THEA 205 or 305. Theatre Practicum: Lighting
- THEA 206 or 306. Theatre Practicum: Costume
- THEA 207 or 307. Theatre Practicum: Management

THEA 208 or 308. Theatre Practicum: Performance 1

THEA 211. Performance Analysis 3

THEA 251. Acting I: Basic Acting 3

THEA 253. Musical Theatre Laboratory 1 2

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

Choose one of the following:
- THEA 441. Senior Seminar in Theatre
- THEA 442. Senior Seminar (1 credit) and THEA 499. Honors Thesis (2 credits)

THEA 454. Advanced Music Theatre Performance 2

THEA 455. Auditioning for Musical Theatre 1

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 214. Private Voice for Musical Theatre Concentrators 2 4

MUS 100. Keyboarding Skills I 1

MUS 101. Keyboarding Skills II 1

MUS 141. Theory I: Writing and Analysis 3

MUS 143. Theory I: Aural Perception and Analysis 1

1 Two enrollments of 1 credit each.
2 Four enrollments of 1 credit each.

**Recommended Schedule for Musical Theatre Concentration**

**First Year**
- THEA 171. Performance Production
- THEA 211. Performance Analysis
- THEA 251. Acting I: Basic Acting
- THEA 253. Musical Theatre Laboratory
- DANC 146. Jazz Dance
- Dance core course

**Second Year**
- THEA 273. Visual Aspects of Theatre
- MUS 100/101. Keyboard Skills I & II
- THEA 351. Acting II: Intermediate Acting
- THEA 353. Music Theatre Performance
- THEA 357. Music Theatre History & Analysis
- DANC 246. Intermediate Jazz
- MUAP 214. Private Voice Practicum
- THEA 353. Music Theatre Performance Practicum

Other technique courses to fit the student’s schedule.

**Third Year**
- THEA 315. The European Theatre Tradition to 1800
- THEA 316. The European Theatre Tradition From 1800
- THEA 454. Advanced Music Theatre Performance
- MUS 141. Theory I: Writing and Analysis
- MUS 143. Theory I: Aural Perception and Analysis
- DANC 346. Intermediate Jazz II/Musical Theatre Styles
- MUS 214. Private Voice Practicum

Other technique courses to fit the student’s schedule.

**Fourth Year**
- THEA 441. Senior Seminar in Theatre
- THEA 442. Senior Seminar AND THEA 499. Honors Thesis Practicum

Track Requirements

http://www.jmu.edu/catalog/14
Teacher Licensure in Dance
Adviser: Suzanne Miller-Corso
Phone: (540) 568-3924

In addition to general education and theatre and dance requirements, students desiring PreK-12 teaching licensure in dance must complete 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 and dance 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)

Required Courses | Credit Hours
--- | ---
ATEP 205. Introduction to Athletic Training (spring, junior) | 3
DANC 325. Dance in Community | 3
DANC 490. Special Studies in Dance: Teaching Practicum (prior to student teaching) | 2
EDUC 300. Foundations of American Education | 3
EDUC 480. Student Teaching | 12
PSYC 160. Life Span Human Development (may double count) | 3
KIN 202. Biological Foundations in Kinesiology and Recreation (fall, junior) | 3
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. No audition is required for the theatre minor or dance minor. The following chart outlines each option's specific requirements.

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.

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.

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/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.

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