

THEATRE DESIGN, TECHNOLOGY AND PRODUCTION - B.F.A.

College of the Arts

School of Theatre and Dance - Theatre Division

www.kent.edu/theatredance

About This Program

Bring your theatre production dreams to life with our B.F.A. program. With a blend of theoretical knowledge and practical experience, this program prepares you for a career in theatre production. Access industry-standard tools, experienced faculty and real-world opportunities. Enroll now and take the first step toward a career in theatre production. Read more...

Contact Information

- **Michelle Souza** | msouza@kent.edu
- Speak with an Advisor
- Chat with an Admissions Counselor

Program Delivery

- **Delivery:**
 - In person
- **Location:**
 - Kent Campus

Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries*

Art, drama, and music teachers, postsecondary

- 5.6% faster than the average
- 116,300 number of jobs
- \$69,690 potential earnings

Lighting technicians and media and communication equipment workers, all other

- 4.9% about as fast as the average
- 26,600 number of jobs
- \$70,980 potential earnings

Film and video editors

- 21.6% much faster than the average
- 38,300 number of jobs
- \$67,250 potential earnings

Set and exhibit designers

- 1.2% slower than the average
- 15,200 number of jobs
- \$58,180 potential earnings

Accreditation

National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST)

* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics'

Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

Admission Requirements

The university affirmatively strives to provide educational opportunities and access to students with varied backgrounds, those with special talents and adult students.

First-Year Students on the Kent Campus: First-year admission policy on the Kent Campus is selective. Admission decisions are based upon cumulative grade point average, strength of high school college preparatory curriculum and grade trends. Students not admissible to the Kent Campus may be administratively referred to one of the seven regional campuses to begin their college coursework. For more information, visit the admissions website for first-year students.

First-Year Students on the Regional Campuses: First-year admission to Kent State's campuses at Ashtabula, East Liverpool, Geauga, Salem, Stark, Trumbull and Tuscarawas, as well as the Twinsburg Academic Center, is open to anyone with a high school diploma or its equivalent. For more information on admissions, contact the Regional Campuses admissions offices.

International Students: All international students must provide proof of proficiency of the English language (unless they meet specific exceptions) through the submission of an English language proficiency test score or by completing English language classes at Kent State's English as a Second Language Center before entering their program. For more information, visit the admissions website for international students.

Former Students: Former Kent State students who have not attended another institution since Kent State and were not academically dismissed will complete the re-enrollment process through the Financial, Billing and Enrollment Center. Former students who attended another college or university since leaving Kent State must apply for admissions as a transfer or post-undergraduate student.

Transfer Students: Students who attended an educational institution after graduating from high school or earning their GED must apply as transfer students. For more information, visit the admissions website for transfer students.

Admission policies for undergraduate students may be found in the University Catalog's Academic Policies.

Students may be required to meet certain criteria to progress in their program. Any progression requirements will be listed on the program's Coursework tab

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements (courses count in major GPA)		
ARTH 22006	ART HISTORY: ANCIENT TO MEDIEVAL ART (KFA)	3
ARTH 22007	ART HISTORY: RENAISSANCE TO MODERN ART (KFA)	3
THEA 11100	MAKING THEATRE: CULTURE AND PRACTICE	2
THEA 11521	GRAPHICS FOR THE THEATRE	3
THEA 11725	FUNDAMENTALS OF THEATRE DESIGN AND PRODUCTION	3
THEA 14092	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS INTRODUCTORY PRACTICUM: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (ELR) (taken two times)	2
THEA 21522	LIGHTING DESIGN	3
THEA 21524	COSTUME DESIGN	3
THEA 21528	SOUND AND PROJECTION DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY	3
THEA 21622	SCENE DESIGN	3
THEA 21736	STAGE MANAGEMENT	3
THEA 31030	GLOBAL THEATRE HISTORIES	3
THEA 32000	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS PORTFOLIO REVIEW (taken three times)	3
THEA 34092	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS ADVANCED PRACTICUM: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (ELR) (taken six times)	10
THEA 41115 or THEA 41130	LGBTQ THEATRE THEATRE AND DRAMA IN AMERICA	3
THEA 41140 or THEA 41620	AMERICAN MUSICAL THEATRE HISTORY (WIC) ¹ HISTORY OF PERIOD STYLES FOR THEATRE DESIGNERS (WIC)	3
THEA 41306	PROFESSIONAL ASPECTS: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY	3
THEA 41736 or THEA 42040	PRODUCTION AND STAGE MANAGEMENT SHOP MANAGEMENT	3
THEA 41999	CAPSTONE PROJECT (ELR)	3
THEA 42062	PRESENTATION MEDIA	3
Theatre Design and Technology Electives, choose from the following:		24
THEA 21523	COSTUME TECHNOLOGY	
THEA 21621	SCENE PAINTING	
THEA 31526	FLAT PATTERNING FOR THEATRE	
THEA 41095	SPECIAL TOPICS IN THEATRE	
THEA 41140	AMERICAN MUSICAL THEATRE HISTORY (WIC) ¹	
THEA 41521	ADVANCED LIGHTING TECHNOLOGY I	
THEA 41522	DESIGN STUDIO: LIGHTING	
THEA 41523	SOUND DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY I	
THEA 41524	DESIGN STUDIO: COSTUME	
THEA 41525	PROPS AND CRAFTS	
THEA 41526	ADVANCED LIGHTING TECHNOLOGY II	
THEA 41528	THEATRE SOUND REINFORCEMENT	
THEA 41540	DRAPING FOR THE THEATRE I	
THEA 41560	THEATRE FABRICATION TECHNOLOGY	
THEA 41622	DESIGN STUDIO: SCENERY	

THEA 41625	HISTORY OF COSTUME AND TEXTILES FOR THEATRE	
THEA 41726	THEATRE MANAGEMENT	
Additional Requirements (courses do not count in major GPA)		
UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
Kent Core Composition		6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning		3
Kent Core Humanities		3
Kent Core Social Sciences (must be from two disciplines)		6
Kent Core Basic Sciences (must include one laboratory)		6-7
Kent Core Additional		6
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		120

¹ A minimum C grade must be earned to fulfill the writing-intensive requirement.

Progression Requirements

- In order to continue and graduate with the B.F.A. degree, students are expected develop skills equal to entry-level positions in the profession or as expected for admission into a M.F.A. degree program.
- Students on academic probation may not participate in any School of Theatre and Dance productions.
- Students may be immediately dismissed from the program for failure to maintain a minimum 2.500 major GPA. B.F.A. degree students should strive to maintain a 3.000 overall GPA.
- Students must pass yearly portfolio reviews and are expected to participate in at least one mainstage production per semester (this may be in addition to any production design assignment).

Graduation Requirements

Minimum Major GPA	Minimum Overall GPA
2.500	2.000

Roadmap

This roadmap is a recommended semester-by-semester plan of study for this program. Students will work with their advisor to develop a sequence based on their academic goals and history. Courses designated as critical (!) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation.

Semester One		Credits
THEA 11100	MAKING THEATRE: CULTURE AND PRACTICE	2
THEA 11521	GRAPHICS FOR THE THEATRE	3
THEA 11725	FUNDAMENTALS OF THEATRE DESIGN AND PRODUCTION	3
THEA 14092	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS INTRODUCTORY PRACTICUM: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (ELR)	1
UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Credit Hours		16
Semester Two		Credits
THEA 14092	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS INTRODUCTORY PRACTICUM: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (ELR)	1
THEA 21528	SOUND AND PROJECTION DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY	3
THEA 21736	STAGE MANAGEMENT	3

Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Credit Hours		16
Semester Three		
ARTH 22007	ART HISTORY: RENAISSANCE TO MODERN ART (KFA)	3
THEA 21522	LIGHTING DESIGN	3
THEA 21524	COSTUME DESIGN	3
THEA 34092	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS ADVANCED PRACTICUM: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (ELR)	1
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Credit Hours		16
Semester Four		
ARTH 22006	ART HISTORY: ANCIENT TO MEDIEVAL ART (KFA)	3
THEA 32000	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS PORTFOLIO REVIEW	1
THEA 34092	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS ADVANCED PRACTICUM: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (ELR)	1
Theatre Design and Technology Elective		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Credit Hours		14
Semester Five		
THEA 21622	SCENE DESIGN	3
THEA 31030	GLOBAL THEATRE HISTORIES or THEATRE AND DRAMA IN AMERICA	3
THEA 34092	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS ADVANCED PRACTICUM: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (ELR)	2
THEA 41306	PROFESSIONAL ASPECTS: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY	3
THEA 42062	PRESENTATION MEDIA	3
Credit Hours		14
Semester Six		
THEA 31030	GLOBAL THEATRE HISTORIES or LGBTQ THEATRE	3
THEA 32000	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS PORTFOLIO REVIEW	1
THEA 34092	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS ADVANCED PRACTICUM: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (ELR)	2
THEA 41736	PRODUCTION AND STAGE MANAGEMENT or SHOP MANAGEMENT	3
THEA 42040		
Theatre Design and Technology Elective		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Credit Hours		15
Semester Seven		
THEA 34092	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS ADVANCED PRACTICUM: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (ELR)	2
THEA 41999	CAPSTONE PROJECT (ELR)	3
Theatre Design and Technology Electives		9
Credit Hours		14
Semester Eight		
THEA 32000	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS PORTFOLIO REVIEW	1
THEA 34092	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS ADVANCED PRACTICUM: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (ELR)	2

THEA 41140	AMERICAN MUSICAL THEATRE HISTORY (WIC) or HISTORY OF PERIOD STYLES FOR	3
THEA 41620	THEATRE DESIGNERS (WIC)	
Theatre Design and Technology Electives		9
Credit Hours		15
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		120

University Requirements

All students in a bachelor’s degree program at Kent State University must complete the following university requirements for graduation.

NOTE: University requirements may be fulfilled in this program by specific course requirements. Please see Program Requirements for details.

Flashes 101 (UC 10001)	1 credit hour
Course is not required for students with 30+ transfer credits (excluding College Credit Plus) or age 21+ at time of admission.	
Experiential Learning Requirement (ELR)	varies
Students must successfully complete one course or approved experience.	
Kent Core (see table below)	36-37 credit hours
Writing-Intensive Course (WIC)	1 course
Students must earn a minimum C grade in the course.	
Upper-Division Requirement	39 credit hours
Students must successfully complete 39 upper-division (numbered 30000 to 49999) credit hours to graduate.	
Total Credit Hour Requirement	120 credit hours

Kent Core Requirements

Kent Core Composition (KCMP)	6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning (KMCR)	3
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (KHUM/KFA) (min one course each)	9
Kent Core Social Sciences (KSS) (must be from two disciplines)	6
Kent Core Basic Sciences (KBS/KLAB) (must include one laboratory)	6-7
Kent Core Additional (KADL)	6
Total Credit Hours:	36-37

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Articulate basic elements and principles of design theory and composition.
2. Produce and communicate design ideas and accurate production models, paperwork and drawings by hand and/or through the use of current industry standard software programs.
3. Describe the full process of design and production for a finished production, including the roles that various personnel play in the mounting of a finished production.
4. Articulate and use best practices and industry standards related to safety for theatrical venues and production elements.

5. Prepare and present a professional resume and a portfolio of design/production work that demonstrate one's cumulative accomplishments.
6. Recognize and evaluate a diverse selection of contemporary and historical theatre repertory.
7. Apply theories to and perform technical skills in a variety of realized stage productions.

Program Policies

Physical Activity and ROTC Courses

No more than 4 credit hours of Physical Activity, Wellness and Sport (PWS) courses or the first 16 credit hours of ROTC courses—Aerospace Studies (ASTU) and Military Studies (MSCI)—may apply to the 120 credit hours required for graduation.

Veterans who have completed a minimum of one year of active duty may receive PWS credit for military basic training according to branch of service, as follows:

- Army and Marine Corps, 3 credit hours;
- Navy and Coast Guard, 2 credit hours;
- Air Force, 1 credit hour.

Requirement Audit

Upon completion of 60 credit hours, each student is required to contact the College of the Arts Advising office to obtain a current evaluation of progress toward completion of the student's chosen degree program. Requirement evaluations are not a substitute for meeting with a faculty advisor. Students may access GPS (Graduation Planning System) audit through their FlashLine account which provides them with information about their academic progress. Questions about GPS audits are answered in the College of the Arts Advising office.

Full Description

The Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Theatre Design, Technology and Production fosters the artistic development of theatre designers, technicians and artisans. Students study both traditional theatre practices and new methods, materials and technologies. Students must demonstrate continued progress through annual portfolio reviews, course work and production responsibilities. In addition, students are expected to complete a significant production assignment each semester.

In the major, students apply design and technology concepts for the school's theatrical and dance productions. Kent State's Center for the Performing Arts houses three theatres, performance and rehearsal space, a scene shop, a costume shop and laboratories for costumes, drafting, lighting and scenery. In addition, the School of Theatre and Dance oversees the outdoor venue Porthouse Theatre.

The B.F.A. degree program prepares students for M.F.A. degree study, as well as such occupations as scenic designer, costume designer, lighting designer, sound/projection designer, prop master, scenic artist, stage manager, production manager, wardrobe supervisor, technical director and stage technicians.