

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

- Program Coordinator: **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 who graduated from high school three or more years ago.

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 English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions) by earning a minimum 525 TOEFL score (71 on the Internet-based version), minimum 75 MELAB score, minimum 6.0 IELTS score or minimum 48 PTE Academic score, or by completing the ELS level 112 Intensive Program. For more information, visit the admissions website for international students.

Transfer Students: Students who have attended any other educational institution after graduating from high school must apply as undergraduate transfer students. For more information, visit the admissions website for transfer students.

Former Students: Former Kent State students or graduates who have not attended another college or university since Kent State may complete the reenrollment or reinstatement form on the University Registrar's website.

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

Some programs may require that students meet certain requirements before progressing through the program. For programs with progression requirements, the information is shown 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 41726	THEATRE MANAGEMENT		
THEA 11100	MAKING THEATRE: CULTURE AND PRACTICE	2	Theatre Design Upper-Division Electives, choose from the following:		9	
THEA 11521	GRAPHICS FOR THE THEATRE	3	THEA 41522	DESIGN STUDIO: LIGHTING		
THEA 11722	FUNDAMENTALS OF PRODUCTION I: SCENERY, STAGECRAFT AND SOUND	2	THEA 41524	DESIGN STUDIO: COSTUME		
THEA 11723	FUNDAMENTALS OF PRODUCTION LABORATORY I: SCENERY	1	THEA 41622	DESIGN STUDIO: SCENERY		
THEA 11724	FUNDAMENTALS OF PRODUCTION LABORATORY II: PROPS AND SCENIC ART	1	THEA 41625	HISTORY OF COSTUME AND TEXTILES FOR THEATRE		
THEA 11732	FUNDAMENTALS OF PRODUCTION II: COSTUMES, LIGHTING AND PROJECTIONS	2	THEA 41726	THEATRE MANAGEMENT		
THEA 11733	FUNDAMENTALS OF PRODUCTION LABORATORY III: COSTUMES	1	Theatre Technology Electives, choose from the following:		9	
THEA 11734	FUNDAMENTALS OF PRODUCTION LABORATORY IV: LIGHTING, SOUND AND PROJECTIONS	1	THEA 21016	MAKEUP FOR STAGE AND SCREEN		
THEA 13092	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS FRESHMAN PRACTICUM: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (ELR) (taken twice)	2	THEA 21523	COSTUME TECHNOLOGY		
THEA 21111	SCRIPT ANALYSIS	3	THEA 21621	SCENE PAINTING		
THEA 21501	SOPHOMORE PORTFOLIO REVIEW	1	THEA 31526	FLAT PATTERNING FOR THEATRE		
THEA 21521	THEATRICAL DRAFTING	3	THEA 41420	THEATRICAL DRAFTING II		
or THEA 21526	BASIC COSTUME CONSTRUCTION		THEA 41430	ADVANCED CONSTRUCTION THEORY		
THEA 23092	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS SOPHOMORE PRACTICUM: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (ELR) (taken twice)	2	THEA 41440	SHOP MANAGEMENT		
THEA 31110	HISTORY OF THEATRE AND DRAMA I	3	THEA 41521	ADVANCED LIGHTING TECHNOLOGY I		
THEA 31111	HISTORY OF THEATRE AND DRAMA II	3	THEA 41523	SOUND DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY I		
THEA 31401	DIRECTING	3	THEA 41525	PROPS AND CRAFTS		
or THEA 41734	COSTUME PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT		THEA 41526	ADVANCED LIGHTING TECHNOLOGY II		
or THEA 41736	PRODUCTION AND STAGE MANAGEMENT		THEA 41527	SOUND DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY II		
THEA 31501	JUNIOR PORTFOLIO REVIEW	1	THEA 41528	THEATRE SOUND REINFORCEMENT		
THEA 33092	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS JUNIOR PRACTICUM: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (ELR) (taken twice)	4	THEA 41529	ADVANCED WIG AND MAKEUP TECHNIQUES-STAGE AND SCREEN		
THEA 41140	AMERICAN MUSICAL THEATRE HISTORY (WIC) ¹	3	THEA 41531	THEATRICAL RIGGING		
or THEA 41620	HISTORY OF PERIOD STYLES FOR THEATRE DESIGNERS (WIC)		THEA 41540	DRAPING FOR THE THEATRE I		
THEA 41306	PROFESSIONAL ASPECTS: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY	3	THEA 41560	THEATRE FABRICATION TECHNOLOGY		
THEA 41501	SENIOR PORTFOLIO REVIEW	1	Theatre Technology Upper-Division Electives, choose from the following:		6	
THEA 41621	PRESENTATION MEDIA	3	THEA 31526	FLAT PATTERNING FOR THEATRE		
THEA 41999	CAPSTONE PROJECT (ELR)	1-3	THEA 41420	THEATRICAL DRAFTING II		
THEA 43092	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS SENIOR PRACTICUM: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (ELR) (taken twice)	4	THEA 41430	ADVANCED CONSTRUCTION THEORY		
Theatre Design Electives, choose from the following:			6	THEA 41440	SHOP MANAGEMENT	
THEA 21522	LIGHTING DESIGN		THEA 41521	ADVANCED LIGHTING TECHNOLOGY I		
THEA 21524	COSTUME DESIGN		THEA 41523	SOUND DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY I		
THEA 21528	SOUND AND PROJECTION DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY		THEA 41525	PROPS AND CRAFTS		
THEA 21622	SCENE DESIGN		THEA 41526	ADVANCED LIGHTING TECHNOLOGY II		
THEA 21736	STAGE MANAGEMENT		THEA 41527	SOUND DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY II		
THEA 41522	DESIGN STUDIO: LIGHTING		THEA 41528	THEATRE SOUND REINFORCEMENT		
THEA 41524	DESIGN STUDIO: COSTUME		THEA 41529	ADVANCED WIG AND MAKEUP TECHNIQUES-STAGE AND SCREEN		
THEA 41622	DESIGN STUDIO: SCENERY		THEA 41531	THEATRICAL RIGGING		
THEA 41625	HISTORY OF COSTUME AND TEXTILES FOR THEATRE		THEA 41540	DRAPING FOR THE THEATRE I		
			THEA 41560	THEATRE FABRICATION TECHNOLOGY		
			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 major. However, 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 13092	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS FRESHMAN PRACTICUM: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (ELR)	1
UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
	Fundamentals of Production	2
	Fundamentals of Production Laboratories	2
	Kent Core Requirement	3
Credit Hours		14
Semester Two		Credits
THEA 13092	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS FRESHMAN PRACTICUM: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (ELR)	1
THEA 21111	SCRIPT ANALYSIS	3
THEA 21521	THEATRICAL DRAFTING	3
	or or BASIC COSTUME CONSTRUCTION	
THEA 21526		
	Fundamentals of Production	2
	Fundamentals of Production Laboratories	2
	Kent Core Requirement	3
	Kent Core Requirement	3
Credit Hours		17
Semester Three		Credits
ARTH 22007	ART HISTORY: RENAISSANCE TO MODERN ART (KFA)	3
! THEA 23092	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS SOPHOMORE PRACTICUM: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (ELR)	1
	Theatre Design Elective	3
	Theatre Technology Elective	3
	Kent Core Requirement	3
	Kent Core Requirement	3
Credit Hours		16
Semester Four		Credits
ARTH 22006	ART HISTORY: ANCIENT TO MEDIEVAL ART (KFA)	3
! THEA 21501	SOPHOMORE PORTFOLIO REVIEW	1

THEA 23092	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS SOPHOMORE PRACTICUM: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (ELR)	1
	Theatre Technology Electives	6
	Kent Core Requirement	3
Credit Hours		14
Semester Five		Credits
! THEA 31110	HISTORY OF THEATRE AND DRAMA I	3
THEA 33092	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS JUNIOR PRACTICUM: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (ELR)	2
THEA 41621	PRESENTATION MEDIA	3
	Theatre Technology Upper-Division Electives	6
	Kent Core Requirement	3
Credit Hours		17
Semester Six		Credits
! THEA 31111	HISTORY OF THEATRE AND DRAMA II	3
! THEA 31501	JUNIOR PORTFOLIO REVIEW	1
THEA 33092	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS JUNIOR PRACTICUM: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (ELR)	2
THEA 41140	AMERICAN MUSICAL THEATRE HISTORY (WIC)	3
	or or HISTORY OF PERIOD STYLES FOR	
THEA 41620	THEATRE DESIGNERS (WIC)	
! THEA 41306	PROFESSIONAL ASPECTS: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY	3
	Kent Core Requirement	3
Credit Hours		15
Semester Seven		Credits
THEA 31401	DIRECTING	3
	or or COSTUME PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT	
THEA 41734	or PRODUCTION AND STAGE MANAGEMENT	
	or	
THEA 41736		
THEA 43092	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS SENIOR PRACTICUM: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (ELR)	2
	Theatre Design Elective	3
	Theatre Design Upper-Division Elective	3
	Kent Core Requirement	3
Credit Hours		14
Semester Eight		Credits
! THEA 41501	SENIOR PORTFOLIO REVIEW	1
THEA 41999	CAPSTONE PROJECT (ELR)	1-3
THEA 43092	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS SENIOR PRACTICUM: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (ELR)	2
	Theatre Design Upper-Division Electives	6
	Kent Core Requirement	3
Credit Hours		13
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.	
Diversity Domestic/Global (DIVD/DIVG)	2 courses

Students must successfully complete one domestic and one global course, of which one must be from the Kent Core.	
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 (KCOMP)	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. Demonstrate ability to conceptualize and realize a design aesthetic consistent with the overall artistic concepts of a production.
2. Demonstrate ability to understand and articulate basic elements and principles of design theory.
3. Demonstrate ability to understand and articulate basic elements and principles of composition related to line, shape, color, texture and sound.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the aesthetic use of color.
5. Demonstrate understanding of aesthetic use of sound.
6. Demonstrate ability to communicate design ideas and realities to other personnel involved in the production, including directors, other designers, stage managers and actors.
7. Demonstrate ability to produce and communicate design ideas with freehand drawings.
8. Demonstrate ability to provide formalized, accurate production models and drawings by hand and/or through the use of current industry standard software programs.
9. Demonstrate fundamental knowledge of the total design process, including the progression of raw materials through multiple design "shops" and the roles that various craftspeople play in the creation of a finished product.
10. Acquire knowledge of federal, state and local health and safety codes, best practices and industry standards as they relate to theatrical venues and production elements.
11. Prepare and present a professional resume and a portfolio of design- and technology-related work that demonstrate one's abilities, strengths, processes and experiences.

12. Acquire experiences in the design/technology aspects of theatre in a variety of formal and informal settings.

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.

Students will be able to 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.