

THEATRE, BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS (B.F.A.) WITH A CONCENTRATION IN LIGHTING DESIGN/TECHNICAL PRODUCTION

The Department of Theatre offers a Bachelor of Fine Arts that may be entered into during the third year. All freshman and transfer students entering the department are initially classified as Theatre Foundation students. After successfully completing the first two years of core theatre courses in their foundation areas of emphasis, students apply for admission to a specific degree program (B.F.A. or B.A.). In the B.F.A. students concentrate on areas in performance, including musical theatre, and stage management, as well as three areas of design/technology: scenic, lighting and costume. (See the individual concentration pages for curricular outlines.) Note: Entry into the musical theatre foundation program requires a change of major form.

Student participation in both credit- and noncredit-bearing department activities may be required. Students matriculating in School of the Arts degree programs are bound by the policies and procedures stipulated in this bulletin and in any other current handbook or policy document adopted by the individual programs.

Because of the environment that exists in these preprofessional programs, all aspects of theatre as art, craft, business and education are experienced together. The curriculum immerses students in the practicalities of theatre. Throughout the four years, the performer works daily with voice, body and imagination, while the designer/technician is involved in studio classes and practical application.

Learning outcomes

Upon completing this program, students will know and know how to do the following:

- Demonstrate skills and techniques needed to enter the profession as a lighting designer/technician
- Demonstrate knowledge of history, theory and literature and their practical application

Degree requirements for Theatre, Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) with a concentration in lighting design/technical production

Course	Title	Hours
General education (https://bulletin.vcu.edu/undergraduate/undergraduate-study/general-education-curriculum/)		
Select 30 credits of general education courses in consultation with an adviser.		30
Major requirements		
• Major core requirements		
THEA 100	Technical Production	1
THEA 111	Fundamentals of Performance	3
THEA 112	Fundamentals of Theatrical Design	3
THEA 211	Introduction to Drama	3

THEA 251	Rehearsal and Performance I	3
THEA 307	History of the Theatre	3
THEA 308	History of the Theatre	3
THEA 385	Diverse Voices:_____	3
THEA 495	Senior Project: Portfolio Review	1
• Additional major requirements		
THEA 103	Stagecraft	3
THEA 104	Costume Construction	3
THEA 121	Introduction to Drawing	2
or THEA 161	Figure Drawing: Superficial Anatomy	
or THEA 162	Figure Drawing: Draping the Human Form	
THEA 122	Color Theory	2
THEA 217	Theatrical Drafting	2
THEA 221	Introduction to Scene Design	3
THEA 225	Electricity for the Stage	3
THEA 229	Introduction to Lighting Design	3
THEA 237	Advanced Lighting I	3
THEA 324	Practicum in Stage Lighting (taken four semesters)	12
THEA 327	Computer-assisted Design and Drafting for the Theatre	3
THEA 334	Sound Design for Theatre	3
THEA 337	Advanced Lighting Design II	3
or THEA 333	Sound Technology	
THEA 351	Rehearsal and Performance	1-3
THEA 437	Advanced Lighting Design III	3
or THEA 326	Audio Mixing	
THEA 451	Rehearsal and Performance	1-3
Ancillary requirements		
ARTH 103	Survey of Art I	3
or ARTH 104	Survey of Art II	
SPCH 121	Effective Speech	3
Open electives		
Select any course.		9
Total Hours		120

The minimum number of credit hours required for this degree is 120.

What follows is a sample plan that meets the prescribed requirements within a four-year course of study at VCU. Please contact your adviser before beginning course work toward a degree.

Freshman year		
Fall semester		Hours
THEA 100	Technical Production	1
THEA 103	Stagecraft	3
THEA 112	Fundamentals of Theatrical Design	3
THEA 121	Introduction to Drawing	2
or THEA 161	or Figure Drawing: Superficial Anatomy	
or THEA 162	or Figure Drawing: Draping the Human Form	
THEA 217	Theatrical Drafting	2
THEA 225	Electricity for the Stage	3

UNIV 111	Introduction to Focused Inquiry: Play course video for Introduction to Focused Inquiry: Investigation and Communication	3
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Term Hours: 17

Spring semester

THEA 104	Costume Construction	3
THEA 111	Fundamentals of Performance	3
THEA 122	Color Theory	2
THEA 229	Introduction to Lighting Design	3
UNIV 112	Focused Inquiry II (satisfies general education UNIV foundations) Play course video for Focused Inquiry II	3
General education course		3

Term Hours: 17

Sophomore year

Fall semester

THEA 211	Introduction to Drama	3
THEA 324	Practicum in Stage Lighting	3
THEA 327	Computer-assisted Design and Drafting for the Theatre	3
UNIV 200	Advanced Focused Inquiry: Literacies, Research and Communication (satisfies general education UNIV foundations)	3
General education course		3

Term Hours: 15

Spring semester

ARTH 103 or ARTH 104	Survey of Art I or Survey of Art II	3
THEA 237	Advanced Lighting I	3
THEA 324	Practicum in Stage Lighting	3
THEA 334	Sound Design for Theatre	3
General education course		3

Term Hours: 15

Junior year

Fall semester

THEA 221	Introduction to Scene Design	3
THEA 307	History of the Theatre	3
THEA 324	Practicum in Stage Lighting	3
THEA 337 or THEA 333	Advanced Lighting Design II or Sound Technology	3
General education course		3

Term Hours: 15

Spring semester

THEA 251	Rehearsal and Performance I	3
THEA 308	History of the Theatre	3

THEA 324	Practicum in Stage Lighting	3
THEA 437 or THEA 326	Advanced Lighting Design III or Audio Mixing	3
General education course		3

Term Hours: 15

Senior year

Fall semester

SPCH 121	Effective Speech	3
THEA 351	Rehearsal and Performance	3
General education course		3
Open elective		3

Term Hours: 12

Spring semester

THEA 385	Diverse Voices:_____	3
THEA 451	Rehearsal and Performance	1-3
THEA 495	Senior Project: Portfolio Review	1
General education course		3
Open electives		6

Term Hours: 14-16

Total Hours: 120-122

The minimum number of credit hours required for this degree is 120.