

THEATRE ARTS

College of Arts and Humanities
 Department of Theatre and Dance
 Bachelor of Arts
 Degree Roadmaps
 Theatre Arts Option

Minor
 Theatre Education
 Theatre Performance
 Speech

Subject Matter Preparation Program
 (for requirements, refer to the English section in this catalog)

Faculty

Doris Ressler, Chair, Department of Theatre and Dance
 William DeLuca, Donis Leonard, Norman "JR" Luker, Shaunté Caraballo

Program Office: LCH A-109, (310) 243-3588

Emeriti Faculty

Carol A. Tubbs, Sydell Weiner

Program Description

The Theatre Arts Option offers courses in the field of acting and directing, design and technical theatre, theatre history, dramatic literature, multicultural children's theatre, speech, and drama for the classroom. The Dance Option offers courses in the fields of ballet, modern, jazz, and tap; dances of world cultures to include Hip Hop, Ballroom, Middle Eastern Dance, African Dance, and Latin Social Dance; choreography; dance history; and dance production. Course requirements for theatre and dance in the major and minor programs provide for flexibility and allow students considerable choice in planning their academic careers.

The Theatre and Dance Programs prepare students in all areas of theatre (Performance, Design/Tech, and Literature/History) and dance (Performance, Choreography, and Technique). Our program is multi-cultural and multi-ethnic by nature and offers a wide range of dance styles and theatre techniques to explore. The Theatre Performance Minor focuses on acting and directing, while the Theatre Education Minor doubles as both a general program and preparation for future teachers. The Dance Minor focuses on dance technique, choreography, and performance.

Students and faculty often collaborate with other departments including: Art, Music, Digital Media, English and Humanities.

Features

Theatre Arts Majors and Minors participate in the department's ambitious production program through acting; scenic, lighting, and costume design; set construction; stage management; and theatre production. Students receive academic credit for their participation. The ability for freshman and sophomore Theatre Arts majors to secure roles in a major production and receive individual attention from faculty is far more likely than at a larger university. The department presents 4 shows each year, two in the University Theatre and two in the Edison Studio Theatre that range in styles from Contemporary Theatre, Shakespeare to Musical Theatre. Students have the opportunity to participate each

year at KCACTF (Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival) and other performance venues throughout the year. The Theatre Arts Program is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST). NAST is located at 11250 Roger Bacon Drive, Ste. 21, Reston, VA 22090. The Department of Theatre and Dance are members of ACDA (American College Dance Association), KCACTF (Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival), and USITT (United States Institute for Theatre Technology). The Dance Option offers each student the opportunity to develop creative and technical skills to become leaders in the field of dance as choreographers, dancers, and teachers in studios, private and public schools. In dance, two large dance studios are available to students. Both studios are equipped with sprung floors, mirrored walls and the main studio has ballet barres, a grand piano, and audiovisual systems. Ballet and modern classes have live music accompaniment. Ample locker and shower facilities are also available. Dance students perform in the fully equipped, modern University Theatre, which seats over 400 audience members. Two dance concerts are held each year, one in each semester, and there are also opportunities to perform at various campus events held throughout the year. Students also participate in the ACDA annual conference and adjudication concerts in the Baja Region and other performance venues.

Academic Advisement

The Theatre Arts and Dance Programs place great importance on the advisement process. We request that students meet with their respective advisors for consultation. To obtain an advisor, students should contact Bill DeLuca or Donis Leonard (Theatre Arts Option) or Doris Ressler (Dance Option) to schedule a first meeting. Educational goals and previous theatre and dance experience will be discussed during the first advisement meeting. Based on this discussion, the progression of the student's major and minor requirements will be planned. Career opportunities will also be discussed.

Dedication and commitment are the keys to the successful pursuit of a career in theatre and dance. To help students achieve high academic and production standards, the department requires all majors and minors to pass their required classes with a "C" grade or better. Students who receive lower than a "C" will need to "Repeat and Cancel" that course in the following semester.

Preparation

The Theatre Arts Option strongly suggests that students wishing to major in theatre arts be able to deal effectively with the English language. Six to eight courses of college preparatory English are advised. In addition, students should have a strong background in vocal skills and basic movement capabilities. Since the theatre affects and makes use of the whole person, awareness and development of the human body and voice are equally important as the development of the human mind. Therefore, students are urged to take courses in speech, diction, singing, dance, fencing, stage combat, yoga, Pilates, and other recreational activities. In the Dance Option, it is strongly suggested that students pursuing a career in dance study ballet, modern, and jazz dance techniques. In addition, students should take advantage of all available choreography and performance opportunities and view as many dance performances as possible. In addition to high school graduation requirements, the student should study art, music, acting, literature, philosophy, and kinesiology. While attending community college, students should seek choreographic and performance experience in theatre presentations and attend as many dance performances as possible. Most dance technique courses taken at community colleges in ballet, modern, jazz, tap, and other selected

dance styles will transfer to satisfy the lower division requirements for the Dance Option Major and Minor.

Career Possibilities

Opportunities in the field of acting are expanding as a result of the establishment of year-round professional acting companies, the growth of summer and winter stock companies, outdoor and regional theatre, repertory companies, and dinner theatre. Commercial television, cable television, the Public Broadcast System (PBS), and the movie and music industry employ a large number of actors, as well as other talented personnel. Opportunities also exist in university and community theatre programs.

Related careers available to graduates include the following occupations:

actor, playwright, drama coach, dramaturge, theatre historian, critic, designer (set, lighting, sound, costume), make-up artist, technician, theatre manager, director, producer, announcer, recreation director, dancer, musician, entertainer, arts administrator, sales representative, model, and dramatic agent.

Many graduates in the Theatre Arts Option find secondary careers in the field of education. Our majors and Theatre Education minors learn how to adapt theatre games, improvisation, pantomime, and storytelling, to help their students in primary and secondary classrooms to develop social, communication, creative, and problem solving skills.

Student Organizations

- Toro Forensics- is an award-winning Speech team that competes annually in Public Speaking, Debate, and Oral Interpretation tournaments held throughout Southern California. Students acquire excellent training in speech support, articulation, organization, and non-verbal delivery skills.
- Teatro Dominguez- open to all students, provides high quality theatrical programs that inform, delight, and promote cross-cultural understanding in the Dominguez communities. As actors and directors, discussion leaders, stage managers, playwrights, and business managers, members receive a full experience in developing life skills that will make them effective leaders in tomorrow's pluralistic society.
- The New African Grove Black Theatre Program (BTP) provides courses, touring shows, and workshops that illuminate the Black experience for people of all ages and ethnic groups. BTP also offers academic scholarships to students interested in playing a leadership role in promoting African-American arts on campus.
- Mosaic Dance, open to all students interested in dance, works to expand the breadth of the dance program by sponsoring choreographic and performance opportunities and master classes.

Graduation with Honors

An undergraduate student may graduate with Honors in Theatre Arts if the following criteria are met:

1. A minimum of 36 units in residence at CSU Dominguez Hills.
2. A minimum GPA of at least 3.5 in all courses used to satisfy the upper division requirements.
3. Recommendation by the faculty in the department of program in which the honors are to be awarded.

Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts

Total Course Requirements for the Bachelor's Degree

See the "Requirements for the Bachelor's Degree (<https://catalog.csudh.edu/general-information/baccalaureate-degrees-undergraduate-studies/>)" in the University Catalog for complete details on general degree requirements. A minimum of 40 units, including those required for the major, must be upper division.

Elective Requirements

Completion of elective courses (beyond the requirements listed below) to reach a total of a minimum of 120 units.

General Education Requirements (49 units)

See the "General Education (<https://catalog.csudh.edu/general-information/double-counting-general-education-courses/general-education/>)" requirements in the University Catalog or the Class Schedule for the most current information on General Education requirements and course offerings.

Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement

See the "Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (<https://catalog.csudh.edu/general-information/graduate-writing-examination/>)" in the University Catalog.

Major Requirements (42-43 units)

The following courses, or their approved transfer equivalents, are required of all candidates for this degree.

A. Lower Division Required Courses (8 units)

DAN 210 Ballet I (2)
THE 251 Script Analysis (3)
THE 264 Acting I (3)

B. Upper Division Required Courses (5 units)

THE 346 Theatre Workshop (3)
THE 499 Senior Project (2)

Theatre Arts Option (30 units)

A. Upper Division Required Courses (21 units)

THE 342 Fundamentals of Theatre Design (3)
THE 343 Design/Tech II: The Design Experience (3) [I]
THE 346 Theatre Workshop (3)
THE 355 World Theatre and Drama I (3)
THE 357 World Theatre & Drama II (3)
THE 364 Acting II (3)
THE 374 Stage Directing (3)

B. Elective Courses (9 units)

THE 322 Oral Interpretation of Literature (3)
THE 329 Forensics Workshop (3)
THE 337 Creative Dramatics (3)
THE 339 Multicultural Children's Theatre (3)
THE 353 Playwriting (3)
THE 464 Acting III (3)
THE 490 Seminar In Theatre Arts (3)
THE 494 Independent Study (1-3)
THE 495 Special Topics In Theatre (1-3)

Minor in Theatre Performance (18 units) Requirements

A. Lower Division Required Courses (6 units)

THE 251 Script Analysis (3)

THE 264 Acting I (3)

B. Upper Division Required Courses (12 units)

THE 346 Theatre Workshop (3)

THE 364 Acting II (3)

THE 374 Stage Directing (3)

THE 464 Acting III (3)

Minor in Theatre Education (18 units)

Requirements

A. Upper Division Required Courses (18 units)

THE 337 Creative Dramatics (3)

THE 339 Multicultural Children's Theatre (3)

THE 342 Fundamentals of Theatre Design (3)

THE 346 Theatre Workshop (3)

THE 355 World Theatre and Drama I (3)

or

THE 357 World Theatre & Drama II (3)

THE 374 Stage Directing (3)

Minor in Speech (12 units)

Requirements

A. Upper Division Required Courses

THE 320 Speech Skills and Techniques (3)

THE 322 Oral Interpretation of Literature (3)

THE 329 Forensics Workshop (3)

THE 364 Acting II (3)

B. Recommended Course

THE 323 Interpersonal Communication (3)