Nebraska Wesleyan University

Theatre Arts (B.F.A.)

Catalog

2025-2026

Program Description

Students work with advisors to build an individualized course of study in two areas of interest related to career goals. For example, a student might propose to combine acting with design and technology, musical theatre with playwriting, or directing with arts management. Students wanting to seek this degree will write a proposal to be reviewed and approved by the theatre faculty. This major helps students develop a set of skills and experience to confidently enter the world of professional theatre. They capitalize upon Nebraska Wesleyan's active production schedule and academic opportunities to customize a degree program and gain practical experience that will result in an impressive resume and portfolio.

Departments

1. Theatre

Theatre Studies Major (B.F.A., 68 hours)

Theatre Department Core	12 hours
THTRE 1020FYW/THTRE 1030 Script Analysis	3 hours
THTRE 1300 Acting I	3 hours
THTRE 2500 Directing I	3 hours
THTRE 2700 Introduction to Theatrical Design	3 hours
Theatre History	**6 hours**
THTRE 3800 World Theatre History I	3 hours
THTRE 3810 World Theatre History II	3 hours
Theatre Arts B.F.A. Focus Areas	**34 hours**
Upper-level (3000- and 4000-level) focus area courses	12 hours
Other focus area courses	22 hours

- By consultation with and approval by Theatre Arts faculty, students will devise and select coursework for two focus areas.
- As a goal, each focus area will be designed to have at least 17 hours, 6 hours of which must be upper-level (3000- and 4000-level)
- Focus areas may include coursework in Acting, Design and Technology, Directing, Musical Theatre, Playwriting, Arts Leadership, or Arts Management. Courses from other departments may be incorporated into a focus area when appropriate.

Dramatic Literature	3 hours

Select 3 hours of Dramatic Literature:

- THTRE 2010 Dramatic Literature: Pulitzer Prize
- THTRE 2020 Dramatic Literature: Tony Awards
- THTRE 2030 Dramatic Literature: American Comedy
- THTRE 2050 Dramatic Literature: Gender and Sexuality
- THTRE 2060 Dramatic Literature: Banned and Censored
- THTRE 2080 Musical Theatre Literature
- THTRE 3000 Shakespeare
- ENG 3710 Shakespeare And Justice
- ENG 3720 Shakespeare and Power
- ENG 3730 Shakespeare and Gender
- ENG 3740 Shakespeare and Identity

Technical Theatre	3 hours

THTRE 1400 Stagecraft or THTRE 1410 Costume Construction

Experiential	3 hours

Select 1 course:

- THTRE 1420 Makeup Design
- THTRE 1810FYW Playwriting I/THTRE 2810
- THTRE 2160 Stage Management
- THTRE 2720 Scenery and Properties Design
- THTRE 2730 Costume Design
- THTRE 2750 Lighting and Sound Design
- THTRE 3160 Theatre Management
- THTRE 3500 Directing II
- THTRE 3700 Production Design I

Practicum	4 hours

At least one credit of Practicum must be completed each year.

Practicums should be selected from THTRE-1700-1800.

Capstone	3 hours

THTRE 4970 Internship or
THTRE 4990 Senior Capstone