

THEATRE, B.A.

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: University Park

End Campus: University Park

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Arts degree in Theatre, a minimum of 120 credits is required:

Requirement	Credits
General Education	45
Electives	16-17.5
Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements	24
Requirements for the Major	36.5-38

3 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes: 3 credits GHW courses.

3 of the 24 credits for Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements are included in the Requirements for the Major, General Education, or Electives and 0-12 credits are included in Electives if world language proficiency is demonstrated by examination.

Requirements for the Major

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the major. To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn at least a C grade in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/>).

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
DANCE 270	Introduction to Bartenieff Fundamentals	3
THEA 1S	First-Year Seminar: Theatre Production Practices	1
THEA 132	Survey of Theatre Production Practice	3
THEA 201W	Script Analysis	3
THEA 289	Theatre Production Practicum	1
Additional Courses		
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
Select 3 credits of Acting from the following:		3
THEA 102	Fundamentals of Acting	
THEA 120	Acting I	
Select 3 credits of Theatre Foundations from the following:		3
DANCE 100	Dance Appreciation	
THEA 100	The Art of the Theatre	
THEA 101N	Performance and Society	
THEA 105	Introduction to Theatre	
THEA 106	Theatre Foundations	
Select 6 credits of Theatre and Performance Praxis from the following:		6

THEA 211	Dramaturgy	
THEA 220	Acting II	
THEA 434	Introduction to Directing	
THEA 440	Principles of Playwriting	
Select 9 credits of Theatre and Dance History from the following:		9
DANCE 410	Dance History	
DANCE 411		
THEA 401	Theatre History I: Ancient to 1700	
THEA 402	Theatre History II: From 1700 to Present	
THEA 405W	Theatre History: American Theatre	
THEA/WMNST 407W	Women and Theatre	
THEA/AFAM 412	African American Theatre	
Select 3 credits of Literature and Theory from the following:		3
AFAM/ENGL 235	African American Oral Traditions through Hip-Hop	
CMLIT 12	Introduction to World Drama and Performance	
CMLIT 112N	Introduction to Global Drama, Theatre, and Performance	
CMLIT/ENGL 189		
CMLIT 422	African Drama	
CMLIT 486	Tragedy	
CMLIT 487		
CMLIT/ENGL 488		
ENGL 129	Shakespeare	
ENGL 129H	Shakespeare	
ENGL 438		
THEA 206	Critical Theory for Performance	
THEA 499	Foreign Studies–Theatre Arts	
Select 1.5-3 credits of Dance Theory and Technique from the following:		1.5-3
DANCE 170	Dance Conditioning	
DANCE 221	Introduction to West African Dance and Culture	
DANCE 225	Introduction to Hip Hop	
DANCE 230	Musical Theatre Ballet Dance I	
DANCE 240	Musical Theatre Jazz Dance I	
DANCE 250	Musical Theatre Tap Dance I	
DANCE 260	Introduction to Modern Dance	
DANCE 370	Anatomy and Physiology for Performers	
DANCE 370H		
DANCE 370Z		

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general->

education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required and Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- **Quantification (GQ):** 6 credits
- **Writing and Speaking (GWS):** 9 credits

Breadth in the Knowledge Domains (Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- **Arts (GA):** 3 credits
- **Health and Wellness (GHW):** 3 credits
- **Humanities (GH):** 3 credits
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS):** 3 credits
- **Natural Sciences (GN):** 3 credits

Integrative Studies

- **Inter-Domain Courses (Inter-Domain):** 6 credits

Exploration

- **GN**, may be completed with Inter-Domain courses: 3 credits
- **GA, GH, GN, GS, Inter-Domain courses.** This may include 3 credits of World Language course work beyond the 12th credit level or the requirements for the student's degree program, whichever is higher: 6 credits

University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- **United States Cultures:** 3 credits
- **International Cultures:** 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits

A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition

The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/>)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

B.A. Degree Requirements

World Language (0-12 credits): Student must attain 12th credit level of proficiency in one world language in addition to English. This proficiency must be demonstrated by either examination or course work. See the Placement Policy for Penn State World Language Courses (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/advising-planning-degree-program/course-placements/placement-policy-world-language-courses/>).

B.A. Fields (9 credits): Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Arts, World Languages, Natural Sciences, Quantification (may not be taken in the area of the student's primary major; world language credits in this category must be in a second world language in addition to English or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the first language). Credits must be selected from the list of approved courses.

World Cultures (0-3 credits): Select 3 credits from approved list. Students may count courses in this category in order to meet other major, minor, elective, or General Education requirements, except for the University Cultural Diversity (US/IL) requirement.