

THEATRE MAJOR: MUSICAL THEATRE OPTION (B.A.)

<https://cola.unh.edu/theatre-dance/program/ba/theatre-major-musical-theatre-option>

Description

The Theatre Major: Musical Theatre Option at UNH offers a comprehensive education in musical theatre performance and history. Our program seeks to train actors who sing and dance, with classes in acting, voice, and various dance styles as well as a full musical theatre performance curriculum. Students also gain hands-on experience through required practicums and opportunities to perform in mainstage shows, student showcases, musical theatre studios and cabarets. Students in the program enjoy focused training in musical theatre, including a senior showcase and opportunities to create professional contacts with guest artists and through student trips to the Southeastern Theatre Conference (SETC) and the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF), all while earning a well-rounded theatrical education under the liberal arts umbrella of the university. Students can also take advantage of study abroad trips and practical internships.

From Broadway to cabaret, musical theatre is a genre that continues to captivate generations by combining acting, song and dance. In this Theatre degree program at UNH, you'll develop and refine your talents in performance, movement, and voice while also studying the history of theatre and musical theatre. Our program gives you a well-rounded experience for future work in theatre, affording the opportunity to perform in faculty- and student-directed productions while also gaining hands-on experience through audition courses, visits from guest artists, and student showcases and trips.

In addition to our award-winning faculty, the UNH Department of Theatre and Dance offers numerous performance opportunities every year in musicals, plays or dance concerts, including student productions. Our students get opportunities to ease into the professional world through experiences in class and in our curriculum. Our January Term study-abroad program offers a 10-day experience of London theatre, and we partner with Actor's Connection in New York City to provide a senior showcase for industry professionals before students graduate.

Contact [Tom Alsip](mailto:thomas.alsip@unh.edu) (thomas.alsip@unh.edu), Paul Creative Arts Center, (603) 862-3288.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Minimum Credit Requirement: 128 credits

Minimum Residency Requirement: 32 credits must be taken at UNH

Minimum GPA: 2.0 required for conferral*

Core Curriculum Required: Discovery & Writing Program Requirements

Foreign Language Requirement: Yes

All Major, Option and Elective Requirements as indicated.

*Major GPA requirements as indicated.

Major Requirements

In the freshman and sophomore years, students should enroll for at least two major and two Discovery courses per semester.

The minimum grade requirement for major courses is C- per course. Any grade lower than C- will not count toward the major.

The required minimum overall GPA in major coursework is 2.0.

Under department policy, students who complete both COMM 401 American Sign Language I and COMM 502 American Sign Language II satisfy the bachelor of arts language proficiency requirement.

All majors must take courses in the following areas: performance, design/theatre technology and theory/history as well as fulfill between four and eight practicums and complete a capstone course. Although timing will vary with each option, it is strongly suggested that all introductory courses be taken prior to the end of the student's sophomore year. Students must also complete a digital portfolio that demonstrates fulfillment of student learning outcomes related to their area of study.

Candidates for a degree must satisfy all of the University Discovery Program requirements in addition to satisfying the requirements of each individual major program. Bachelor of arts candidates must also satisfy the foreign language proficiency requirement.

Theatre department majors may use one major-required course to satisfy one Discovery category requirement.

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
THDA 436 or THDA 438	History of Theatre I History of Theatre II	4
THDA 450	History of Musical Theatre in America	4
THDA 455	Musicianship and Beginning Vocal Techniques for Musical Theatre	2
THDA 459	Stagecraft	4
THDA 460	Elements of Design	4
THDA 462 or THDA 562	Ballet I Ballet II	2-4
THDA 463	Theatre Dance I	4
THDA 500	Musical Theatre Voice I	1
THDA 551	Acting I	4
THDA 555	Acting The Song	4
THDA 563	Theatre Dance II	2
THDA 570	Movement & Vocal Production	4
THDA 589	Practicum (A - C) ¹	1
THDA 600	Musical Theatre Voice II	1
THDA 655	Musical Theatre Scene Study	4
THDA 700	Musical Theatre Voice III (repeatable)	1
THDA 755	Musical Theatre Repertoire	4
THDA 799	Capstone Project	2
Dance - Select 2 credits from the following:		2
THDA 562	Ballet II	
THDA 565	Aerial Dance I	
THDA 576	Pointe	
THDA 662	Ballet III	
THDA 663	Theatre Dance III	
THDA 665	Aerial Dancell	
Total Credits		54-56

¹ The practicum ensures a breadth of experience in the major, including sets, costumes, lighting, props, box office, marketing, and performing.

Students must register for practicum every semester. They are notified of their practicum assignment at the beginning of each semester.

Degree Plan

Sample Degree Plan

This sample degree plan serves as a general guide; students collaborate with their academic advisor to develop a personalized degree plan to meet their academic goals and program requirements.

First Year

Fall		Credits
THDA 455	Musicianship and Beginning Vocal Techniques for Musical Theatre	2
THDA 551	Acting I	4
THDA 401	New Student Seminar	1
THDA 589	Practicum	1
Discovery Course		4
Discovery Course		4
Credits		16

Spring

THDA 555	Acting The Song	4
THDA 459	Stagecraft	4
THDA 462	Ballet I	4
THDA 589	Practicum	1
Discovery Course		4
Discovery Course		4
Credits		21

Second Year

Fall		Credits
THDA 463	Theatre Dance I	4
THDA 570	Movement & Vocal Production	4
THDA 589	Practicum	1
Language Course		4
Discovery Course		4
THDA 500	Musical Theatre Voice I	1
Credits		18

Spring

THDA 438	History of Theatre II	4
THDA 563	Theatre Dance II	2
THDA 589	Practicum	1
Language Course		4
Discovery Course		4
THDA 600	Musical Theatre Voice II	1
Credits		16

Third Year

Fall		Credits
THDA 460	Elements of Design	4
THDA 563	Theatre Dance II	2
THDA 589	Practicum	1
Discovery Course		4
Discovery Course		4

THDA 700	Musical Theatre Voice III	1
Major Elective/Minor Requirement		2-4
Credits		18-20

Spring

THDA 755	Musical Theatre Repertoire	4
Major Elective/Minor Requirement		2-4
THDA 589	Practicum	1
Discovery Course		4
Discovery Course		4
THDA 700	Musical Theatre Voice III	1
Credits		16-18

Fourth Year

Fall		Credits
THDA 450	History of Musical Theatre in America	4
THDA 655	Musical Theatre Scene Study	4
THDA 589	Practicum	1
Major Elective/Minor Requirement		4
Major Elective/Minor Requirement		4
Credits		17

Spring

THDA 700	Musical Theatre Voice III	1
THDA 799	Capstone Project	2
THDA 589	Practicum	1
Major Elective/Minor Requirement		4
Major Elective/Minor Requirement		4
Credits		12
Total Credits		134-138

Student Learning Outcomes

Program Learning Outcomes On completion of the B.A. in Theatre, students will:

- Recognize and distinguish between various styles and forms of theatre or dance that have shaped the evolution of these disciplines.
- Effectively communicate artistic ideas and/or critical analysis of theatre or dance works through appropriate oral, written or practical means.
- Demonstrate knowledge and fundamental skill level of the basic areas of theatre or dance production in areas related to performance, design, technology or management.
- Create and demonstrate informed and personal artistic choices in coursework and productions (i.e., design, dance, directing, acting).

On completion of the option in Musical Theatre, students will:

- Utilize a healthy vocal technique and demonstrate the ability to read music.
- Effectively analyze a dramatic script.
- Apply knowledge of theatre to write critically about both musical and non-musical theatre.
- Demonstrate the ability to perform dance choreography.

- Apply acting techniques both in writing and in practice.
- Utilize knowledge of musical theatre history and styles to select appropriate repertoire for class and auditions.
- Demonstrate the skills and create the elements necessary to compete in the professional theatrical world, including a professional resume and audition book.