

Theatre Arts - Drama and Dance

College of Arts and Humanities

Department of Theatre Arts

Melissa D. Gibson, *Chair*

Speech Arts Building, Room 33

559.278.3987

B.A. in Theatre Arts

Option: Dance

Minor in Theatre Arts

- Dance
- Drama

Theatre Arts

The theatre arts major offers you the opportunity to develop your skills in acting, directing, dance performance, choreography, playwriting, children's theatre, technical production, scene design, costume design, lighting design, history, literature, and teaching. After completing our program, you will have the background that will enhance your ability to pursue either an advanced degree or a professional career.

Our professionally trained instructors will guide you through a program which is not only educational but fascinating. A major or minor in theatre or dance can be one of the more exciting times in your life because it will develop communication and performing skills that will aid you no matter what career you finally decide to pursue. If theatre is what you want, then the California State University, Fresno Theatre Arts Department is ready to serve you.

The Theatre Arts Department is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST) and holds memberships with the American Theatre in Higher Education, the California Educational Theatre Association, the California Alliance for Arts Education, and the United States Institute of Theatre Technology. The department regularly participates in the American College Theatre Festival (ACTF) and the American College Dance Festival (ACDF). Our students, faculty, and productions have been awarded many regional and national honors from both ACTF and ACDF.



Our national and international award-winning Theatre Arts Department offers you educational preparation in all aspects of theatre and dance. Besides having the opportunity of being guided by an extensive curriculum and production schedule of more than 10 plays and several dance concerts, you will have the opportunity to study with guest professionals who participate in our program on a regular basis.

At California State University, Fresno there are a variety of production organizations, each providing a different kind of experience. University Theatre produces five major productions a year, cast and crewed by students. The Experimental Theatre Company (ETC) and the University Dance Theatre (UDT) are student organizations that produce their own plays and dance concerts. The Black Theatre Contingent (BTC) focuses on drama of the African-American experience. Playwrights Theatre is dedicated to the exploration of original plays. Theatre for Young Audiences produces plays for young people and tours throughout the Valley. You also have the opportunity to work with our resident dance company, the Portable Dance Troupe. As you can see, we offer a variety of opportunities for you to develop and practice your art.

Facilities

At California State University, Fresno you have the opportunity to study and practice your art with an outstanding faculty in well-equipped theatres and production facilities. Our newly renovated theatre complex consists of a 370-seat proscenium theatre

and a 190-seat arena theatre. We also have a 90-seat lab theatre. You will work closely with 14 faculty members who are current in their craft and professionally active in acting, directing, dance, design, and technical production. Playwriting is a specialty of several of our faculty; all have published and two have been awarded Schubert Fellowships. As you might imagine, we encourage the production of original plays at California State University, Fresno.

Career Opportunities

Professional theatre and dance are very competitive areas especially for performers. Nevertheless, our graduates have more than held their own as actors and dancers in the professional world. As designers, production specialists, and managers, our students have readily found career opportunities. The rapid expansion in home video entertainment promises even more opportunity in the field.

Graduates have also found successful careers in related fields such as radio and television, journalism, rock performances, and touring productions. Many graduates teach in high schools, community colleges, and universities. Several former students have found their theatre training as an asset in such careers as law, theology, and politics.

Faculty

Melissa D. Gibson, *Chair*
 Kim V. Morin, *Credential Adviser*
 Kenneth R. Balint
 Dan Carrion
 Izzy Einsidler
 Thomas Whit Ellis
 Edward F. EmanuEl
 Ruth H. Griffin
 J. Daniel Herring
 Jeffrey C. Hunter
 Kathleen S. McKinley
 Terry C. Miller
 Bradley J. Myers
 Elizabeth R. Payne

**Bachelor of Arts
 Degree Requirements**

Theatre Arts Major and Minor

The theatre arts major, dance option, and minors are designed to provide competencies in the theatre arts for students who intend to pursue study beyond the Bachelor of Arts degree, who are preparing for careers in teaching or for the professional theatre. With the assistance of their advisers and with departmental approval, students follow a track of advanced courses specializing in the areas of Acting or Design/Technology, or students may opt for advanced courses covering a broad range of study by selecting the General track. The Theatre Arts Program offers through the dance option intensive studies in dance performance, choreography, and theory. This option provides preparation for graduate studies or a professional career.

Theatre Arts Major *Units*
Major requirements **53**

(See note 1)
 Core: DRAMA 10, 33, 34, 110,
 139, 163, 185, 186.....(24)
 Production: DRAMA 15 and/or
 DRAMA 115.....(8)
 Concentration (select one).....(21)

Acting

DANCE 20, DRAMA 30,
 35, 41, 132, 133 (18)
 Approved electives:
 DRAMA 15/115 and
 89/189 excluded (See
 note 2)..... (3)

Design/Technology

DRAMA 180A, 182A....(6)
 DRAMA 134B(3)
 Select 9 units from
 the following courses:

DRAMA 41, 134A,
 134B, 155, 157,
 180B, 181B, 182B..... (9)
 Approved electives:
 DRAMA 15/115 and
 89/189 excluded (See
 note 2)..... (3)

General

Select 6 units from *each* of
 the following course
 groupings:
Group 1: DANCE 20,
 DRAMA 30, 35,
 132, 133, 138B (6)
Group 2: DRAMA
 41, 134A, 134B,
 136, 180A, 182A..... (6)
Group 3: DANCE 160,
 DRAMA 130, 131,
 137, 138A, 140,
 151, 188T (6)

Approved electives:
 DRAMA 15/115 and
 89/189 excluded (See
 note 2)..... (3)

General Education requirements..... **51**
Additional requirements **0**

Students must complete eight approved
 production assignments. (See faculty
 adviser.)

**Electives and remaining
 degree requirements** **16**

(See *Degree Requirements*), may
 be used toward a double major
 or minor

Total **120**

Advising Notes

1. New majors must enroll in DRAMA 10 (fall) and acting concentration students must enroll in DANCE 20 (spring) during their first year in the program.
2. Students must meet with their adviser each semester for program approval.
3. *CR/NC* grading is not permitted in the theatre arts major.
4. No General Education Integration or Multicultural/International course offered by the Theatre Arts Department may be used to satisfy the General Education requirements for majors in the department.

*Theatre Arts Major
 (Dance Option)* *Units*

Option requirements **48**
 DRAMA 33, 34, 134B or
 181B or 182A.....(9)

DANCE 20, 70, 159, 160,
 164, 166, 170, 171(23)
 Production: DANCE 115.....(4)
 DANCE 117A, B, C, or D
 (must enroll in one
 section each semester).....(6)
 DANCE 158A, B, C, or D
 (must enroll in one section
 each semester)(6)

General Education requirements **51**
**Electives and remaining
 degree requirements** **21-24***

(See *Degree Requirements*),
 may be used toward a double
 major or minor

Total **120**

*This total indicates that a maximum of one course (3 units) in General Education Breadth also may be applied to the dance option. This course is DANCE 70 in G.E. Breadth E1. Consult the department chair or faculty adviser for additional details.

Advising Notes

1. Special requirements: Students seeking the dance option are required to have competency in either DANCE 117 (Modern) or DANCE 158 (Ballet) for graduation.
2. A maximum of 12 units of dance technique courses (117, 118, 155, 158) may be credited toward the minimum B.A. graduation requirement of 120 units.
3. *CR/NC* grading is not permitted in the dance major.
4. No General Education Integration or Multicultural/International course offered by the Theatre Arts Department may be used to satisfy the General Education requirements for majors in the department.

Theatre Arts Minor (Drama) *Units*

DRAMA 10, 32 or 33, 34, 163 **12**
 DRAMA 15 and 115 **2**

Approved electives —
 3 units must be upper division
 (See *adviser*) **6**

Total **20**

Theatre Arts Minor (Dance) *Units*

DANCE 20..... **3**
 DANCE 117A, 117B, 117C, 158A,
 158B, 158C **8**

DANCE 70, 164, 166, 168..... **11**
 DANCE 115..... **1**

Total **23**

Theatre Arts - Drama and Dance

Note: The minors also require a 2.0 GPA and 6 upper-division units in residence.

COURSES

Theatre Arts (DRAMA)

DRAMA 10. The Art of Theatre (3)

Fundamental knowledge and skills required for study in the Theatre Arts Program which includes the literary basis, technique, visual impact, and presentation of drama. F

DRAMA 15. Dramatic Arts Laboratory (1-2; max total 15)

(Same as DRAMA 115.) Group laboratory experience in presentation of major productions for public performance. Not available for *CR/NC* grading. FS

DRAMA 22. Oral Interpretation of Literature (3)

Discovering and communicating intellectual and emotional meaning of the printed page through preparation and presentation of selected readings from prose, poetry, and drama. G.E. Breadth C1. FS

DRAMA 30. Voice and Speech for Performance (3)

Open to theatre arts majors and minors only. Principles of voice and speech for stage performance including the International Phonetics Alphabet, breathing, relaxation, resonance, enunciation, articulation, pronunciation, projection, expressiveness, and vocal characterization. (CAN DRAM 6)

DRAMA 32. Introduction to Acting (3)

Not open to theatre arts majors except dance option. Open to theatre arts minors. A study of the physiological, sociological, and psychological components of acting. Includes role-playing in daily life; characterization; text analysis; diverse cultural and generational perspectives; and relaxation, voice, and body techniques. G.E. Breadth E1. FS

DRAMA 33. Fundamentals of Acting (3)

Open to theatre arts majors and minors only. Nonmajors and minors, see DRAMA 32. Fundamental techniques and theories of acting; development of individual insight, skill, and discipline in the presentation of dramatic materials. (CAN DRAM 8)

DRAMA 34. Theatre Crafts (3)

Introduction to the crafts in technical theatre scene construction, scene painting, property selection, stage lighting, sound production; costume construction, and makeup; labora-

tory experience in preparing major plays for public performance. FS

DRAMA 35. Intermediate Acting (3)

Prerequisite: DRAMA 33. Intermediate studies in acting including text analysis, expansion of the actor's character range and audition techniques. S

DRAMA 41. Makeup for Theatre (3; max total 6)

Theory and practice of makeup for theatre; techniques for characterization, style, and technical processes. Emphasis on basic techniques; introduction to prosthetics. Preparing plays for major public performances. F

DRAMA 62. Theatre Today (3)

Not open to theatre arts majors. Perspectives on theatre, its origins, and contemporary forms. Explores theatre as an artistic medium for enhancing our understanding of human experience. Emphasis on the content, meaning, and entertainment value of drama in performance. G.E. Breadth C1. FS

DRAMA 77. Community Service — Theatre (1-3; max total 6)

Directed field experience developing skills in theatre or dance through a performance or design project; projects may include work with community service or other nonprofit organizations, public schools, special events, and other projects approved by the faculty supervisor. FS

DRAMA 89. Projects in Production (1-3; max total 9)

(Same as DRAMA 189.) Prerequisite: permission of instructor. Group projects in all phases of production in laboratory theatre. FS

DRAMA 110. Design for the Theatre (3)

Comprehensive study of design aesthetics and application of design to theatrical production, including scenery, costume, lighting, sound, and makeup. Laboratory application, material for major public performance. S

DRAMA 115. Dramatic Arts Laboratory (1-2; max total 15)

(See DRAMA 15.) Not available for *CR/NC* grading. FS

DRAMA 130. Screenwriting (3; max total 9)

Principles and techniques in the preparation and marketing of film scripts.

DRAMA 131. Fundamentals of Playwriting (3; max total 9)

Exercises in plotting, characterization, exposition, and stage business, critical analysis, and revision of manuscripts. FS

DRAMA 132. Advanced Acting: Period Styles (3; max total 6)

Prerequisite: DRAMA 35. A study of styles of acting ranging from Greek Tragedy to Theatre of the Absurd with special emphasis on playing Shakespeare.

DRAMA 133. Advanced Acting: Scene Study (3; max total 6)

Prerequisite: DRAMA 35. Advanced techniques including script analysis, characterization, physicalization, and emotional commitment, developed through improvisation and scene study.

DRAMA 134A-B. Advanced Theatre Craft (3-3)

Prerequisite: DRAMA 34. (A) Advanced training in scenic techniques and allied technology. Laboratory application to major public productions. (B) In-depth survey of each phase of the costume design and production process. Laboratory application to major public performances.

DRAMA 136. Puppetry (3)

Introduction to the art of puppetry: history, construction of various types of puppets and theatre, practice in manipulation, script writing, use of puppets in education and recreation. FS

DRAMA 137. Creative Dramatics (3; max total 6)

(Same as CI 137.) Basic techniques for the use of dramatization in elementary education; sociodrama, dramatization of school subjects, creative dramatic play; simplified staging techniques. FS

DRAMA 138A-B. Children's Theatre (3-3; 138B max total 6)

(A) Theory, practice, and applications of theatre for children and adolescents; children's plays are examined through reading, discussion, and scene study. (B) Prerequisite: permission of instructor. Theatre for Young Audiences Tour; experience touring children's theatre productions for public performance. 138A - FS

DRAMA 139. Fundamentals of Play Direction (3)

Prerequisite: DRAMA 33. Fundamental techniques and theories of stage direction; function, responsibility, movement, analysis, style; practice in directing scenes. F

DRAMA 140. Experimental Techniques in Play Direction (3)

Experimental techniques of play direction: prerehearsal problems and procedures; structural analysis of plays, composition, picturization, pantomimic dramatization, movement, rhythm.

DRAMA 150. Acting for Film (3)

Introduction to specific performance, terminology, working in studio, and on location front-of-camera experience. Introduction to industry standards regarding resume/photo preparation, audition, union information, agency representation, and professional development. (Formerly DRAMA 188T)

DRAMA 151. Stage and Production Management (3)

Principles and techniques of stage and production management as applied to professional, educational, and community theatre and applied media; production, audition, rehearsal process, and organization; technical and performance process and procedures; production personnel and cost management. F

DRAMA 155. Sound in the Theatre (3)

Theory, techniques, and procedure necessary to develop and integrate sound, music, and effects in theatre production; hearing, acoustics, environment, sources, transducers, control, systems, equipment; organization and planning. Laboratory experience in preparing plays for a major public performance.

DRAMA 157. Theatre Graphics (3; max total 6)

Development of rendering technique and other graphic skills essential to design for the theatre.

DRAMA 163. Dramatic Literature (3)

Prerequisites: G.E. Foundation and Breadth Area C. Critical analysis of various types and styles of plays with respect to their form, meaning, and theatricality. G.E. Integration IC. FS

DRAMA 164. 20th Century Drama (3)

Study of the plays of major 20th Century dramatists encompassing various nations and cultures, with emphasis on the contemporary scene. Also includes dramatic theory and analysis, and consideration of social and political issues reflected in these authors' works.

DRAMA 177. Community Service: Theatre Arts (1-3; max total 6)

Directed field experience developing skills in theatre or dance through a performance or design project; projects may include work with community service or other nonprofit organizations, public schools, special events, and other projects approved by the faculty supervisor.

DRAMA 179. Playwrights' Theatre (1-2; max total 6)

Prerequisite: permission of instructor. Presentation and readings of original and classical plays. FS

DRAMA 180A-B. Scene Design for Theatre (3-3; 180B max total 6)

Prerequisite: DRAMA 34. (A) Styles, techniques, and methods of scene design; history. Laboratory application, material for major public performance. (B) Scenery design; design problems of a complicated play; experimental ideas; new materials. Laboratory application, material for major public performance. 180A - F

DRAMA 181B. Costume Design for Theatre (3; max total 6)

Costume design for theatre and dance incorporating analysis of script, research of historical period, selection of fabric, preparation of budget, and rendering of plates. Emphasis on illustration and design elements.

DRAMA 182A-B. Stage and Television Lighting (3-3)

Prerequisite: DRAMA 34 or 134A-B. (A) Instruments, control, color, electromechanical factors and simplified design and planning lighting leading to and resulting in a major public performance. (B) Lighting as an art, design concepts; lighting plots, projections, sequential cue relationships. Laboratory application, material for major public performance. 182A - F; 182B - S

DRAMA 183. Touring Theatre (1-3; max total 6)

(See DRAMA 83.)

DRAMA 185. History of the Theatre and Drama I (3)

History of European theatre and component arts from ancient Greece through the mid-19th century; analysis of representative examples. F

DRAMA 186. History of the Theatre and Drama II (3)

Prerequisite: DRAMA 163. From Ibsen to the present; analysis of representative examples. S

DRAMA 187. African American Theatre Styles (3; max total 6)

(Same as AAIS 165.) Performance, scene development, and dramatic styles consistent with the African American experience. Exploration of cross-cultural aesthetics as they inform creative development. Development of self-written or published scenes and plays. S (Formerly DRAMA 188T)

DRAMA 188T. Topics in Theatre Arts (1-6; max total 9)

Prerequisite: permission of instructor. Selected topics may include acting, children's theatre, creative dramatics, play direction, technical theatre, theatre history, dramatic literature, and theatre administration. (May include lab hours)

DRAMA 189. Projects in Production (1-3; max total 9)

(See DRAMA 89.) FS

DRAMA 190. Independent Study (1-3; max total 6)

See *Academic Placement — Independent Study*. Approved for *RP* grading.

DRAMA 194. Shakespeare (4)

(See ENGL 189.)

IN-SERVICE COURSE

(See *Catalog Numbering System*.)

Theatre Arts (DRAMA)

DRAMA 303. Topics in Theatre Arts (1-3; max total 9; repeatable with different topics)

In-service training in selected areas of drama/theatre arts.

COURSES

Dance (DANCE)

A maximum of 12 units of dance technique courses (DANCE 16, 117, 155, 158), ATHL, and KAC courses may be credited toward the minimum B.A. graduation requirement of 124 units for dance majors.

DANCE 16. Introduction to Dance (3)

Exploration of basic concepts, techniques and styles through study problems, video and critical readings. Dance concert attendance may be required. G.E. Breadth E1. FS

Theatre Arts - Drama and Dance

DANCE 20. Physical Theatre (3)

Incorporates the study of body awareness techniques, contact improvisation, commedia dell'arte, clown work, and other physical theatre traditions in an active exploration of actor training and expression.

DANCE 70. Balance BodyMind (3)

Study of the alignment of the body and continuum between inner, cellular awareness of body through space. Promotes greater ease in movement; reduced emotional stress; knowledge of the body as process. Nondancers encouraged to enroll. G.E. Breadth E1.

DANCE 115. University Dance Theatre (1; max total 9)

A student-organized course in which the experiential, experimental, and exploratory nature of dance can be accessed. Focuses on achieving excellence through the preparation, performance, and production needs of completed works that are performed at the end of the semester. Not available for CR/NC grading. FS

DANCE 117A. Modern Dance Technique (1; max total 2)

Basic aspect of modern dance technique. Emphasis on importance of breath, body alignment, and rhythmic coordination; total movement awareness.

DANCE 117B. Modern Dance Technique (1; max total 2)

Beginning-intermediate level study of movement fundamentals, locomotor activities, and expressive qualities; development of balance, strength, breath coordination, and technical ability.

DANCE 117C. Modern Dance Technique (2; max total 6)

Intermediate level modern dance technique with emphasis on increasing skills in reading movement and expressing more complex patterns. Develops the core muscles to support greater ease in sequencing body flow from center practice to sweeping locomotor phrases.

DANCE 117D. Modern Dance Technique (2; max total 12)

Advanced level modern dance technique with elements of alignment, embodiment, flexibility, strength, and energy flow. Stresses individual mastery as well as ensemble performance. Integrates techniques of Hawkins, Limon, and Graham as well as developmental theories of Bartenieff, Pilates, and Bainbridge-Cohen.

DANCE 155A. Modern Jazz Dance (1)

An in-depth study of jazz dance using a modern dance foundation that emphasizes the fortification, stretching, and reshaping of mind and body to help produce a more accomplished dancer.

DANCE 155B. Modern Jazz Technique (1)

An in-depth intermediate/advanced level of study of jazz dance using a modern dance foundation that emphasizes the fortification, stretching, and reshaping of mind and body to help produce a more accomplished dancer.

DANCE 158A. Ballet Technique (1; max total 2)

Elementary ballet technique. Emphasizes alignment, control, and proper awareness of style and phrasing. Develops a foundation from which to build a dancer capable of a broad range of expression and demonstration to meet the demands placed on today's dancers.

DANCE 158B. Ballet Technique (1; max total 2)

Intermediate study of elementary ballet technique combined with a more broad-based understanding of ballet as an art form through traditional exercises, with proper awareness of conditioning, style, and phrasing.

DANCE 158C. Ballet Technique (2; max total 12)

An intermediate/advanced level ballet class with emphasis on technique, artistry, and conditioning. Builds well-placed dancers capable of a broad range of expression and demonstration with skills that can readily adapt to the demands placed on today's dancers.

DANCE 158D. Ballet Technique (2; max total 12)

Study of preprofessional advanced ballet technique with emphasis on performance preparation. Builds well-placed dancers capable of a broad range of expression and demonstration with impressive technical skills that can readily adapt to the demands placed on today's dancers.

DANCE 159. Music in Choreography (3)

Study of music theory as it relates to modern and postmodern choreography. Development of the dancer's percussive and vocal abilities through the study of world music and rhythmic analysis.

DANCE 160. Creative Movement for Children (3)

Introduction to the basic concepts, principles, and methodology needed to develop an awareness of the aesthetic experience through dance and creative movement. The aesthetic qualities of dance are stressed to develop the use of creative intelligence and imagination. FS

DANCE 161. Musical Theatre (3)

Training of actors for musical auditions through fundamental voice and movement techniques, study of how music and lyrics combine to suggest character, and study of relationship of song, scene, and choreography in various styles.

DANCE 163. Portable Dance Troupe Company Class (2; max total 8)

Prerequisite: permission of instructor. By audition only, held in fall semester and meets for two semesters. A repertory class consisting of rehearsing, understudying, and performing roles. This laboratory experience leads toward performances and touring. FS

DANCE 164. Dance History (3)

The historical development of dance from its origins to contemporary forms including diverse cultural perspectives.

DANCE 166. Dance Choreography (2; max total 16)

Investigation and practice of contemporary styles of choreography. Application of basic choreographic principles with emphasis on improvisation, form, content, current media and technology, group structures, movement invention, and evaluative skills.

DANCE 168. Awareness through Movement (3)

An introduction to the Feldenkrais Method — movement sequences that create new movement skills in the individual. Designed to include movement and observation, analysis and the application of this work in the fields of education and performance.

DANCE 170. Pilates Mat (3)

Study and practice of Pilates mat sequence incorporating principles of core strength and study of body musculature. Designed to give students an exercise program to supplement any type of physical activity. Emphasizes use of breath and leads to total body strengthening. FS

DANCE 171. Philosophical Bases and Trends in Dance (3)

Prerequisites: G.E. Foundation and Breadth Area C. The elements and principles common to all arts and their relationship to dance. G.E. Integration IC.

DANCE 174T. Topics in Dance (1-3; max total 12)

Selected topics may include philosophy, psychology, art, theatre, and music as related to dance.