Theatre | Major

“I felt welcome in the program from the very beginning. We’ve been exposed to different styles of shows and playwrights. I even got to be an understudy to a professional actor. It was an amazing experience!” — Jeff Schaefer ‘13, Communications and Theatre major, East Fallowfield, PA

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS IN BRIEF
Theatre is a collaborative art form, combining the written word of the literary artist, the visual insight of the designer, the speech and movement of the actor and the interpretation, style, movement patterns and overall guidance of the director. Alvernia University theatre students receive instruction in acting, directing, stage design, technical production and theatre history. Alvernia is a Franciscan university dedicated to the ideals of professional service, community service and personal fulfillment.

FACILITIES
Francis Hall, the historical landmark of the university and home to Alvernia’s Theatre program, received a face lift in 2010. The newly renovated Francis Hall Theatre and Recital Hall provides an intimate venue for performances. This thrust-stage theatre is equipped for a variety of lighting options and creative scenic design.

PAST PRODUCTIONS
We are proud of our history of creating vibrant theatre for the Alvernia community. Each semester we put on one major production. Past productions include:

- *The Seagull* by Anton Chekhov
- *The Good Woman of Setzuan* by Bertolt Brecht
- *World Premiere of Tales of Shogilly* by David Blakely
- *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare
- *Skin of Our Teeth* by Thornton Wilder
- *The Shadow* by Yevgeni Shvarts
- *Oklahoma!* by Rodgers and Hammerstein
- *American premiere of No Such Cold Thing* by Naomi Wallace
- *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES
Employers regularly say they want certain foundational skills in outstanding employees—critical thinking skills, strong communication skills, the ability to work as part of a group and an ability to complete a project on deadline. These skills lie at the heart of theatre! Here are some examples of the types of positions held by theatre graduates:

- Acting Coach
- Actor - Commercial, Film, Stage, Television
- Advertising Account Executive
- Artistic Director
- Director - Film, Video, Theatre
- Drama Critic
- Events Manager
- Foreign Correspondent
- Lawyer
- Producer - Television, Film, Theater
- Production Manager
- Radio/Television Announcer
- Spokesperson
- Sportscaster
- Stage Manager
CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Major Requirements (48 Credits)
THR 142  Creativity Workshop
THR 155  Introduction to Acting
THR 156  Theatrical Production and Design
THR 350  Directing for the Stage
THR 355  Theatre History
THR 356  Theatre History II
THR 357  Behind the Curtain
THR 404  Arts Operations
THR 434  Senior Production Workshop

Choose from one of the two following 9 credit options:
Acting/Directing:
THR 255  Intermediate Acting
THR 360  Advanced Acting/Directing (must be repeated for 6 credits)
Design/Technical Theatre:
THR 244  Computer-Assisted Design
THR 357  Behind the Curtain (may be repeated for 6 credits)

English electives, 6 credits, recommend 2 from:
ENG 213  Modern Drama
ENG 302  Shakespeare: Histories and Comedies
ENG 303  Shakespeare: Tragedies and Romances

Related electives, 6 credits, recommend 1 from ART and 1 from MUS:
ART 101  Drawing I
ART 103  Color and Design
ART 105  Art Appreciation
ART 215  Art: Prehistoric through Middle Ages
ART 217  Art: Renaissance to Present
MUS 121  Introduction to Music
MUS 135  Music Theory
MUS 222  Multicultural Music
MUS 224  Broadway Musicals
MUS 331  Women in the Arts
MUS 333  Music History

Majors are also advised to take 4 credits of THR 134 (Theatre Workshop) as free electives.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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