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 Auditorium, a theatre and recital hall, provides a first-class venue for many Alvernia performances. The theatre allows for flexible performance space, including traditional and theatre-in-the-round stages.

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
• Tales of Shoogilly 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

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 xxx Advanced Acting/Directing (may 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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