



School of Communication and the Arts

FACT SHEET

Master of Arts in Theatre

Major: Theatre, with concentrations in Theatre Studies or Theatre Ministry

Program Description

The M.A. in Theatre program exists to educate the master scholar/artist in the practical and theoretical implications of theatre art, producing well-rounded artists equipped for godly influence through theatrical mediums. Students pursuing the Master of Arts in Theatre will focus their attention on the theories and practices of Christian aesthetics as well as a range of practitioner-oriented disciplines including acting, directing and design. Additionally, students will focus on the analysis of dramatic literature from both a scholarly and practitioner perspective. The M.A. in Theatre prepares students for the multitudinous demands of leadership positions in theatre ministry, professional theatre and/or educational theatre as well as future doctoral studies in theatre.

The M.A. in Theatre requires a total of thirty (30) credit hours. Within the degree there are two possible concentrations: Theatre Studies or Theatre Ministry. Students may choose either concentration. The M.A. in Theatre requires students to complete thirteen (13) hours of required coursework during an eight-week summer residency. The balance of degree requirements can be completed on-line or in residence.

Christian Leaders to Change the World! It is the mission of the Department of Theatre Arts to educate and train undergraduate and graduate students to incisively examine and effectively communicate, through intellectual analysis and the realization of live theatrical performance, the great truths of the human condition as perceived through the lens of a Christian worldview. The department is dedicated to equipping artists of the theatre with the skills, insight, and knowledge required for successful and influential careers in professional theatre, the academy, and ministry. The department seeks to develop professional caliber artists who will function with moral and spiritual integrity offering redemptive messages creatively and thoughtfully expressed through the theatre arts.

Degree Outcomes

- M.A. students will demonstrate the ability to integrate and apply the Christian faith and biblical truth to the study and practices of communication within a theatre context.
- M.A. students will demonstrate a working knowledge of theatrical design elements and stage management techniques to theatrical arts endeavors.
- M.A. students will demonstrate the ability to effectively critique and review theatre literature in order to evaluate varied theatre genres and to understand their structure and meaning.
- M.A. students will demonstrate a working knowledge of an approach to acting and directing techniques/theories for the stage to include directing and acting projects.

Program Requirements

- **Summer Residency:** The M.A. in Theatre requires students to complete thirteen (13) hours of required coursework during an eight-week summer intensive. The balance of degree requirements can be completed on-line or in residence.
- **Practicum in Theatre Production Requirements:** The student is required to register for THE 681 Practicum in Theatre Production one (1) time during their course of study. THE 681 requires the student to serve on a mainstage production running crew. The course can be repeated up to three times for a total of three (3) credit hours of elective.
- **External Internships:** This degree requires the student to complete an internship at a church, school, theatre company (community or professional), or ministry oriented organization. The student may serve the organization in a variety of practical positions, as approved by a Regent faculty member assigned to serve as liaison between the department and said organization.
- **General Knowledge Entrance Examination:** All students pursuing the M.A. in Theatre must pass the Theatre Arts General Knowledge Entrance Examination within their first two semesters as a registered student in the program (fall/spring semesters). The exam is offered twice each semester for a total of four times in the year. All incoming M.A. students are automatically registered for the first exam date, typically the first Friday of the fall term. With prior arrangement, the exam can be taken on-line for distance students. If students do not pass the exam the first time, they are automatically registered for the next exam date. This process continues until students either pass the exam or reach the end of their first year in the program without a passing score. A score of 70% or higher is considered passing. Failing to pass the exam constitutes dismissal from the program or being assigned to a course of undergraduate leveling studies in theatre history. The course of action following a failed exam will be determined by the theatre faculty. Exam dates are published annually in the Departmental Handbook which is available on the department’s website. The website also contains a study guide for the exam.

Required Courses for the M.A. in Theatre (21 credit hours):

UNIV LIB Information Research (non-credit, fee based, online)	0
THE 595 Internship	1
THE 632 Theories & Concepts in Acting*	3
THE 633 Theories & Concepts in Directing*	3
THE 681 M.A. Practicum in Theatre Production *	1
THE 700 Research & Aesthetics in Theatre	3
THE 713 Text Analysis for Production	3
THE 725 Theatrical Design Process 1*	3
THE 726 Theatrical Design Process 2*	3
THE 597 Comprehensive Examination	1

Degree Concentration Options – (9 credit hours, students choose one):

Option #1: Concentration in Theatre Ministry	
SSW 511 Playwriting	3
THE 635 Theatre in Ministry	3
Divinity course – <i>Students may take any graduate-level, three (3) hour course offered by the School of Divinity with the advanced approval of their advisor.....</i>	3

Option #2: Concentration in Theatre Studies	
Electives **	9

** These courses must be completed during the eight-week (8) summer residency. They are not available during the fall or spring semesters.*

*** Students may choose any graduate-level course offered by the School of Communication and the Arts to satisfy elective credit. Courses may be taken outside of the School with the advanced approval of the student's advisor.*

Course Schedule

Students may matriculate into the program at the beginning of any semester in the year – fall, spring or summer. Summer residency courses are offered every summer. The other core degree requirements, **THE 700** and **THE 713**, are offered every fall and spring semester respectively. In this respect, students can complete all **core degree requirements** within one calendar year. However, courses chosen to fulfill the remaining nine (9) credit hours vary depending on the student's choice of concentration.

Concentration in Theatre Studies - Electives chosen to satisfy the concentration in Theatre Studies should be chosen in coordination with the student's advisor. Courses are offered every semester throughout the School of Communication and the Arts which satisfy elective credit for this concentration.

Concentration in Theatre Ministry - Courses required for the concentration in Theatre Ministry should be planned according to the following schedule:

- **SSW 511 Playwriting** is only offered in the spring semester of odd years (2009, 2011, 2013, etc.)
- **THE 635 Theatre in Ministry** is only offered in the fall semester of odd years (2009, 2011, 2013, etc.).
- Required elective in Divinity can be scheduled any semester.

The comprehensive examination (**THE 597**) can only be taken in the student's final semester in the program (fall or spring semesters). The comprehensive examination cannot be scheduled in the summer semester.

Department Chair:

Eric Harrell, MFA – harrell@regent.edu or 757-352-4211

Program Head:

Scott Hayes, MFA – hayes@regent.edu or 757-352-4717

Admissions Office:

757-352-4243, 1888-777-7729, www.regent.edu/acad/schcom