

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS IN MUSICAL THEATRE TRACK

Faculty

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Part-time Faculty

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About the Major

The Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) in Musical Theatre (<https://academics.ysu.edu/cliffe-college-of-creative-arts/bfa-musical-theatre/>) is a professional degree for students who are interested in pursuing a career as an actor and singer. Admission to this program is available by audition only (<https://ysu.edu/ccca/university-theatre/admission/>). The broad, yet comprehensive, curriculum is based in theatre as a means of creative expression and a vehicle for public engagement. Students learn about theatre and performance from multiple perspectives. Practical application and theoretical investigation, as it relates to professional theatre, are balanced through required coursework. Students graduate from this program prepared for careers (<https://ysu.edu/ccca/university-theatre/careers/>) as broadly employable theatre professionals.

Musical Theatre is one of the most demanding performing arts professions within the theatre industry. The rigorous B.F.A. program requires coursework in three areas of performance—singing, dancing, and acting—as well as foundations in liberal arts and theatre history. Individualized instruction promotes focus and results in mature, talented, and energetic performers who are prepared for a career in the professional musical theatre field. Our students routinely win coveted internships and seats in acclaimed workshops—including those with Netflix, the Open Jar Institute, Disney's Animal Kingdom, the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art, Cedar Point, and others. They also perform and win awards at the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF) and participate in Study Abroad programs (<https://academics.ysu.edu/cliffe-college-of-creative-arts/events-news/cliffe-college-of-creative-arts-news/university-theatre-news/university-theatre-students-make-international-debut-edinburgh/>), including performances at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

The co-curricular theatre season (<https://ysu.edu/ccca/university-theatre/on-stage/>) includes four mainstage productions, and all B.F.A. Musical Theatre students are required to audition and participate. Additional performance opportunities are made possible through semi-annual cabarets, the annual Festival of New Work, and An Evening of 10-Minute Plays. Performance opportunities focus on students and their professional growth in real-world situations. In addition, all B.F.A. Musical Theatre students complete a senior capstone in which they meet with their instructor individually as well as in small groups that facilitate deeper discussions and refine and prepare final showcase material for performance.

Our alumni (<https://academics.ysu.edu/cliffe-college-of-creative-arts/alumni-giving/>) may be seen regionally, nationally, and internationally across the theatre and entertainment industries. Our graduates are found on stage and screen—from Tony Award-winning *Hadestown* to *Days of Our Lives*—and receiving nominations and awards from The Tonys to The GRAMMYS®. Our dynamic programs also empower our alumni to become successful directors,

designers, choreographers, and more at the national level, including at the Great Lakes Theatre Festival and similar venues. Our students hone their artistic and technical abilities and also develop a range of other valuable transferable proficiencies. They earn degrees in areas about which they are passionate, and their skills are applicable to careers (<https://ysu.edu/ccca/university-theatre/careers/>) in numerous professions across the theatre and entertainment industries and more.

Contact Information

To learn more about our degree programs, audition information, scholarships, professional development and careers, performances, faculty, and students, visit University Theatre (<https://ysu.edu/ccca/university-theatre/>) or contact us at 330.941.3810.

To schedule a personalized campus visit, contact the Cliffe College of Creative Arts (<https://academics.ysu.edu/cliffe-college-of-creative-arts/>) Program Coordinator of Admissions and Recruitment at 330.941.2346 or sawaltman@ysu.edu. We would love to learn about your interests, talk with you about our programs, and become an important part of your future.

Grade of "C" or better is required for all major and minor courses. Courses cannot be taken "CR/NC".

COURSE	TITLE	S.H.
FIRST YEAR REQUIREMENT -STUDENT SUCCESS		
YSU 1500	Success Seminar	1-2
or YSU 1500S	Youngstown State University Success Seminar	
or HONR 1500	Intro to Honors	
General Education Requirements		
ENGL 1550	Writing 1	3-4
or ENGL 1549	Writing 1 with Support	
ENGL 1551	Writing 2	3
Any Gen Ed Math (Recommended MATH 2623)		3
Art and Humanities (2 courses) ^{Included in majors}		0
Natural Sciences (2 courses, 1 with lab)		7
Social Science (2 courses)		6
General Education Electives		9
KSS 1500 (1 s.h.)		
KSS 1550 (1 s.h.)		
KSS 1552 (1 s.h.)		
Any Gen Ed Course (3 s.h.)		
Any Gen Ed Course (3 s.h.)		
Major Requirements		
THTR 1512	Survey of Broadway: The American Musical ^{*Art and Humanities Requirement}	3
THTR 1559	Production Design for Stage and Screen	3
THTR 1560	Introduction to Theatre ^{*Art and Humanities Requirement}	3
THTR 1561	Stagecraft	3
Theatre Participation 1 (THTR 2600) must be taken 3 times for a total of 3 s.h.		
THTR 1585	Acting 1: Fundamentals	3
THTR 2601	Singing Styles	1
THTR 2640	Theatre History	3
THTR 2667	Acting 2: Character Creation & Scene Work	3
THTR 2672	Bodyvoice for Actors	3
Theatre Participation 2 (THTR 3700) Must be taken 4 times for a total of 4 s.h.		
THTR 3701	Professional Preparation	3
THTR 3761	Stage Makeup	3

THTR 3762	Directing 1	3
THTR 3768	Script Analysis for Stage and Screen	3
THTR 3774	Musical Theatre Studio	3
THTR 4898	Senior Project	3
MTVC 1501	Voice Musical Theatre 1	2
MTVC 1502	Voice Musical Theatre 2	2
MTVC 2601	Adv Voice Musical Theatre 1	2
MTVC 2602	Adv Voice Musical Theatre 2	2
MTVC 3701	Voice	2
MTVC 3702	Voice	2
MTVC 4801	Voice	2
MUAC 1521	Keyboard Musicianship for Non-Music Majors 1	1
MUAC 1522	Keyboard Musicianship for Non Music Majors 2	1
DNCE 1570	Jazz Dance 1	1
DNCE 1571	Tap Dance 1	1
DNCE 1572	Ballet 1	1
DNCE 2667	Musical Comedy	1
DNCE 2670	Jazz Dance 2	2
DNCE 2671	Tap Dance 2	2
DNCE 2673	Ballet 2	2
DNCE 3770	Jazz Dance 3	2
DNCE 3771	Tap Dance 3	2
DNCE 3781	Ballet 3	2

Upper Division Theatre Electives 3700 and above - select two: 6
 THTR 3707, THTR 3763, THTR 3764, THTR 3765, THTR 3766, THTR 3769, THTR 3771, THTR 3772, THTR 4870, THTR 4880, THTR 4893, THTR 4899

Total Semester Hours 120-122

Year 1

Fall		S.H.
YSU 1500	Success Seminar	1-2
or YSU 1500S	or Youngstown State University Success Seminar	
or HONR 1500	or Intro to Honors	

ENGL 1550	Writing 1	3-4
or ENGL 1549	or Writing 1 with Support	
THTR 1560	Introduction to Theatre	3
THTR 1585	Acting 1: Fundamentals	3
THTR 2600	Theatre Participation	1
MTVC 1501	Voice Musical Theatre 1	2
MUAC 1521	Keyboard Musicianship for Non-Music Majors 1	1
DNCE 1571	Tap Dance 1	1
DNCE 1572	Ballet 1	1

Semester Hours 16-18

Spring		
ENGL 1551	Writing 2	3
THTR 1561	Stagecraft	3
THTR 2600	Theatre Participation	1
MTVC 1502	Voice Musical Theatre 2	2
MUAC 1522	Keyboard Musicianship for Non Music Majors 2	1
DNCE 1570	Jazz Dance 1	1
DNCE 2673	Ballet 2	2

Semester Hours 13

Year 2

Fall		
THTR 1559	Production Design for Stage and Screen	3

THTR 2600	Theatre Participation	1
THTR 2601	Singing Styles	1
THTR 3768	Script Analysis for Stage and Screen	3
MTVC 2601	Adv Voice Musical Theatre 1	2
DNCE 2671	Tap Dance 2	2
DNCE 3781	Ballet 3	2

Semester Hours 14

Spring		
THTR 2667	Acting 2: Character Creation & Scene Work	3
THTR 2672	Bodyvoice for Actors	3
THTR 3700	Theatre Participation 2	1
THTR 3761	Stage Makeup	3
MTVC 2602	Adv Voice Musical Theatre 2	2
DNCE 2670	Jazz Dance 2	2
General Education Elective - Any Gen Ed Course		3

Semester Hours 17

Year 3

Fall		
THTR 1512	Survey of Broadway: The American Musical	3
THTR 3700	Theatre Participation 2	1
THTR 3762	Directing 1	3
MTVC 3701	Voice	2
DNCE 3771	Tap Dance 3	2
Any Gen Ed Math		3
General Education Elective - Any Gen Ed Course		3

Semester Hours 17

Spring		
THTR 2640	Theatre History	3
THTR 3700	Theatre Participation 2	1
THTR 3774	Musical Theatre Studio	3
MTVC 3702	Voice	2
DNCE 3770	Jazz Dance 3	2
Upper Division Theatre Elective		3

Semester Hours 14

Year 4

Fall		
THTR 3700	Theatre Participation 2	1
THTR 3701	Professional Preparation	3
MTVC 4801	Voice	2
Upper Division Theatre Elective		3
General Education Elective - Natural Science + Lab		4
General Education Elective - Social Science		3

Semester Hours 16

Spring		
THTR 4898	Senior Project	3
DNCE 2667	Musical Comedy	1
KSS 1500	Physical Activity Core Concepts	1
KSS 1550	Pilates	1
KSS 1552	Yoga	1
General Education Elective - Social Science		3
General Education Elective - Natural Science		3

Semester Hours 13

Total Semester Hours 120-122

Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate the ability to act, i.e., to project one's self believably, in work and action, into imaginary circumstances and roles in a wide variety of styles and formats.
2. Demonstrate a flexible, strong, and controlled voice with trained breath support; appropriate vocal range and freedom from vocal and postural tension in rehearsal and performance; the student will also demonstrate the ability to project the voice effectively in theater spaces of varying sizes.
3. Demonstrate musicianship by learning accurate rhythm, pitch, phrasing, tempi, and appropriate vocal style that is consistent with performance practice in their vocal repertoire.
4. Demonstrate physical competence in dance and movement with a focus on ballet, tap, and jazz technique.
5. Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of basic production elements, including stage make-up.
6. Demonstrate knowledge of musical theatre repertory, the history of its development, and the relationship of this history to styles of performance.
7. Demonstrate effective audition techniques.