

DRAMATIC ARTS (MFA)

The Department of Dramatic Arts offers a Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.). The M.F.A. in Dramatic Arts degree is awarded with a concentration in either Acting, Design, Directing, Puppet Arts, or Technical Direction. Additionally, although the Department does not admit students to the University specifically for a Masters of Arts (M.A.), previously matriculated M.F.A. students may apply for an M.A. degree in Dramatic Arts with a concentration in Acting, Puppet Arts, or Production and Design. The M.F.A. and M.A. in Dramatic Arts are intensive degree programs designed to prepare individuals for the numerous careers in theatre. Our goal is to provide the finest professional training through classroom and studio instruction. To enrich the real-world training, students are provided maximal opportunities to obtain professional level production experience through active participation in plays produced by its theatre production arm, the Connecticut Repertory Theatre (CRT). Through a conservatory approach in a liberal arts setting, our students learn to perform, interpret and teach in all aspects of theatre in a rich learning environment that provides a broad education and intense training. UConn's M.F.A. Program in Dramatic Arts is a member of the University Resident Theatre Association (URTA).

Location

- Storrs Campus

Modality

- In Person

Requirements

The student's advisory committee determines specific course requirements for the M.A. and M.F.A. in Dramatic Arts, which are consistent with the minimum requirements specified by the Graduate School. In addition to the Graduate School requirements outlined in the Academic Regulations section of this catalog, the graduate programs in Dramatic Arts have additional requirements listed below.

M.F.A. in Dramatic Arts Areas of Concentration

Acting

The M.F.A. Concentration in Acting requires a minimum of 60 credits. The M.F.A. program is designed to be completed in three years, with students taking formal acting-studio courses in each of their six semesters, appearing as cast in productions at Connecticut Repertory Theatre and completing the Acting Showcase in their third year. Due to course sequencing, students are normally only admitted for the Fall semester.

M.F.A. in Acting Core Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
DRAM 5001	Voice and Diction I	3
DRAM 5002	Voice and Diction II	3
DRAM 5003	Voice and Diction III	3
DRAM 5004	Voice and Diction IV	3
DRAM 5005	Voice and Diction V	3
DRAM 5006	Voice and Diction VI	3
DRAM 5131	Studies in Theatre History	1-3
DRAM 5700	Studies in Professional Acting	1-3
DRAM 5701	Professional Acting I	3
DRAM 5702	Professional Acting II	3
DRAM 5703	Professional Acting III	3

DRAM 5704	Professional Acting IV	3
DRAM 5705	Professional Acting V	3
DRAM 5706	Professional Acting VI	3
DRAM 5801	Movement for the Actor I	3
DRAM 5802	Movement for the Actor II	3
DRAM 5803	Movement for the Actor III	3
DRAM 5804	Movement for the Actor IV	3
DRAM 5805	Movement for the Actor V	3
DRAM 5806	Movement for the Actor VI	3
DRAM 5197	Special Topics in Theatre Studies	1-3
DRAM 5192	Independent Study in Theatre Studies	1-6
Total Credits		58-69

Design

The M.F.A. Concentration in Design is an advanced, professional training program with focused tracks in the areas of either Costume Design, Lighting Design, or Scenic Design. The degree requires a minimum of 60 credits and a three-year residency. Students are encouraged to take courses across all design disciplines. Additionally, M.F.A. Design students are required to fulfill the Milestone Project, which has two components: an Internship Milestone component consisting of participation in a professional theatre, television, or film studio; and a Conference Participation component consisting of participating in a conference such as National Design Portfolio Review (NDPR) twice over the course of the three-year residency. The Internship Milestone will be a minimum of three months and a maximum of one year of Curricular Practical Training required for a firm grounding in the profession. The Conference Participation component is defined as actively engaging (i.e. building professional connections, seeking employment, etc.) in one of the various industry events approved by the candidate's advisor. In their first term, candidates should meet with their advisor to discuss the requirements and plan for their Milestone Project.

M.F.A. in Design Core Requirements

Costume Design

Course	Title	Credits
DRAM 5130	Introduction to Graduate Studies in Stage Design	3
DRAM 5135	Directors' Seminar	3
Select 36 credits from the following:		36
DRAM 5402	Costume Design: Comic Exaggeration	
DRAM 5403	Costume Design: Tragedy and Post Modernism	
DRAM 5405	Costume Design: Dance and Musicals	
DRAM 5407	Costume Design: Film	
DRAM 5410	Studies in Applied Costume Craft (repeatable)	
DRAM 5411	Color Theory / Light and Fabric	
DRAM 5415	Advanced Make-up: Prosthetics and Wigs	
DRAM 5417	Costume Design: Flat Pattern Costume Drafting	
DRAM 5418	Costume Design: Draping Patterns	
DRAM 5420	Wearable Electronics and Interactive Objects	
DRAM 5494	Costume Design Seminar (repeatable)	
DRAM 5497	Special Topics in Costume Design	

DRAM 5492	Independent Study in Costume Design (repeatable)	15
DRAM 5496	MFA Project in Costume Design	3
Internship Milestone		

Total Credits 60

Lighting Design

Course	Title	Credits
DRAM 5130	Introduction to Graduate Studies in Stage Design	3
DRAM 5135	Directors' Seminar	3
DRAM 5500	Studies in Lighting Design (repeatable)	18
DRAM 5503	Lighting Design: Dance	3
DRAM 5514	Production Lighting Design and Business Practices	3
DRAM 5515	History of Lighting Design	3
DRAM 5516	Lighting Design: Non-Traditional Performance	3
DRAM 5592	Independent Study in Lighting Design (repeatable)	15
DRAM 5594	Lighting Design Seminar	6
DRAM 5596	MFA Project in Lighting Design	3

Internship Milestone

Total Credits 60

Scenic Design

Course	Title	Credits
DRAM 5130	Introduction to Graduate Studies in Stage Design	3
DRAM 5135	Directors' Seminar	3
DRAM 5312	Scenic Design: Perspective Drawing and the Pencil Sketch	3
DRAM 5392	Independent Study in Scenic Design	12
DRAM 5397	Special Topics - Scenic Design (repeatable)	12
DRAM 5396	MFA Project in Scenic Design	3
Select 15 credits from the following:		15

DRAM 5301 Scenic Design: Single Set Plays

DRAM 5302 Scenic Design: Multi-Set Play

DRAM 5316 Scenic Design: Computer Rendering for the Theatre

DRAM 5319 Scenic Design: Styles of Ornamentation

Select 9 credits from the following: 9

DRAM 5131 Studies in Theatre History

DRAM 5189 Field Studies Internship in Design/ Technical Theatre

DRAM 5208 Computer Applications

DRAM 5210 Properties Construction

DRAM 5320 Scene Painting

DRAM 5392 Independent Study in Scenic Design (repeatable)

DRAM 5400-5499

DRAM 5500-5599

DRAM 5600-5699

Internship Milestone

Total Credits 60

Directing

The M.F.A. Concentration in Directing requires a minimum of 60 credits. The M.F.A. program is designed to be completed in three years. The program is highly individualized and aims to educate the student as creative artist, director and leader. To that end, in course and production work, emphasis is placed on developing the director's unique artistic imagination and mastery of collaborative leadership.

M.F.A. in Directing Core Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
DRAM 5130	Introduction to Graduate Studies in Stage Design	1-3
DRAM 5131	Studies in Theatre History	1-3
DRAM 5159	Practicum in Theatre Studies	1-3
DRAM 5197	Special Topics in Theatre Studies	1-3
DRAM 5192	Independent Study in Theatre Studies	1-6
DRAM 5200	Studies in Technical Production	1-3
DRAM 5612	Puppetry and Modernity	3
DRAM 5700	Studies in Professional Acting	1-3

Total Credits 10-27

Total number of hours includes supplemented courses taught elsewhere in the University if approved by students' advisers.

Puppet Arts

The M.F.A. Concentration in Puppet Arts program is focused on preparing the student for becoming leaders in the field of puppetry and requires a minimum of 60 credits, designed to be completed in three years.

M.F.A. in Puppet Arts Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
DRAM 5603	Puppet Theatre Production	6
DRAM 5620	Directing for Puppet Theatre	6
DRAM 5696	M.F.A Project in Puppetry	12

History/Literature Courses

Select two courses from the following history/literature courses: 6

DRAM 5612 Puppetry and Modernity

DRAM 5616 Trends in Contemporary American Puppet Theatre

DRAM 5617 World Puppet Theatre

DRAM 5621 Plays and Dramaturgy for Puppet Theatre

Elective Courses

Select a minimum of 18 credits from the following courses: ¹ 18

DRAM 5601 Advanced Mask

DRAM 5602 Advanced Paper Sculpture

DRAM 5604 Advanced Rod Puppet Theatre

DRAM 5605 Advanced Puppetry in Television

DRAM 5607 Advanced Materials Techniques

DRAM 5608 Marionette Performance

DRAM 5609 Marionette Construction

DRAM 5610 Advanced Hand Puppet Theatre

DRAM 5611 Advanced Ultraviolet Light/Czech Black Theatre

DRAM 5612	Puppetry and Modernity
DRAM 5613	Advanced Shadow Theatre
DRAM 5614	Puppet Production Seminar
DRAM 5616	Trends in Contemporary American Puppet Theatre
DRAM 5617	World Puppet Theatre
DRAM 5618	Production Planning and Development
DRAM 5619	Movement-Based Performance for the Puppet Theatre I (repeatable up to 6 credits)
DRAM 5621	Plays and Dramaturgy for Puppet Theatre
DRAM 5697	Special Topics in the Puppet Arts

¹ Additional credits can be 5000 level Dramatic Arts courses or courses taught elsewhere in the University if approved by students' advisers.

There are two requirements for advancement to M.F.A. candidacy: maintaining a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher, and a viable M.F.A. project proposal. Academic deficiencies will require a remediation plan approved by a student's major advisor and Program Director.

Technical Direction

The M.F.A. Concentration in Technical Direction is an advanced, professional training in technical production areas associated with the performing arts. The degree requires a minimum of 60 credits and a three year residency. The program emphasizes planning and management and focuses on methods of investigating and applying new techniques, materials and technologies to the technical management and execution of productions. Students are encouraged to take courses across all design disciplines and are expected to assist in designing the Connecticut Repertory Theatre productions.

Technical Direction Core Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
Select 36 credits from the following:		36
DRAM 5200	Studies in Technical Production	
DRAM 5201	Production Drafting	
DRAM 5202	Technical Direction	
DRAM 5204	Technical Analysis	
DRAM 5207	Electricity and Electronics for the Theatre	
DRAM 5208	Computer Applications	
DRAM 5209	Studies in Theatre Design	
DRAM 5211	Advanced Rigging Techniques	
DRAM 5212	Shop Technology	
DRAM 5213	Stage Technology	
DRAM 5297	Special Topics in Technical Production	
DRAM 5292	Independent Study in Technical Theatre (repeatable)	15
DRAM 5296	MFA Project in Technical Theatre	3
Any 5000 level Dramatic Arts Courses		6
Total Credits		60

Semester Review Exhibition Policy

All M.F.A. in Design and Technical Direction students are required to participate in the "Semester Review Exhibition Gallery" when held each

term. Participation is defined as meaningfully supporting the load in, presentation, and strike of the exhibition as assessed by the faculty.

1. Knowledge: Demonstrate appropriate breadth and depth of disciplinary knowledge and comprehension of the major topics, theories, and issues of the discipline, including demonstration of specialized knowledge of a sub-field sufficient to carry out substantive independent research or creative pursuits.
2. Research/applied skills: Use disciplinary methods and techniques ethically and professionally to apply knowledge and achieve advanced creative accomplishments.
3. Communication: Communicate proficiently and effectively to a specialist or non-specialist audience, verbally and in writing, a coherent argument or explanation summarizing aspects of the discipline