COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES (CLAS) ACADEMIC ADVISING CENTER 2026-2027

THEATRE-BA OR BS

HTTPS://WWW.GVSU.EDU/CLASADVISING/CLAS-MAJOR-REQUIREMENTS-GUIDES-THEATRE-125.HTM

THIS IS A **GENERAL** CURRICULUM GUIDE AND IS NOT APPLICABLE TO EVERY STUDENT. IT IS IMPORTANT TO MEET WITH YOUR ADVISOR.

Year 1 – (Fall and Winter Semesters)	
WRT 150 or WRT 120 & WRT 130 (Gen Ed: Writing)	4/6 (3 each)
General Education: Mathematical Sciences (BA) or MTH 110 (BS)	3/4
Language 101 (Choose any Foreign Language—*Only BA*)	4
Language 102 (BA) or STA 215 (BS) STA 215 Prerequisite: MTH 110 or equivalent	3/4
THE 151 Acting Process (Fall or Winter)	3
THE 161 Theatre Production (Art General Education; Fall or Winter)	3
THE 162 Play Analysis (Fall)	3
Free Elective (*Only BS)*	3
Total Credits:	**30**
Year 2 – (Fall and Winter Semesters)	
Language 201 (BA) or STA 216, HST 290, or INT 390 (BS; two of the three)	4/6 (3 each)
THE 252 Acting Characterization	3
THE 250 Theatre Management, THE 261 Stagecraft, or THE 262 Costume Construction (two of the three)	6 (3 each)
THE 298 Applied Theatre Practice	2
General Education: Physical Science with or without lab	3/4
General Education: Life Science with or without lab	3/4
General Education: Historical Analysis	3
General Electives to Reach 30 Credits (Consider Double Major, Minor, or Certificate) Total Credits:	**30**
Year 3 – (Fall and Winter Semesters)	
THE 365 Directing I or THE Elective	3
THE 371 Theatre History I or THE Elective	3
THE 372 Theatre History II or THE Elective	3
THE 362 Production Dramaturgy, THE 367 Scenography, THE 368 Lighting Design, or THE 369 Costume Design	3
THE Elective	3
General Education: Social and Behavioral Sciences	3
General Education: Philosophy and Literature	3
General Education: U.S. Diversity	3
General Education: Issues (THE 352 Theatre for Social Change)	3
General Electives to Reach 30 Credits (Consider Double Major, Minor, or Certificate) Total Credits:	**30**
Year 4 – (Fall and Winter Semesters)	
THE 365 Directing I or THE Elective	3
THE 371 Theatre History I or THE Elective	3
THE 372 Theatre History II or THE Elective	3
THE 362 Production Dramaturgy, THE 367 Scenography, THE 368 Lighting Design, or THE 369 Costume Design	3
THE 495 Theatre Capstone	3
General Education: Social and Behavioral Sciences	3
General Education: Issues (THE 352 Theatre for Social Change)	3
General Education: Global Perspectives	3
General Electives to Reach 30 Credits (Consider Double Major, Minor, or Certificate) Total Credits:	**30**

*Students must complete a total of two courses with an SWS attribute

*Students should complete an average of 30 credits per year to earn the required 120 credits to graduate within a 4 year time span

*The block tuition rate is for 12-15 credits. You will pay additional tuition for any credits over 150

*Students who would prefer additional writing support may take WRT 120 in the fall semester and WRT 130 in the winter semester. This option will satisfy the General Education WRT 150 component. Students who self-place into WRT 150 should normally take this course in the winter semester of their first year.

Students will not need to take WRT 150 if they have earned credit for the course through AP/Dual Enrollment. A grade of C or better is required in WRT 150 in order to satisfy the WRT 150 requirement at GVSU.

Theatre Major (50-62 credits)

Capstone (3 credits)

— **THE 495 Issues in Theatre**
Prerequisite: Senior Standing

Theatre Core (35 credits)

Design/Tech/Management Area (8 Credits)

Two of the following.

— **THE 250 - Theatre Management** (3)
— **THE 261 - Stagecraft** (3)
— **THE 262 - Costume Construction** (3)

Tech Labs. Take two, 1 credit sections of Applied Theatre Practice corresponding to the courses selected from above.
— **THE 298 - Applied Theatre Practice Credits: 1 to 3**

Theatre Studies Area (12 Credits)

— **THE 161 - Theatre Production** (3) (Arts – Gen. Ed. Foundations)
— **THE 162 - Play Analysis** (3)
— **THE 371 - Theatre History I** (3)
— **THE 372 - Theatre History II** (3) (SWS)

Performance Area (9 Credits)

— **THE 151 - Acting Process** (3)
— **THE 252 - Acting Characterization** (3)

— **THE 365 - Directing I** (3)

Advanced Theatre Study (6 Credits)

Two of the following, one of which must be a design course selected from THE 367, THE 368, or THE 369.
Selective _____ (3) **Selective _____** (3)
— **THE 362 Production Dramaturgy** (3)
— **THE 367 - Scenography** (3)
— **THE 368 - Lighting Design** (3)
— **THE 369 - Costume Design** (3)
— **THE 465 - Directing II Credits** (3)

Theatre Electives (12 credits)

See list below for elective options; these must be different from the courses selected in the Design/Tech/Management and Advanced Theatre Study areas above

— **Elective _____** (3)
— **Elective_____** (3)
— **Elective_____** (3)
— **Elective_____** (3)

Degree: choose one (B.A. or B.S.)

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)

Third semester proficiency (201 level) is required for the B.A. degree. This may be fulfilled through language placement (http://www.gvsu.edu/mll/language-placement-the-opi-108.htm) or by completing the courses listed below
— **Language 101*** (4)
— **Language 102*** (4) (*150 is a hybrid of 101 & 102 and is recommended for students with previous language background; students may move into Language 201 after completing Language 150)
----Language 201 (4)
*Students interested in American Sign Language must complete ***four*** semesters of ASL to complete the BA requirement: ASL 201, 202, 203, and 380 or 421.

Bachelor of Science (B.S.)

— **STA 215 Introduction to Statistics** (3)

And 2 of the following

— **STA 216 - Intermediate Applied Statistics** (3)
Prerequisite: STA 215 or STA 312
— **HST 290 - Research Methods in History** (3)
Prerequisite: STA 215 or STA 312
— **INT 301 - Interdisciplinary Research Methods** (3)

Theatre Elective Options

With the approval of their advisor, students may also complete a maximum of six hours of credits in other disciplines related to theatre towards their elective requirements (Non THE Prefix).

THE 152 Voice for the Actor (3)
THE 198 Rehearsal and Performance (1-3)
THE 250 Theatre Management (3)
THE 261 - Stagecraft I (3)
THE 262 - Costume Construction (3)
THE 263 Makeup (2)
THE 298 Applied Theatre Practice (1-3)
THE 300 Storytelling (3)
THE 325 Theatre for Social Change (3)
THE 356 - Acting for the Camera (3)
THE 362 Production Dramaturgy (3)
THE 366 - Drama in Education (3)
THE 367 Scenography (3)
THE 368 Lighting Design (3)
THE 369 Costume Design (3)
THE 380 - Special Topics in Theatre (1-3)
THE 399 - Independent Reading (1-3)
THE 400 Touring Theatre Production (3)
THE 454 - Acting Advanced Scene Study (3)
THE 455 Shakespeare Performance (3)
THE 465 Directing II (3)
THE 490 Internship (1-6)
THE 499 Independent Research (1-3)

Guide for Declaring the Theatre Major

1. Log into myBanner from the GVSU homepage
2. Once logged in, select "Student", "Student Records", and then, "Change Major"
3. Click on the "Change Major 1/Program" box
4. Click on the down arrow in the box next to "New Major 1/Program," from here scroll down and choose "Theatre-BA" bachelor of Arts **OR** "Theatre-BS" bachelor of science, depending on your degree
5. Click "Submit" and then "Change to New Program"

General Education Overlap

General Education Categories fulfilled by the Theatre major:	
Arts: THE 161 (majors should NOT take THE 101)	**Mathematical Sciences:** STA 215 (BS Only)
Issues: THE 325 Theatre Elective	

CLAS Voyage Courses What is the CLAS Voyage? https://www.gvsu.edu/clas/clas-voyage-1184.htm or search "GVSU CLAS Voyage"	
Embarking Experience: THE 161 Production - An introduction to the collaborative nature of the theatrical process, production practices, and theatrical operations. The course examines the duties and responsibilities of the various collaborative artists, such as actors, directors, designers, producers, and managers. Students will participate in the production activities of the college. THE 151 Acting Process - An introduction to the process of acting through improvisation, freeing the natural performer by means of physical, intellectual, emotional, and intuitive exercises and games. Extensive experiential work and subsequent evaluation.	**Capstone:** THE 495 – required as part of the THE major
Experiential Learning: THE 365 Directing—Study and practical application of the fundamental concepts of play directing: play selection, script analysis and interpretation, artistic choices, articulation of ideas, communication with actors, and critique. THE 367-368-369 Scene design/lighting design/costume design. A study of the theoretical and artistic concepts and procedures for designing a live performance. Students will participate in the production activities of the college.	

*******Transfer Students or any students with questions about their schedule or theatre requirements** – Please contact one of the Theatre faculty, i.e., Professor James Bell, bellja@gvsu.edu to discuss your course selections and review any transfer credits.