

THEATER (BA)

CIP: 36.0117

Program Description

Theater and performance have shaped the civic, religious, and ideological lives of human beings throughout history. Plays and performances do not represent only what we know and what we have done; they are also tools that can demonstrate the possibility of new worlds, new modes of social interaction, and how we might revise our relationship to the past.

The NYUAD Theater Program is an academic and artistic laboratory dedicated to theater research, scholarship and practice. Reflecting the global vision of NYUAD, a cosmopolitan liberal arts university, we provide a rigorous approach to artist training, a solid scholarly foundation in theater history, theory and criticism, and exposure to a variety of transnational cultural practices through the study of theater both here and abroad. For NYUAD theater majors, making and thinking—creating and articulating—culture are inseparable tasks. Our aim is to develop artist-citizens whose theatrical contributions will expand the limits of the field and make a difference in the world. We expect NYUAD theater majors to become fearless and visionary theater makers, eager to collaborate with other artists, scientists and scholars across disciplines, and who will invent new and hybrid cultural practices that will come to define what theater will be in the 21st century.

Theater and performance are collaborative arts, and at NYU Abu Dhabi students experience this in many ways: in practice-based classes and in scholarly seminars, in apprenticeships with professional companies in residence, as hosts for visiting artists, as collaborators on faculty research projects, by generating extra-curricular experimental performances and staged readings and, in their senior year, by producing a sustained and fully developed theater Capstone project.

The study of this ancient, universal, and multi-faceted art form illuminates the power of the imagination in engaging with and shaping the political and spiritual lives of individuals and cultures. The expressive and interpretive skills developed in working with dramatic material make this an excellent component of a well-rounded liberal arts education. Furthermore, theater students learn teamwork, discipline, leadership skills, effective modes of creative expression, improvisation, adaptability, and collective problem solving, as well as interpretive and textual analysis. All of these are critical skills necessary for a sustained career in the arts, and are also readily transferable to many other professions. The Theater Program at NYU Abu Dhabi welcomes majors and non-majors to join us in creating a thriving performance program for the college community, with events ranging from full productions to informal readings, solo performances, student-directed plays, and site-specific events on campus and beyond.

Study Away Pathway for Theater

The study away pathway for the Theater major can be found on the NYUAD Student Portal at students.nyuad.nyu.edu/pathways (<http://students.nyuad.nyu.edu/pathways/>). Students with questions should contact the Office of Global Education.

Admissions

New York University's Office of Undergraduate Admissions supports the application process for all undergraduate programs at NYU. For additional information about undergraduate admissions, including

application requirements, see How to Apply (<https://www.nyu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-admissions/how-to-apply.html>).

Program Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
General Education Requirements		
Colloquia		8
First-Year Seminar		4
Arts, Design, and Technology		4
Cultural Exploration Analysis		4
Data and Discovery		4
Structures of Thought and Society		4
January Term Courses (3 courses)		12
Required Courses		
THEAT-UH 1010	Making Theater	4
THEAT-UH 1011	Thinking Theater	4
Electives		
Select six electives ¹		24
Select one elective from another Arts Program		4
Capstone		
THEAT-UH 3090	Capstone Seminar	4
THEAT-UH 4001	Capstone Project A	4
	& THEAT-UH 4002 and Capstone Project B	
Other Elective Credits		56
Total Credits		140

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Must include at least one from Art Practice & one from History, Theory, Criticism

Sample Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credits
1st Semester/Term		
General Elective		4
Colloquium		4
Core		4
General Elective		4
Credits		16
2nd Semester/Term		
General Elective		4
Credits		4
3rd Semester/Term		
THEAT-UH 1010	Making Theater	4
First-Year Writing Seminar		4
General Elective		4
General Elective		4
Credits		16
4th Semester/Term		
THEAT-UH 1011	Thinking Theater	4
Colloquium		4
Core		4
Theater Elective		4
Credits		16
5th Semester/Term		
General Elective		4
Credits		4

6th Semester/Term	
Theater Elective	4
Core	4
General Elective	4
General Elective	4
Credits	16
7th Semester/Term	
Theater Elective	4
General Elective	4
General Elective	4
General Elective	4
Credits	16
8th Semester/Term	
General Elective	4
Credits	4
9th Semester/Term	
THEAT-UH 3090	Capstone Seminar 4
Core	4
General Elective	4
General Elective	4
Credits	16
10th Semester/Term	
Theater Elective	4
General Elective	4
General Elective	4
Other Arts Elective	4
Credits	16
11th Semester/Term	
THEAT-UH 4001	Capstone Project A 4
General Elective	4
General Elective	4
Theater Elective	4
Credits	16
n/a	
Art Practice Electives	4
"History, Theory, Criticism Electives"	4
Credits	8
Total Credits	148

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the NYU Abu Dhabi Theater degree, all graduates are expected to have developed:

1. An understanding of theater as a field of inquiry, research and innovation as interpreted within a framework that includes aesthetics, culture, history, theory, self, and society.
2. The ability to articulate in written and oral form concrete ideas about theater and Theater Practice while employing robust theoretical and critical underpinnings.
3. An interdisciplinary understating of theater as a practice that interconnects a network of texts and ideas and in which the study of theater is related to other fields of scholarly endeavor.
4. Ability to use theatrical stagecraft including lighting, scenic and costume design and their corresponding technical software and digital programs.
5. Ability to create theater in a range of styles and collaborative approaches and in so doing the ability to apply a range of performance and process theories and methodologies including close reading of plays and performance texts.

6. The ability to conduct rigorous research including the use of library resources, performance archives, and digital technologies.

Theatre Practice

Upon completion of the NYU Abu Dhabi Theater Practice track, all graduates are expected to have developed:

1. The ability to lead and collaborate on creative projects that reflect conceptual and theoretical thought;
2. The ability to explain the characteristics and development of diverse theater genres (classical, neoclassical, experimental, emergent) and world theater traditions (from Asia, Africa, the Arab World, the Americas);

Theatre Studies

Upon completion of the NYU Abu Dhabi Theater Studies track, all graduates are expected to have developed:

1. The ability to communicate original critical and theoretical arguments (both written and oral) and in so doing demonstrate effective use of evidence, citation, archival support and use of digital technologies.

Policies

NYU Policies

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy pages (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/>).

NYU Abu Dhabi Policies

A full list of relevant policies can be found on NYU Abu Dhabi's undergraduate academic policies page (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/undergraduate/abu-dhabi/academic-policies/>).