

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE & DANCE
Graduate Studies in Theatre & Performance

MA Schedule and Requirements

I. Overview

This document describes the MA in Theatre & Performance schedule and requirements. Details for the thesis requirements are provided in the **MA Thesis Guidelines**.

The MA in Theatre & Performance requires:

- A minimum 30 credits (including 6-credit thesis)
- A minimum GPA of 3.0
- Master's Thesis

With the letter of acceptance to the program, students will be provided an initial advisor. This advisor will assist with selecting courses for the fall and planning a coherent sequence of courses. These should be completed using the **MA Course Requirement Fulfillment Worksheet**. Either late in the fall term or early spring, students will select a major advisor who will serve as the chair of the student's thesis committee. This selection will be made in consultation with graduate faculty and must be approved by the Director of Graduate Studies (DGS) by February 1.

II. Documents

- Most of the required forms are available via the Theatre & Dance website: <http://theatredance.buffalo.edu>
- A university wide overview of courses is available at MyUB, accessible once a UB account is established <http://www.myub.buffalo.edu>.
- The graduate school also has relevant information at: <http://www.grad.buffalo.edu>.

III. Requirements

1. Seminars	15 credits
TH 610: Theatre & Performance Research	3 credits
Dramatic Literature, Theory, Criticism	3-6 credits
Theatre & Performance Historiography	3-6 credits
Advanced Study in Production	3-6 credits
2. TH 540 Graduate Studio	3 credits
3. Cognates	3-6 credits
4. Master's Thesis	6 credits
Total	30 credits

IV. Departmental courses to fulfill requirements (additional courses may be added)

These courses will rotate depending on available faculty and student interests. There is no guarantee of a particular in any given semester.

Dramatic Literature, Theory, and Criticism

TH 512 Theatre Workshop (various topics: e.g., Devised Theatre, Avant-Garde)
 TH 568 Sources of Modern Theatre
 TH 570 Theatre and the Moving Image
 TH 573 Modern Playwrights
 TH 575 Major Figures
 TH 580 Shakespeare on Stage
 TH 581 Topics in History & Literature
 TH 588 Major Principles of Acting Theory
 TH 668 Critical Theories of World Theatre & Performance
 THD 506 Dance Theory and Aesthetics

Theatre Historiography:

TH 581 Topics in History and Literature
 TH 670 Performance Historiography
 THD 530 Dance History

Advanced Production:

Directing, Playwriting, and Dramaturgy are regularly offered at the graduate level. Acting and Design courses are also available and are often offered in combination with upper-level undergraduate courses.

TH 511/512 Theatre Workshop
 (may also fulfill literature/theory requirement, depending on topic)
 TH 515 Advanced Dramaturgy
 TH 523/524 Advanced Acting Specialization
 TH 527 Voice and Movement
 TH 541 Studies in Design 1
 TH 551 Studies in Scenic Design
 TH 556 Theatre Technology
 TH 571 Studies in Costume Design
 TH 572 Studies in Costume Design
 TH 590 Advanced Playwriting Workshop
 TH 593 Advanced Directing
 TH 594 History and Theory of Directing
 THD 506 Mind-Body Integration
 THD 532 Applied Kinesiology and Anatomy for Dancers
 THD 541 Choreography I
 THD 542 Choreography II

Special Topics (TH 513, 514, 611, 612, 613, 614) and Independent Study (TH 599, 699) can be used to fulfill above requirements when topic is appropriate. Use of a special topics or independent study for fulfillment of specific requirement must be approved in advance by the

Director of Graduate Studies. Students need to submit **THD Independent Study Form** before the semester in which the class is taken.

Cognates

Cognates are courses taken outside the department. These are selected by the student in consultation with their preliminary advisor and/or the Director of Graduate Studies, as necessary. Popular cognates are often found in Anthropology, English, History, Media Study, Music, and Visual Studies. Links to available courses per semester are available through the UB Office of the Registrar: <http://registrar.buffalo.edu/schedules/index.php>

It is recommended that students identify desired cognates with their initial advisor prior to enrollment in the fall semester.

V. Thesis Schedule and Requirements

The MA in Theatre & Performance is intended to be completed in one year. Students complete two semesters of coursework during the fall and spring semesters, followed by a Masters Thesis (TH 600). To complete the MA, students submit a scholarly thesis of modest length (approximately 30-50 pages) read and approved by the major advisor (or thesis director, if different) and two other faculty members, one of whom may come from outside the department, if desirable. The outside member should be selected in consultation with the student's major advisor and approved by the DGS. Because of the emphasis on integrated theory and practice in the MA Theatre & Performance program, students may choose instead to submit a thesis project for review. The thesis project should be substantial (e.g., directing a full-length production; completion of an originally written full-length play; creation of a solo performance) and must be accompanied by a critical 20-30 page written component. If a student desires to take TH 600: Masters Thesis over more than one semester, the course may be repeated for credit.

The following schedule is recommended for MA students.

<p>S 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T&P Research • Advanced Directing • T&P Seminar (variable) • Production or Cognate • Select Major Advisor 	<p>S 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T&P Historiography • Grad Studio • T&P Seminar (variable) • Production or Cognate • Form thesis committee • Thesis proposal 	<p>S 3-4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thesis
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VI. Forms

6.1. Application to Candidacy

The ATC form requires that students specify courses and as well as the finalized concept of the thesis paper or project. Later adjustments or changes require approval by the graduate school—by petition. The ATC is submitted to the graduate secretary during the summer. To be eligible

for a September conferral date, the ATC must be submitted by June 1. The ATC must include the following attachments:

- A copy of the unofficial UB transcript.
- A course syllabus for every course whose title does not clearly indicate the course's relationship to the Theatre & Performance requirements, or which is from another department.
- Copies of any approved graduate petitions for undergraduate courses taken for graduate credit.
- Copies of syllabi and forms for any independent and directed studies courses without an official course description.

Expected Conferral Date	February 1	June 1	September 1
Date to submit to Department:	September 1	February 1	June 1
Completed ATC with all required signatures and attachments due to Graduate School	October 1	March 1	July 1

6.2 M-Form

The M-Form, which must be signed by the thesis committee members, certifies completion of all degree requirements. It serves as the master control document ensuring a student's compliance with THD and the UB Graduate School requirements. Students should meet with their thesis committee prior to the m-form submission date. Also, students should meet with the Graduate Secretary well ahead of time to insure that courses, thesis/project, and all paperwork are in order by the deadline.

VII. Graduation Checklist

For candidates completing a Masters Thesis: An oral defense of the thesis must be authorized and held. To graduate, the following must be on file in the Graduate School by the prescribed deadlines:

- an approved Application to Candidacy (with all necessary attachments, including original transcripts)
- an M-Form
- Electronic submission of the master's thesis

For candidates completing a Masters Project, the following must be on file in the Graduate School by prescribed deadlines prior to degree conferral:

- an approved Application to Candidacy (with all necessary attachments, including original transcripts)
- an M-Form

- a brief written summary of project completed (normally no more than 150 words)

In both instances, the Graduate School will verify satisfactory completion of all courses to be applied toward the degree.