

# Theatre

**Requirements for major:** Students may complete a major in theatre with a bachelor of arts, bachelor of business administration, or bachelor of science degree. All theatre majors must complete a basic 50-hour, 12 1/2 course program that includes Page to Stage, Introduction to Acting, Production I, Production I Lab, Stage Makeup, History and Literature of the Theatre I and II, Introduction to Directing, Senior Seminar, and four semesters of Performance (significant participation in Players productions). Beyond the basic courses, theatre majors must complete an additional course in each of the following: acting, directing, and production.

**Requirements for major in theatre with preprofessional concentration:** Students may complete a major in theatre with a preprofessional concentration by completing a 60-hour, 15-course program (10 1/2 at Millsaps College and 4 1/2 at New Stage Theatre). Courses at Millsaps include all of the basic courses required for the major as well as one additional course in the area of their concentration: acting, directing, production, or management. Upon completion of this additional course, students will qualify to take the preinternship (3850 or 3852) at New Stage Theatre. After fulfilling the above requirements, students may apply to take the New Stage Internship (4850). Work done during the internship program will count as the Senior Project portion of Senior Seminar 4900.

**Requirements for minor:** Students may complete a minor in theatre by completing a 24-hour, six-course program that includes Page to Stage, Introduction to Acting, Production I, and Production I Lab. Students must complete two semesters of Performance (significant participation in Players productions). Also, students must complete two courses chosen from the following: acting, production, directing, theatre history, or speech.

## Speech

**1000 Speech Fundamentals: Public Speaking (4 sem. hours).** Students prepare and deliver several oral presentations using informative, persuasive, and interpretive approaches in an extemporaneous style. Some presentations will use visual aids, and some will be videotaped. The course emphasizes preparation for extemporaneous delivery, platform and breathing techniques, pronunciation, and articulation. Individual attention, help, and criticism are offered.

**1010 Speech Fundamentals: Oral Reading (4 sem. hours).** Students prepare and deliver several oral presentations using interpretive approaches to literature. This course emphasizes text analysis, individual presentations of prose and poetry, group presentations of choral speaking, and readers' theatre. Individual attention, help, and criticism offered.

## Theatre

**1010 From Page to Stage (4 sem. hours).** An examination of major figures and works, in their social and cultural contexts, of dramatic movements and theatrical developments from the Greeks to the present. This course includes script analysis and practical exercises in the process of transforming texts into fully realized productions. Fulfills the fine arts requirement.

**1401, 2401, 3401, and 4401 Performance (1 sem. hour).** Practical experience in acting, directing, or technical work in productions by the Millsaps Players. Four one-hour performance courses will fulfill the fine arts requirement.

**1801 Dance (1 sem. hour).** Studio courses in ballet, modern, and jazz dance taught by instructors of Ballet Mississippi. Classes meet at Ballet Mississippi, the Art Center (downtown), and on the Millsaps campus. For details see the chair of the Department of Performing Arts.

**2000 Theatre in America (4 sem. hours).** An in-depth study of American theatre literature and history of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Students explore the influences of major playwrights and plays, including the unique contributions of African-American drama and musical theatre.

**2100 Introduction to Acting (4 sem. hours).** A studio course in acting fundamentals with an emphasis on performance in the modern realistic style. Students explore improvisational techniques, scene study, and character development. This course includes a study of major figures in modern acting theory. Fulfills the fine arts requirement. **Offered in alternate years.**

**2110 Acting Styles (4 sem. hours).** A studio course in approaches and interpretations of acting in premodern and nonrealistic performance styles. Students explore verse texts,

historically oriented acting styles, and voice and movement techniques. This course includes a study of the philosophies and practices of nonrealistic approaches to performance. Prerequisite: Theatre 2100 or consent of the instructor.

**2102 Improvisation (2 sem. hours).**

**2112 Voice and Speech for the Theatre (2 sem. hours).**

**2200 Production I (4 sem. hours).** An introduction to production organization, management, and equipment; the basic theories and practices of scenic construction, rigging and shifting, mechanical drawing, and color theory are studied. Must be taken concurrently with Production I Lab (Theatre 2202).

**2202 Production I Lab (2 sem. hours).** Students work backstage a minimum of five hours per week constructing sets for Millsaps Players productions. Additionally, students head a crew (props, lights, sound, etc.) for one of the productions during the semester. Must be taken concurrently with Production I (Theatre 2200).

**2210 Production II (4 sem. hours).** Theories and practice of theatrical production; areas of study include stage properties, scene painting, lighting, and sound. Must be taken concurrently with Production II Lab (Theatre 2212). Prerequisite: Theatre 2200 or consent of the instructor.

**2212 Production II Lab (2 sem. hours).** See Theatre 2202.

**2220 Design for the Actor/Director (4 sem. hours).** Theories and practice of set, costume, and lighting design. Must be taken concurrently with Design Lab (Theatre 2222). Prerequisite: Theatre 2200 or consent of the instructor. **Offered in alternate years.**

**2222 Design Lab (2 sem. hours).** See Theatre 2202.

**2252 Stage Makeup (2 sem. hours).** The principles and skills of applying stage makeup. Students will work with a variety of media to create young, middle age, elderly characters, special effects, and prosthetics. Also, students are assigned to the makeup crew for one of the Millsaps Players productions during the semester.

**3000 History and Literature of the Theatre I (4 sem. hours).** Examines dramatic theory, literature, criticism, and theatrical practices from the origins through the Renaissance; includes a study of Asian theatre. A minimum of two plays are read, discussed, and analyzed for each period. Prerequisite: Theatre 1010 or consent of the instructor.

**3010 History and Literature of the Theatre II (4 sem. hours).** Examines dramatic theory, criticism, and theatrical practices from the English Restoration to the present. A minimum of three plays are read, discussed, and analyzed for each period. Prerequisite: Theatre 1010 and Theatre 3000 or consent of the instructor.

**3102 Stage Movement (2 sem. hours).**

**3112 Mask Technique (2 sem. hours).**

**3200 Scenery and Lighting Design (4 sem. hours).** Advanced design; areas of study include set and lighting design for interior and exterior productions, box sets, unit sets, and musical or multiset productions. Prerequisites: Theatre 2200 and Theatre 2220 or consent of the instructor.

**3212 Stage Management (2 sem. hours).** Examines the role and duties of the stage manager in modern theatre. In addition to classroom work, the student is assigned to act as the stage manager for one of the Millsaps Players productions during the semester.

**3220 AutoCAD (4 sem. hours).** Computer-assisted drafting and design. Students study and practice a variety of techniques including geometric constructions, block diagrams, orthographic drawings, dimensioned drawings, sectional drawings, and some three-dimensional drawings. Admission only by consent of instructor.

**3310 Introduction to Directing (4 sem. hours).** A studio course in fundamentals of directing theory and practice with an emphasis on performance in the modern realistic style. Students present directed scenes in performance. This course includes a study of major figures in modern directing theory. **Offered in alternate years.**

**3320 Advanced Directing (4 sem. hours).** A studio course in directing approaches focusing on premodern and nonrealistic genres. Students present directed scenes in performance including those for nonproscenium and found spaces formats. This course includes a study of directors in the alternate and avant-garde theatre. **Offered in alternate years.**

**3850, and 3852 Preinternship (2 or 4 sem. hours).** Serves as a bridge to the professional theatre. Students have the opportunity to apprentice at New Stage Theatre, Mississippi's only professional theatre. Students will work with a New Stage employee for 6–12 hours per week to develop professional skills in the student's chosen concentration. Acceptance to the preinternship program is by interview/audition and approval of the faculty.

**4800 – 4803 Directed Study (1, 2, 3, or 4 sem. hours).** Designed to cover areas of special interest not included in other courses. Open only to approved students.

**4850 New Stage Internship (4-12 sem. hours).** An immersion in professional theatre; a semester of work at New Stage Theatre in the student's chosen concentration. Acceptance to the internship program is by interview/audition and approval of New Stage Theatre and Millsaps College faculty. Prerequisite: Theatre 3850 or Theatre 3852.

**4900 Senior Seminar (4 sem. hours).** Students complete a senior project (approved by the faculty) that demonstrates their ability to study and present a dramatic text for production. Portfolios of written work and a comprehensive reflective paper that places the undergraduate degree in theatre within the larger context of the liberal arts experience is required. **This course fulfills the Core 10 requirement.**