

# Program Change Request

EP.26.108\_FINAL

Approved by EP 03/02/2026

Date Submitted: 12/04/25 11:06 am

Viewing: **10KR4080NONE : Theatre, BFA**

Last approved: 09/30/24 11:39 am

Last edit: 02/26/26 6:22 pm

Changes proposed by: Nicole Turner

Catalog Pages Using  
this Program

[Theatre, BFA](#)

Proposal Type:  
Major (ex. Special Education)

This proposal is for  
a:  
Revision

## In Workflow

1. U Program Review
2. Gen Ed Review
3. 1883-THEAT  
Committee Chair
4. 1883-THEAT Head
5. KR Dean
6. University Librarian
7. COTE Programs
8. Provost
9. Senate EPC
10. Senate
11. U Senate Conf
12. Board of Trustees
13. IBHE
14. HLC
15. Catalog Editor
16. DMI

## Approval Path

1. 12/10/25 9:47 am  
Emily Stuby  
(eastuby): Approved  
for U Program  
Review
2. 12/15/25 12:39 pm  
Melissa Steinkoenig  
(menewell):  
Approved for Gen  
Ed Review
3. 12/16/25 12:55 am  
Jeffrey Eric Jenkins  
(jej): Approved for  
1883-THEAT  
Committee Chair

4. 12/16/25 7:34 am  
Valleri Robinson  
(valleri2): Approved  
for 1883-THEAT  
Head
5. 02/05/26 3:37 pm  
Nicole Turner  
(nicturn): Approved  
for KR Dean
6. 02/05/26 4:23 pm  
Tom Teper (tteper):  
Approved for  
University Librarian
7. 02/06/26 10:40 am  
Suzanne Lee  
(suzannel):  
Approved for COTE  
Programs
8. 02/11/26 4:01 pm  
Brooke Newell  
(bsnewell):  
Approved for  
Provost

## History

1. Mar 21, 2019 by  
Deb Forgacs  
(dforgacs)
2. May 9, 2019 by  
Linda Robbennolt  
(weasel)
3. Dec 9, 2019 by  
Nicole Turner  
(nicturn)
4. Feb 26, 2020 by  
Cynthia Kocher  
(ckocher)
5. Sep 30, 2024 by  
Nicole Turner

(nicturn)

## Administration Details

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Official Program Name	Theatre, BFA	
Diploma Title	Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre	
Sponsor College	Fine & Applied Arts	
Sponsor Department	Theatre	
Sponsor Name	Cindy Kocher	
Sponsor Email	ckocher@illinois.edu	
College Contact	Nicole Turner	College Contact Email
	nicturn@illinois.edu	
College Budget Officer	<del>Greg Anderson</del>	
College Budget Officer Email	<del>gnanders@illinois.edu</del>	

If additional stakeholders other than the Sponsor and College Contacts listed above should be contacted if questions during the review process arise, please list them here.

KR Dean

Does this program have inter-departmental administration?

No

### Effective Catalog Term

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Effective Catalog Term	Fall 2026
Effective Catalog	2026-2027

### Proposal Title

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Proposal Title (either Establish/Revise/Eliminate the Degree Name in Program Name in the College of XXXX, i.e., Establish the Bachelor of Science in Entomology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, include the Graduate College for Grad Programs)

Revise the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre in the College of Fine and Applied Arts

Does this proposal have any related proposals that will also be revised at this time and the programs depend on each other? Consider Majors, Minors, Concentrations & Joint Programs in your department. Please know that this information is used administratively to move related proposals through workflow efficiently and together as needed. Format your response like the following "This BS proposal (key 567) is related to the Concentration A proposal (key 145)"

This BFA proposal (key 146) is related to concentration proposals for Acting (key 679), Costume Design & Technology (key 680), Scenic Technology (key 683), Lighting Design & Technology (key 681), Sound Design & Technology (key 684), Scenic Design (key 682), Arts & Entertainment Technology (key 950), Stage Management (key 685), and Theatre Studies (key 686).

## Program Justification

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Provide a brief description, using a numbered item list, of the proposed changes to the program.

1. Eliminate category, "General Non-Theatre Electives" and 9 hours required in category
2. Update THEA 121 requirement, from 3 to 2 hours
3. Reduce degree hours from 128 to 120.
4. Update THEA core hours, from 24 to 23 hours
5. Update Summary of Credits table
6. Added concentrations to list in Program Features section

Did the program content change 25% or more in relation to the total credit hours, since the most recent university accreditation visit? See the italicized text below for more details.

No

Provide the reasoning for why each change was necessary, using a corresponding numbered item list as it relates to the brief description numbered list above.

1. The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Department of Theatre withdrew from National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST) Membership during the 2016-2017 academic year. NAST has a specific BFA expectation that states: "Specific Recommendations for General Studies" (pg. 99 NAST Handbook 25-26), which are then detailed for the various concentrations within the theatre concentrations (history, foreign language, media, cultural studies, etc.) Because the department elected to withdraw from NAST and students are free to take any free electives of their choosing to complete the degree, this category is not necessary. Students may elect to take free electives in any area as this category is eliminated.
2. THEA 121 was recently revised and approved to change from 3 to 2 hours (FA 26 approval attached). This updates the POS table.
3. With the reduction of 10 credit hours of specific requirements, there is no need to have a 128 credit hour degree when the campus minimum is 120 hours. The Office of the Provost manages a UI system audit (last conducted June 2025), which asks for a list of and justification for all bachelor's degrees that exceed 120 hours. The response from theatre this year was: "The typical BFA is between 120-130 hours, and in that regard, this program is in align with peer programs. This is actually one of the ways Theatre departments distinguish between BA and BFA experiences. As an intensive, pre-professional training program, this program offers significant, specialized training in each area, which adds to the credit load. The biggest factor that grows the minimum number is that the Department of Theatre gives credit hours for production work. As such, students who act, design, tech, manage, or otherwise work on a performance with the department get credit for that work. Many programs do not give credit for such work, but the UIUC Department of Theatre sees it as fully curricular and do credit it." This proposal makes no changes to the production work students are receiving credit for, but rather have examined the total credit hours for the major and degree and no longer have a justification for needing 128 hours. With the program changes outlined in this proposal, students will complete approx. 35 general education hours, 23 core theatre hours, 49-51 concentration hours, and 10-13 free elective hours to equal 120.
4. Due to the decrease in 1 hour from THEA 121, the THEA core requirements have decreased by 1 hour.
5. The summary of credits table is edited to change the core requirements to 23 hours, eliminate the general non-theatre electives line, and update the total degree hours to 120. This reflects accuracy from the above program changes.
6. This new section didn't automatically fill in an update and so it is now completed for accuracy.

## Instructional Resources

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Will there be any reduction in other course offerings, programs or concentrations by your department as a result of this new program/proposed change?

No

Does this new program/proposed change result in the replacement of another program?

No

Does the program include other courses/subjects outside of the sponsoring department impacted by the creation/revision of this program? If Yes is selected, indicate the appropriate courses and attach the letter of support/acknowledgement.

No

## Program Features

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Academic Level            Undergraduate

Does this major            Yes  
have transcribed  
concentrations?

Concentrations

Concentrations(s)
<a href="#"><u>Theatre: Acting, BFA</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Theatre: Arts &amp; Entertainment Technology, BFA</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Theatre: Costume Design &amp; Technology, BFA</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Theatre: Lighting Design &amp; Technology, BFA</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Theatre: Scenic Design, BFA</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Theatre: Scenic Technology, BFA</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Theatre: Sound Design &amp; Technology, BFA</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Theatre: Stage Management, BFA</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Theatre: Theatre Studies, BFA</u></a>

Will you admit to            Yes  
the concentration  
directly?

Is a concentration required for graduation? Yes

What is the longest/maximum time to completion of this program?  
4 years

What are the minimum Total Credit Hours required for this program?  
120 ~~128~~

CIP Code 500501 - Drama and Dramatics/Theatre Arts, General.

Is this program part of an ISBE approved licensure program?  
No

Will specialized accreditation be sought for this program?

No

Does this program prepare graduates for entry into a career or profession that is regulated by the State of Illinois?

No

## Program of Study

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Provide detailed information (course rubrics, numbers, and credit hours) of how a student could obtain 40 credit hours of upper-division coursework.

THEA 304: 3 hrs

THEA 364: 3 hrs

THEA 404: 1 hr

Concentration advanced hours: range from 18-36 hrs

Total: 25-40+ advanced hours

All concentrations have enough free electives to meet remaining advanced hours, as detailed in concentration programs

Revised programs [THEA 121 Course Credit Hour Change Approved FA26.pdf](#)  
[Theatre BFA sample schedule FA 26.docx](#)

## Catalog Page Text - Overview Tab

### Catalog Page Overview Text

All students must audition (if Acting) or present a portfolio (all other concentrations) to be admitted to the major.

Is the overview text above correct?

Yes

Statement for  
Programs of Study  
Catalog

## ~~Graduation Requirements~~ Graduation Requirements

Minimum hours required for graduation: 120 ~~128~~ hours.

Twelve hours of 300 and 400-level courses in the major must be taken on this campus.

## ~~University Requirements~~ University Requirements

Minimum of 40 hours of upper-division coursework, generally at the 300- or 400-level. These hours can be drawn from all elements of the degree. Students should consult their academic advisor for additional guidance in fulfilling this requirement.

The university and residency requirements can be found in the [Student Code](#) (§ 3-801) and in the [Academic Catalog](#).

## ~~General Education Requirements~~ General Education Requirements

Follows the [campus General Education ~~General Education~~ \(Gen Ed\) requirements](#). Some Gen Ed requirements may be met by courses required and/or electives in the program.

Composition I	4-6
Advanced Composition	3
fulfilled by <a href="#">THEA 304</a>	
Humanities & the Arts (6 hours)	6
fulfilled by <a href="#">THEA 122</a> & <a href="#">THEA 208</a>	
Natural Sciences & Technology (6 hours)	6

Social & Behavioral Sciences (6 hours)	6
Cultural Studies: Non-Western Cultures (1 course)	3
Cultural Studies: US Minority Cultures (1 course)	3
Cultural Studies: Western/Comparative Cultures (1 course)	3
Quantitative Reasoning (2 courses, at least one course must be Quantitative Reasoning I)	6-10
Language Requirement (Completion of the third semester or equivalent of a language other than English is required)	0-15

## ~~Core Requirements for all Theatre Majors Required~~

## ~~Concentration General Non-Theatre Electives~~ Core Requirements for all Theatre Majors

<u>FAA 101</u>	Arts at Illinois	1
<u>THEA 100</u>	Practicum I	2
<u>THEA 200</u>	Practicum II	2
<u>THEA 121</u>	Theatre Foundations: Performance	2
<u>THEA 122</u>	Theatre Foundations: Theory and Practice	3
<u>THEA 123</u>	Theatre Foundations: Production	3
<u>THEA 208</u>	21st Century Dramaturgy	3
<u>THEA 304</u>	Global Theatre Performance	3
<u>THEA 364</u>	Topics in Theatre History	3
<u>THEA 404</u>	Professional Career Development	1
Total Hours		23

## Required Concentration

### ~~General Non-Theatre Electives~~

9

Choose one below:

Acting

Arts & Entertainment Technology

Costume Design & Technology

[Lighting Design & Technology](#)[Scenic Design](#)[Scenic Technology](#)[Sound Design & Technology](#)[Stage Management](#)[Theatre Studies](#)**Total Hours****49-52**

## Summary of Credits ~~for~~ for Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Theatre

General Education Requirements

Core Requirements for All Theatre Majors

23

Concentration Requirements

49-52

~~General Non-Theatre Electives~~~~9~~

Free electives to bring the total hours earned to 120, including a minimum of 40 credits at the 300- or 400-level

**Total Credits for BFA in Theatre****120**Corresponding Degree  
BFA Bachelor of Fine Arts

## Program Regulation and Assessment

### Plan to Assess and Improve Student Learning

*Illinois Administrative Code: 1050.30(b)(1)(D) Provision is made for guidance and counseling of students, evaluations of student performance, continuous monitoring of progress of students toward their degree objectives and appropriate academic record keeping.*

Are the learning outcomes for the program listed in the Academic Catalog?

Yes

## Student Learning Outcomes

For the BFA in Theatre we have established the following Learning Objectives:

- Demonstrates a mature, effective ability to analyze, interpret, write critically and creatively, and discuss thoughtfully in the field of theatre.
- Demonstrates the practical application of learned methodologies including the ability to communicate ideas, concepts, and requirements in order to successfully fulfill the work of a theatre artist.
- Demonstrates necessary skills and knowledge to acquire an entry-level position in the theatre field (with additional training for area-specific tracks) showing the capacity to work and solve problems independently and with initiative.
- Demonstrates practical application of learned methodologies including the ability to communicate ideas, concepts, and outcomes of creative research.

Learning Objectives specific to the BFA Core Curriculum will be assessed in the following ways:

- Instructors of BFA Core Classes will review the progress of each BFA student through semester evaluations of course achievements and the assignment of grades as established by each of the core course syllabi.
- The Departmental Area Heads will annually review the BFA Core curriculum courses evaluating the progress and standing of each of their area students.
- Departmental Administration (Head, Associate Head, Producer) will annually review feedback from students regarding the BFA Core Curriculum as well as annually solicit feedback from instructors of the BFA Core Curriculum classes.
- The Departmental Curriculum Committee will annually review the progression and success rate (via grades, student feedback, faculty feedback and reports from the Area Heads and Administration Team) for evaluation of the BFA Core Curriculum.

Metrics Used for Assessment will include:

- Student grades from each semester
- Review of semester FLEX ~~ICES~~ forms
- Formal feedback from Area Heads, Departmental Administration, and the Departmental Curriculum Committee (process mentioned above)
- Formal feedback from each specific BFA Track's semester reviews (please see BFA Track Learning Outcomes and Evaluations included below)
- Evaluation of student progress towards degree completion and graduation rates.
- A longer-term evaluation of graduates two and five years post-graduation via departmental alumni survey.

Did you make any revisions to the learning outcomes you copied and pasted from

the current academic catalog?

No

Describe how, when, and where these learning outcomes will be assessed.

Describe here:

Identify faculty expectations for students' achievement of each of the stated student learning outcomes. What score, rating, or level of expertise will signify that students have met each outcome? Provide rating rubrics as necessary.

Explain the process that will be implemented to ensure that assessment results are used to improve student learning.

Program

Description and

Requirements

Attach Documents

## Delivery Method

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This program is  
available:

On Campus - Students are required to be on campus, they may take some online courses.

## Admission Requirements

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Desired Effective      Fall 2026

Admissions Term

Is this revision a change to the admission status of the program?

No

Provide a brief narrative description of the admission requirements for this program. Where relevant, include information about licensure requirements, student background checks, GRE and TOEFL scores, and admission requirements for transfer students.

No changes.

## Enrollment

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Describe how this revision or phase down/elimination will impact enrollment and degrees awarded. If this is an elimination/phase down proposal include the plans for the students left in the program.

No impact.

Estimated Annual Number of Degrees Awarded

Year One Estimate

5th Year Estimate (or when fully implemented)

What is the matriculation term for this program?

Fall

## Budget

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Are there budgetary implications for this revision? No

Will the program or revision require staffing (faculty, advisors, etc.) beyond what is currently available?

No

Additional Budget Information

Attach File(s)

## Financial Resources

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How does the unit intend to financially support this proposal?

~~No changes to current operations. The BFA is a professional training program in theatre, and as such it generally includes a mix of small, hands-on courses and larger courses offering history and theory, as well as quite large courses for non-majors. Most of the courses submitted for new consideration or revisions in this set of course revisions are of the smaller nature. We have worked extensively with the College of Fine and Applied to assure a responsible use of departmental resources, to allow us to maintain the integrity of degree programs and at the same time operate sustainably. The department has specifically worked with the college and determined that the AET new concentration will allow us to recruit additional new undergraduates with current staffing as part of a comprehensive strategic plan for responsible growth.~~

Will the unit need to seek campus or other external resources?

No

Attach letters of support

What tuition rate do you expect to charge for this program? e.g, Undergraduate Base Tuition, or Engineering Differential, or Social Work Online (no dollar amounts necessary)

FAA Differential

Are you seeking a change in the tuition rate or differential for this program?

No

## Faculty Resources

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Please address the impact on faculty resources including any changes in numbers of faculty, class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratios, etc.

No impact.

## Library Resources

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Describe your proposal's impact on the University Library's resources, collections, and services. If necessary please consult with the appropriate disciplinary specialist within the University Library.

Library collections, resources and services are sufficient to support this program revision.

**EP Documentation**

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EP Control Number    EP.26.108

Attach Rollback/  
Approval Notices**Non-EP Documentation**

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U Program Review  
CommentsRollback  
Documentation and  
Attachment**DMI Documentation**

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Attach Final  
Approval NoticesBanner/Codebook  
Name

NONE:Theatre:Theatr Fndtn-UIUC

Program Code:            10KR4080NONE

Minor	Conc	4080	Degree	BFA
Code	Code		Code	Major Code
0162				

Senate Approval  
DateSenate Conference  
Approval Date

BOT Approval Date

IBHE Approval Date

HLC Approval Date

DOE Approval Date

Effective Date:

Program Reviewer

## Comments

**Emily Stuby (eastuby) (12/10/25 9:43 am):** Removed the MFA program from the concentration list.

**Melissa Steinkoenig (menewell) (12/15/25 12:39 pm):** Gen Ed Table: Good

Key: 146