Department Description

The mission of the Dixie State University Theatre program is to provide the necessary tools for students to become well-rounded artists, scholars, and life-long learners. This is realized by combining comprehensive theatrical training with a strong liberal arts curriculum. Using this knowledge and experience, students exit the program able to integrate their knowledge and ongoing research with their insights into the human condition. This mission is available to and provided for any and all DSU students, regardless of major.

No theatrical performance can be complete without an audience. Through its production season, this program will give the Theater student a range of design and performance opportunities. It will also provide the general student body with historically and culturally diverse experiences which will broaden their educational experiences and provide a rich array of theatrical performances for the growth, entertainment, and intellectual stimulation of the community at large.

DSU Theatre students have fared well in regional and national competitions. In April 2010, Whitney Morgan Cox won the Ryan National Acting Competition at the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF) in Washington, D.C., was awarded the coveted Irene Ryan Scholarship, and was named the nation’s top collegiate actor.

The goals of the DSU Theatre Department are

1. To produce well-rounded artist/scholars.
2. To enhance the cultural and intellectual life of our campus and community.
3. To provide service to our institution, community and profession.
4. To support and encourage the growth and development of our faculty and staff.
5. To develop a regionally prominent liberal arts theatre training program.
6. To assist the alumni, and facilitate communication between generations of DSU Theatre graduates.

Departmental and Scholarship Requirements

DSU Theatre welcomes all native and transfer students to its course of study. Previous experience in theatre is not required. Students who are on Theatre scholarships or who declare Theatre majors will be expected to be active participants in the program. This includes actively working to complete the Theater core courses and General Education requirements, participating in productions as cast or assigned, and attending department meetings and work calls. No grade less than “C” will be accepted as meeting the Theatre degree requirements in any Theater class. No required Theatre classes may be taken on a pass-fail basis. Students on scholarship must attend department juries as scheduled and must maintain a comprehensive 2.5 GPA.

Course Prefixes

- THEA

Degrees & Minors

- Bachelor of Arts/Science in Theatre (catalog.dixie.edu/programs/theatre/bachelor_of_arts/science_in_theatre)
- Bachelor of Arts/Science in Theatre - Theatre Education Emphasis, with Secondary Education Licensure (catalog.dixie.edu/programs/theatre/bachelor_of_arts/science_in_theatre_theatre_education_emphasis_with_secondary_licensure)
- Bachelor of Arts/Sciences in Integrated Studies - Theatre Emphasis (catalog.dixie.edu/programs/interdisciplinaryartsandsciences/bachelor_of_arts/science_in_integrated_studies_theatre_emphasis)
- Minor in Theatre (catalog.dixie.edu/programs/minor_in_theatre)
Career Opportunities

Many people with a degree in theatre find great success in creative, technical, management, or the educational aspects of theatre, film, or television. Others pursue successful careers in many diverse fields or attend graduate school for theatre or other areas, including law, for which their undergraduate theatre degree has prepared them well. The following are just a few of the careers that theatre majors have found success in:

- Actor or Director
- Lighting, Set, Costume, Sound Designer
- Casting Director or Actor’s Agent
- Speech Therapist / Dialect & Voice Coach
- Educator (Secondary and Post-secondary)
- Stage Manager or Production Manager
- Artistic Director or Executive Director
- Cinematographer or Screenwriter
- Producer
- Make-Up Artist
- Choreographer
- Education Outreach Director
- Playwright

Job Outlook*

Employment of actors is projected to grow 10% over the 2014-2024 decade, faster than average. Additionally, employment of producers and directors is expected to grow 9% in the same time span. Constant development and advances in interactive media, online movies, and mobile content produced for portable electronic devices will fuel job growth in the performing arts.

Salary Range*

The median hourly wage for actors is $18.80, and the median annual wage for producers and directors is $68,440. However, annual salaries vary due to the flexible nature of the work. The lowest 10 percent of actors earned less than $9.27, and the highest earned more than $90.00. As for producers and directors, the lowest 10 percent earned less than $31,780 and the highest earned more than $181,780.

* Derived from the Occupational Outlook Handbook