

PATHS THROUGH MUHLENBERG'S **NEW** THEATRE MAJOR

**A guide to the revised curriculum
beginning with the Class of 2024**



FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE

THR 105: PERFORMANCE & SOCIETY:

A course with lab introducing students to the critical and historical study of performance. Why do people make theatre? What does it mean to perform? How does performance shape reality across different cultures, times and places?

THR 107: DRAMATIC TEXT IN ACTION:

An introduction to reading and analyzing plays and other texts the way theatre-makers do. How can a play be a map for creating meaning in three dimensions?

PRACTICES COURSES

Hands-on courses focused on foundational skills for theatre-making

at least 2 half-unit courses

ARTISTIC PROCESS COURSES

Studio courses in Acting, Design, Directing, Playwriting & Stage Management.

at least 3 courses in 2 areas

THEATRE SCHOLARSHIP COURSES

Seminar courses focused on reading, writing, and thinking about theatre & performance.

at least 3 courses

ELECTIVE COURSES

Deepen your practice or explore something new!

at least 1 course of your choice

THE CULMINATING STUDIO – SENIOR YEAR
Also known as the "CUE" (Culminating Undergraduate Experience), a semester-long theatre-making project in collaboration with a theatre faculty mentor.



WHAT CAN I EXPECT IN MY FIRST YEAR?

When you meet with your Summer Advisor, the two of you will discuss your theatre interests, experiences, and goals for the future. You'll also talk a bit about first-year classes you *will* take, and kinds of classes you *might* take – both in the Theatre Program and in the General Academic Requirements.

FOR SURE:

FALL – THR 105: PERFORMANCE & SOCIETY

A course with lab introducing students to the critical and historical study of performance. Why do people make theatre? What does it mean to perform? How does performance shape reality across different cultures, times and places?

SPRING – THR 107: DRAMATIC TEXT IN ACTION

An introduction to reading and analyzing plays and other texts the way theatre-makers do. How can a play be a map for creating meaning in three dimensions?

ALSO FOR SURE:

First-Year Seminar
Foundations for Student Success
General Academic Requirements

OTHER POSSIBILITIES:

A theatre class from the Practices category
Dance Technique classes
Individual Singing lessons
Stage Management I
A Design class (Spring)

Students can choose among many courses to fulfill their theatre major requirements, and may **absolutely** take more theatre courses than are required.

The following slides show you **just some** of the courses likely to be offered during your time at Muhlenberg, as well as how they fit in the major.

Additional courses not listed here will be offered in each of these four categories. Your advisor will discuss these with you every semester when you select courses.

PRACTICES COURSES

Hands-on courses focused on foundational skills for theatre-making

ARTISTIC PROCESS COURSES

Studio courses in Acting, Design, Directing, Playwriting & Stage Management.

THEATRE SCHOLARSHIP

Seminar courses focused on reading, writing, and thinking about theatre & performance.

ELECTIVE COURSES

Deepen your practice or explore something new!

PRACTICES COURSES

Hands-on courses focused on foundational skills for theatre-making

at least **2** of
these 1/2-unit
courses

Course Offerings Include:

- Stagecraft: Aesthetics & Lighting
- Stagecraft: Scenic Techniques
- Stagecraft: Costume Techniques
- Introduction to Stage Make-Up
- Movement for the Actor
- Voice & Speech for the Actor
- Fundamentals of Musical Theatre Performance
- Stage Combat
- Accessibility & the Arts

The courses in this category are all 1/2-unit courses.
(Most of the other courses you'll take in the theatre
major will be one-unit courses.)

At least one course you take in this category must
be one of the Stagecraft options.

ARTISTIC PROCESS COURSES

Studio courses in Acting, Design, Directing, Playwriting & Stage Management.

at least
3 courses
in **2** areas

Course Offerings Include:

ACTING:

- Acting Process
- Intermediate Acting:
 - Shakespeare & His Contemporaries
 - Bringing Feminist Texts to Life
 - Meisner Technique
 - Stanislavski's Psycho-Physical Technique
 - Contemporary Scene Study
 - Acting the Song
- ... and more!

DIRECTING

- Directing: Process in Production
- Directing: Brecht & Company
- Directing: Composing Performance
- Directing: Directorial Leadership

DESIGN

- Creativity & Collaboration
- Costume Design I
- Lighting Design I
- Scenic Design I
- Sound Design I & II

PLAYWRITING

- Introduction to Playwriting
- Advanced Playwriting Workshop

STAGE MANAGEMENT

- Stage Management I & II

See the Electives slide for advanced courses in Acting and Design.

THEATRE SCHOLARSHIP COURSES

Seminar courses focused on reading, writing, and thinking about theatre & performance.

at least
3 courses

Students take at least one course that explores a performance form of a historically underrepresented group. Some options include:

- Race & Performance
- Feminist Theories of Theatre
- Jewish Drama
- Gay & Lesbian Theatre & Film
- History of Queer Performance
- Post-Independence African Theatre
- African American Drama
- Cartographies of Theatre & Performance in the Americas
- Philosophy & the Arts
- Latin American & Latino Drama
- Collective Creation in the Americas

... and more!

Just a sampling of the other courses students may take to complete this category include:

- History of the American Musical
- History of Western Costume & Fashion
- Performance Studies
- Staging the Restoration
- Renaissance Plays in Process
- Shakespeare
- Early Modern Spanish Drama
- Contemporary Irish Drama
- French Theatre of Resistance
- Opera
- Sex & Death on the German Stage

... and more!

ELECTIVE COURSES

Deepen your practice or explore something new!

at least
1 course

You can take any of the 1-credit courses listed on the previous slides, or if you have completed the prerequisites, take an advanced level Artistic Process course, including:

- Advanced Acting:
 - On-Camera Acting
 - Advanced Shakespeare Workshop
 - Audition Workshop
 - Solo Performance
 - Postrealism
 - Integrating Methods
 - Costume Design II
 - Lighting Design II
 - Scenic Design II
 - Advanced Topics in Design
- ... and more!

THE CUE STUDIO

Culminating Undergraduate Experience

1 course,
taken as a senior

Your senior-year experience will include a semester-long, performance-based project, created with other seniors and led by a theatre professor. You will explore a theme or topic while practicing your artistic process, whether as a performer, director, designer, stage manager, dramaturg, playwright, technician, etc.

On the following slides you will see examples of **just a few** of the many ways that you can complete the theatre major. You can follow one of these paths, or create a path of your own. The choice is yours!

You may find that one of these paths is quite similar to the one that's right for you. You may start out on a path similar to one of these, and then find that your interests have changed or broadened. You may already know that none of these paths is exactly the one for you. **All of this is all right!**

Don't worry: your major academic advisor will be a theatre professor, and they'll be there to help you figure it all out!

Sample Path for...

A student who is interested in pursuing a professional career in acting

Remember that there are *many* ways to fulfill the requirements of the Theatre Major and explore your interests. This is just one!

FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE

THR 105: Performance & Society
THR 107: Dramatic Text in Action



PRACTICES COURSES

Stagecraft: Aesthetics & Lighting
Voice & Speech for the Actor

ARTISTIC PROCESS COURSES

Acting Process
Intermediate Acting: Shakespeare & His Contemporaries
Directing: Brecht & Company

THEATRE SCHOLARSHIP COURSES

Race & Performance
Staging the Restoration
Sex & Death on the German Stage

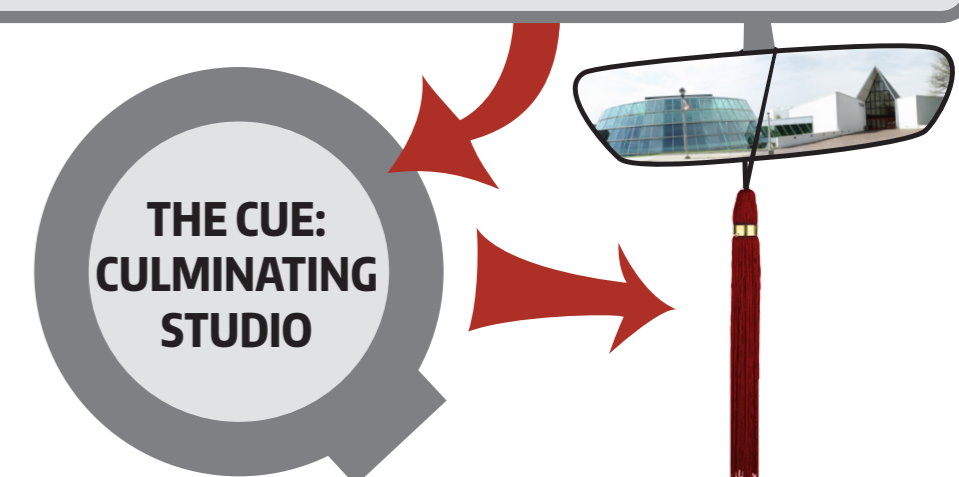
ELECTIVES COURSES

Advanced Acting:
Audition Workshop

One Elective Course is required to complete the major; however, most students will take more courses than they need.

Along the way, this student might also take the following...

Dance Technique courses	Intermediate Acting: Contemporary Scene Study
Movement for the Actor	Advanced Acting: On-Camera Acting
Stage Combat	



Sample Path for...

A student who is interested in pursuing musical theatre

Remember that there are *many* ways to fulfill the requirements of the Theatre Major and explore your interests. This is just one!

FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE

- THR 105: Performance & Society
- THR 107: Dramatic Text in Action



PRACTICES COURSES

- Stagecraft: Costume Techniques
- Fundamentals of Musical Theatre Performance

ARTISTIC PROCESS COURSES

- Acting Process
- Intermediate Acting: Contemporary Scene Study
- Stage Management

THEATRE SCHOLARSHIP COURSES

- History of the American Musical Opera
- Philosophy & the Arts

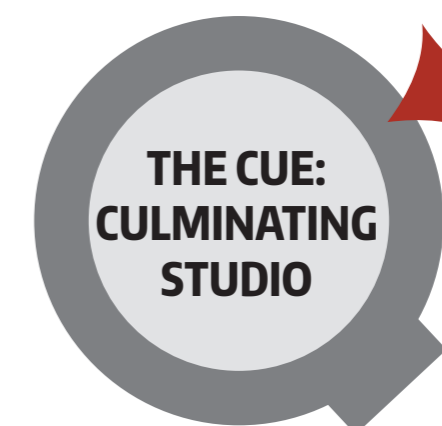
ELECTIVES COURSES

- Intermediate Acting: Acting the Song

One Elective Course is required to complete the major; however, most students will take more courses than they need.

Along the way, this student might also take the following...

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Dance Technique courses and Individual Singing lessons (most semesters) | Movement for the Actor |
| | African Dances & Cultures |
| | The Musical on Film |



Sample Path for...

A student who is interested in pursuing graduate study in acting

Remember that there are *many* ways to fulfill the requirements of the Theatre Major and explore your interests. This is just one!

FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE

- THR 105: Performance & Society
- THR 107: Dramatic Text in Action



PRACTICES COURSES

- Stagecraft: Stagecraft & Lighting
- Movement for the Actor

ARTISTIC PROCESS COURSES

- Acting Process
- Intermediate Acting: Meisner Technique
- Creativity & Collaboration

THEATRE SCHOLARSHIP COURSES

- History of Queer Performance
- Shakespeare
- Philosophy & the Arts

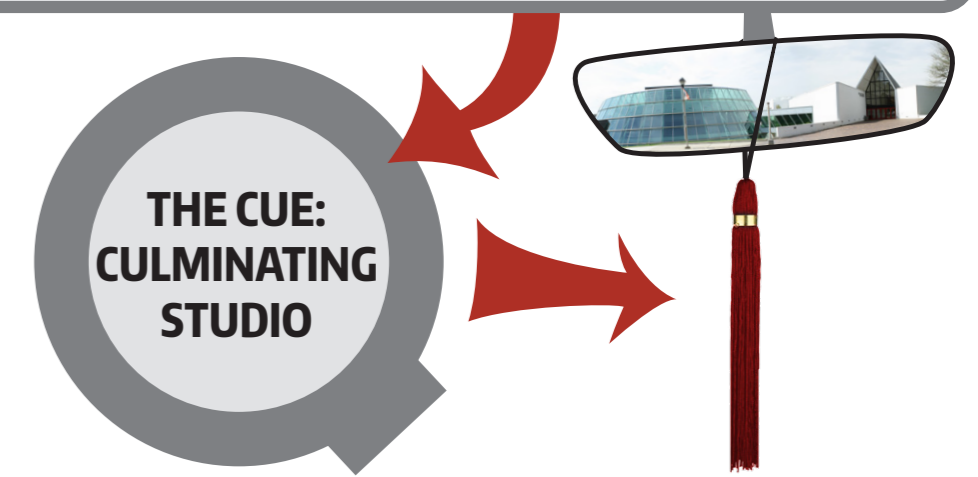
ELECTIVES COURSES

- Advanced Acting: Postrealism

One Elective Course is required to complete the major; however, most students will take more courses than they need.

Along the way, this student might also take the following...

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Multiple Dance Technique courses | Intermediate Acting: Bringing Feminist Texts to Life |
| Voice & Speech for the Actor | Advanced Acting: Integrating Methods |
| Stage Combat | |



Sample Path for...

A student who is interested in directing

Remember that there are *many* ways to fulfill the requirements of the Theatre Major and explore your interests. This is just one!

FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE

THR 105: Performance & Society
THR 107: Dramatic Text in Action



PRACTICES COURSES

Stagecraft: Aesthetics & Lighting
Stage Combat

ARTISTIC PROCESS COURSES

Acting: Process
Directing: Process in Production
Directing: Composing
Performance

THEATRE SCHOLARSHIP COURSES

Theories & Practices of the Avant Garde
Post-Independence African Theatre
Italian Theatre

ELECTIVES COURSES

Phenomenology

One Elective Course is required to complete the major; however, most students will take more courses than they need.

Along the way, this student might also take the following...

Creativity & Collaboration
Stage Management I

Directing: Directorial Leadership
Sound Design I
Intro to Playwriting

**THE CUE:
CULMINATING
STUDIO**



Sample Path for...

A student who is interested in stage management

Remember that there are *many* ways to fulfill the requirements of the Theatre Major and explore your interests. This is just one!

FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE

THR 105: Performance & Society
THR 107: Dramatic Text in Action



PRACTICES COURSES

Stagecraft: Aesthetics & Lighting
Stagecraft: Scenic Techniques

ARTISTIC PROCESS COURSES

Stage Management I
Stage Management II
Sound Design I

THEATRE SCHOLARSHIP COURSES

Latin American & Latino Drama
Feminist Theories of the Theatre
Renaissance Plays in Process

ELECTIVES COURSES

Sound Design II

One Elective Course is required to complete the major; however, most students will take more courses than they need.

Along the way, this student might also take the following...

Accessibility & the Arts	Lighting Design I
Creativity & Collaboration	Co-Art: Interdisciplinary Collaboration
Arts Administration	

THE CUE:
CULMINATING
STUDIO



Sample Path for...

A student who is interested in scenic design

Remember that there are *many* ways to fulfill the requirements of the Theatre Major and explore your interests. This is just one!

FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE

THR 105: Performance & Society
THR 107: Dramatic Text in Action



PRACTICES COURSES

Stagecraft: Scenic Techniques
Stagecraft: Aesthetics & Lighting

ARTISTIC PROCESS COURSES

Creativity & Collaboration
Scenic Design I
Stage Management I

THEATRE SCHOLARSHIP COURSES

History of Western
Costume & Fashion
Gay & Lesbian Theatre & Film
Dramaturgy & Play Analysis

ELECTIVES COURSES

Scenic Design II

One Elective Course is required to complete the major; however, most students will take more courses than they need.

Along the way, this student might also take the following...

Symmetry & Shape	Lighting Design I
Introduction to Art History I & II	History of Modern Architecture
Stagecraft: Costume Techniques	

**THE CUE:
CULMINATING
STUDIO**



Sample Path for...

A student who is interested in costume design

Remember that there are *many* ways to fulfill the requirements of the Theatre Major and explore your interests. This is just one!

FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE

THR 105: Performance & Society
THR 107: Dramatic Text in Action



PRACTICES COURSES

Stagecraft: Costume Techniques
Introduction to Stage Makeup

ARTISTIC PROCESS COURSES

Creativity & Collaboration
Costume Design I
Directing: Composing
Performance

THEATRE SCHOLARSHIP COURSES

History of Western
Costume & Fashion
Early Modern Spanish Drama
Opera

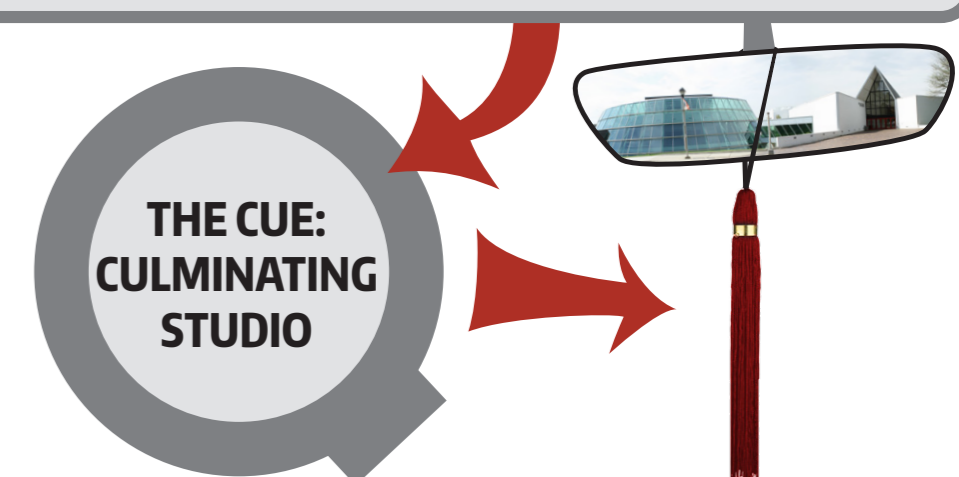
ELECTIVES COURSES

Costume Design II

One Elective Course is required to complete the major; however, most students will take more courses than they need.

Along the way, this student might also take the following...

Drawing I	Lighting Design I
Stagecraft: Aesthetics & Lighting	Figure Studio
	Introduction to Art History I & II



Sample Path for...

A student who is interested in lighting design

Remember that there are *many* ways to fulfill the requirements of the Theatre Major and explore your interests. This is just one!

FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE

THR 105: Performance & Society
THR 107: Dramatic Text in Action



PRACTICES COURSES

Stagecraft: Aesthetics & Lighting
Accessibility & the Arts

ARTISTIC PROCESS COURSES

Creativity & Collaboration
Lighting Design I
Introduction to Playwriting

THEATRE SCHOLARSHIP COURSES

Jewish Drama
Staging the Restoration
French Theatre of Resistance

ELECTIVES COURSES

Lighting Design II

One Elective Course is required to complete the major; however, most students will take more courses than they need.

Along the way, this student might also take the following...

Light, Color & Electric Circuits
Scenic Design I

Stagecraft: Scenic Techniques
Introduction to Art History I & II
Co-Art: Interdisciplinary Collaboration

**THE CUE:
CULMINATING
STUDIO**



Sample Path for...

A student who is interested in playwriting

Remember that there are *many* ways to fulfill the requirements of the Theatre Major and explore your interests. This is just one!

FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE

THR 105: Performance & Society
THR 107: Dramatic Text in Action



PRACTICES COURSES

Stagecraft: Aesthetics & Lighting
Accessibility & the Arts

ARTISTIC PROCESS COURSES

Introduction to Playwriting
Advanced Playwriting Workshop
Acting Process

THEATRE SCHOLARSHIP COURSES

Dramaturgy & Play Analysis
Theatre & Creative Writing in Ireland
Gay & Lesbian Theatre & Film

ELECTIVES COURSES

The Tragic Action

One Elective Course is required to complete the major; however, most students will take more courses than they need.

Along the way, this student might also take the following...

Directing: Process in Production
Creativity & Collaboration
Intro to Screenwriting

Intermediate Acting:
Contemporary Scene Study
Advanced Screenwriting
Workshop

**THE CUE:
CULMINATING
STUDIO**



QUESTIONS?

**Email theatredance@muhlenberg.edu,
and we'll get back to you quickly!**