

# THEATRE ARTS (BA)

Offered at: San Luis Obispo Campus

Students who major in Theatre Arts experience how live theatre explores important ideas, portrays the vastness of human emotions, and promotes the vitality of storytelling. The BA Theatre Arts Program at Cal Poly provides students with a foundation in the theory and practice of theatre, allowing them to participate in a comprehensive, hands-on training program that delivers a balanced and enriched knowledge of theatre arts: history, dramatic literature, playwriting, performing, production, directing, design, and administrative practices. Participation in mainstage productions, as actors and members of the artistic/production crew, is a key component of each student's education. As a small program, the Theatre Arts B.A. allows faculty to get to know students' abilities and needs as individuals; promoting the selection of special projects, electives, and interests that mesh with their career ambitions. The program is delivered within a Liberal Arts framework, intended to advance the value of collaboration at all levels of study; designed to not only produce theatre artists with strong written and verbal skills, but also globally minded citizens, prepared to enter into a variety of fields. And, as Theatre majors, students participate as members of a community which promotes the benefits of diversity, equity, and inclusion – practicing and advocating openness, respect, and fairness.

## Program Learning Objectives

1. Students will develop a fundamental knowledge of theatrical history, as well as dramatic literature, with the goal of recognizing and understanding the contributions to knowledge and civilization that have been made by members of diverse cultural and gender groups [including] historically marginalized people in the United States and across the world.
2. Students will acquire skills in script/text analysis.
3. Students will demonstrate the theoretical precepts found in both production and performance.
4. Students will be exposed to a variety of theatrical skills and apply this knowledge in practical, Learn-By- Doing situations.
5. Students will practice values and ethics that foster an inclusive environment where theatrical activity can flourish.
6. Students will develop written proficiency in a wide variety of assignments.

## Degree Requirements and Curriculum

In addition to the program requirements listed on this page, students must also satisfy requirements outlined in more detail in the Minimum Requirements for Graduation (<https://catalog.calpoly.edu/academic-standards-policies/general-requirements-bachelors-degree/#generaleducationtext>) section of this catalog, including:

- 40 units of upper-division courses
- 2.0 GPA
- Graduation Writing Requirements (GWR)
- U.S. Cultural Pluralism (USCP)

Note: No Major or Support courses may be selected as credit/no credit. In addition, no more than 12 units of cooperative or internship courses can count towards your degree requirements.

Code	Title	Units
<b>MAJOR COURSES</b>		
TH 1145 or TH 1155	Mainstage Rehearsal and Performance I Mainstage Production I	3
TH 2201	First Year Theatre Experience	3
TH 2220	Acting I	3
TH 2225	Costume Construction I	3
Select from the following: (3A) <sup>1</sup>		3
TH 2227	Theatre History I	
TH 2228	Theatre History II	
TH 2230	Stagecraft I	3
TH 2290	Dramaturgy and Playwriting	3
TH 2295	Foundations in Theatrical Design	3
TH 3305	Diversity in U.S. Theatre (Upper-Division 3) (USCP) (GWR) <sup>1</sup>	3
TH 3325 or TH 3330	Costume Construction II Stagecraft II	3
TH 4430 or TH 4432	Scenic Design Costume Design	3
TH 4450	Directing	3

TH 4461	Senior Project - Seminar	3
<b>Lower-Division Major Electives</b>		
Select from the following:		9
TH 2215	Voice and Movement I	
TH 2227	Theatre History I	
or TH 2228	Theatre History II	
TH 2240	Improvisational Theatre	
TH 2245	Introduction to Stage Management	
TH 2250	Lighting Design Fundamentals	
TH 2255	Technology in Theatrical Design and Production	
TH 2265	Scenic Painting	
TH 2270	Special Topics	
TH 2275	Stage Make-Up	
TH 2285	Internship	
<b>Upper-Division Major Electives</b>		
Select from the following:		18
TH 3315	Voice and Movement II	
TH 3320	Acting II	
TH 3325	Costume Construction II	
TH 3330	Stagecraft II	
TH 3345	Mainstage Rehearsal and Performance II	
TH 3350	Seminar in Playwriting	
TH 3355	Mainstage Production II	
TH 3360	Theatre for Young Audiences	
TH 3370	Costume History	
TH/DANC 3380	Body Awareness and Expression	
TH 3390	Global Theatre and Performance	
TH 4400	Special Problems for Advanced Undergraduates	
TH 4420	Acting in Musical Theatre	
TH 4430	Scenic Design	
TH 4432	Costume Design	
TH 4470	Special Advanced Topics	
TH 4471	Special Advanced Laboratory	
TH 4480	Advanced Internship	
<b>SUPPORT COURSES</b>		
ENGL 3339	Introduction to Shakespeare	3
<b>GENERAL EDUCATION (GE)</b>		
(See GE program requirements below)		37
<b>FREE ELECTIVES</b>		
Free Electives <sup>2</sup>		14
<b>Total Units</b>		<b>120</b>

<sup>1</sup> Required in Major or Support; also satisfies General Education (GE) requirement.

<sup>2</sup> If a General Education (GE) course is used to satisfy a Major or Support requirement, additional units of Free Electives may be needed to complete the total units required for the degree.

## General Education (GE) Requirements

- 43 units required, 6 of which are specified in Major and/or Support.
- If any of the remaining 37 Units is used to satisfy a Major or Support requirement, additional units of Free Electives may be needed to complete the total units required for the degree.
- See the complete GE course listing (<https://catalog.calpoly.edu/academic-standards-policies/general-requirements-bachelors-degree/#generaleducationtext>).

- A grade of C- or better is required in one course in each of the following GE Areas: 1A (English Composition), 1B (Critical Thinking), 1C (Oral Communication), and 2 (Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning).

**Lower-Division General Education**

<b>Area 1</b>	<b>English Communication and Critical Thinking</b>	
1A	Written Communication	3
1B	Critical Thinking	3
1C	Oral Communication	3
<b>Area 2</b>	<b>Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning</b>	
2	Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning	3
<b>Area 3</b>	<b>Arts and Humanities</b>	
3A	Arts (3 units in Major) <sup>1</sup>	0
3B	Humanities: Literature, Philosophy, Languages other than English	3
<b>Area 4</b>	<b>Social and Behavioral Sciences (Area 4 courses must come from at least two different course prefixes.)</b>	
4A	American Institutions (Title 5, Section 40404 Requirement)	3
4B	Social and Behavioral Sciences	3
<b>Area 5</b>	<b>Physical and Life Sciences</b>	
5A	Physical Sciences	3
5B	Life Sciences	3
5C	Laboratory (may be embedded in a 5A or 5B course)	1
<b>Area 6</b>	<b>Ethnic Studies</b>	
6	Ethnic Studies	3
<b>Upper-Division General Education</b>		
Upper-Division 2/5	Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning or Physical and Life Sciences	3
Upper-Division 3	Arts and Humanities (3 units in Major) <sup>1</sup>	0
Upper-Division 4	Social and Behavioral Sciences (Area 4 courses must come from at least two different course prefixes.)	3
<b>Total Units</b>		<b>37</b>

<sup>1</sup> Required in Major or Support; also satisfies General Education (GE) requirement.

**Coming soon**