

Theatre and Dance Department
Academic Assessment Program
BFA Production/Design

A. Mission of the Department

It is the mission of the department to provide a quality theatre education and training within the framework of a liberal arts education.

B. Philosophy of the BFA – Production/Design Program

Students in the BFA Programs will comprehend the process involved in the creation of theatre, beginning with the script through the interpretive creative processes of performance and production. Students will have achieved significant technical mastery in at least one of the traditional or innovative techniques appropriate to their work. Students will have developed a significant sense of what constitutes a serious work of theatre and a relatively coherent set of ideas and goals that are embodied in their work. Students will demonstrate their competency by developing a presentation for evaluation.

C. Goals of the BFA - Production/Design program

1. The student will acquire a knowledge and appreciation of theatrical art and stage design.
2. The student will acquire a knowledge and appreciation of the history of costumes, textiles and techniques of theatrical costume production.
3. The student will acquire knowledge of the methods of producing freehand and computer-assisted design and mechanical drawings.
4. The student will acquire knowledge of stage lighting technology and design.
5. The student will acquire knowledge of theatre technology and stagecraft.
6. The student will prepare and present a professional resume and a portfolio of design/production work related to their area of concentration.
7. The student will be afforded the opportunity for research and artistic creation in the design and technology aspects of theatre in classroom and production settings.
8. The student will acquire knowledge of federal and local health and safety codes and practices.
9. The student will acquire a professional and collaborative work ethic and a positive attitude.

D. Assessment Criteria and Procedures

1. Yearly juries. Yearly juries consist of written and oral juries, and a self-evaluation of skills. The oral jury requires the applicant to present a current portfolio and resume of their work. Their performance in classes and production experiences will be discussed. This assessment tool will be used to gauge individual student progress. If a deficiency is noticed in an entire group or class then the appropriate course can be adapted to address that need. The skills self-evaluation will allow the student to rate their knowledge of practical aspects in design and technical production. It will be reviewed in the oral jury to determine if the self-assessment is accurate and to help find deficiencies in the program or individual classes. Jury feedback and the skills self-evaluation are found in Appendix B and Appendix C, respectively.
2. The Portfolio Review. The portfolio is the culmination of the work produced during their tenure at SUNY-Fredonia. The portfolio is created with faculty advisor oversight with the intent that it will be appropriate for interviews for professional work and/or graduate school application. The portfolio is publicly presented in the final semester and is reviewed by the faculty with the instrument found in Appendix D.

D. Implementation

1. Juries are conducted for freshman, sophomores, and juniors during the last week of classes. The skill self test will be given before the jury. The faculty meets one week prior to juries to discuss each student's strengths and weaknesses in the program. Students are given written feedback and their progress is discussed.
2. The portfolio is reviewed and presented in the candidate's final semester after which a written critique is created.
3. Each year the faculty will review the data gathered and the appropriate course adjusted if a deficiency is noticed.

E. Results and Reporting

1. Assessment results of student progress in the BFA – Production/Design program are kept in the chairman's office and reported in the Annual Report to the Dean of Arts and Humanities.
2. Program changes based upon assessment results are reported in the Annual Report to the Dean of Arts and Humanities.