

Theatre and Dance Department
Assessment Program
BA Theatre Program

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 BA Theatre Arts Program

The goal of the BA Theatre Arts program is to offer a broad range of courses and experiences in theatre arts so that the student has the opportunity to explore a wide range of interests and to experience the living theatre without an area of specialization.

C. Goals of the BA Theatre Arts Program

1. Students will develop visual and aural perceptions related to theatre performance, as well as a structured approach to the use of language in playwriting and the resultant script.
2. Students will understand basic production processes such as acting, directing, stage, costume and lighting design, and basic technical operations related to productions.
3. Students will become familiar with the historical and cultural dimensions of theatre, including the works of leading playwrights, actors, directors, and designers both past and present.
4. Students will understand and evaluate contemporary thinking about theatre and related arts.
5. Students will make informed assessments of quality in works of theatre.

D. Assessment Criteria and Procedures

1. Students take THEA 100, Theatre Majors Seminar during the first semester of their matriculation.
2. Students write an essay in THEA 100 indicating the student's personal philosophy of theatre as an art form and what their personal educational goals and objectives are for their anticipated time at Fredonia.
3. Student and advisor discuss educational goals and objectives during fall and spring advising.

4. Each student enrolls in Theatre Practice (THEA 101, 201, etc.) involving production work each semester. The faculty, as a whole, discusses student performance and progress.
5. Students will take BA Theatre Senior Seminar, a capstone course in which students will research and discuss careers in theatre or related fields. Topics include writing résumés, writing cover letters, audition techniques, portfolio building, and non-traditional theatre jobs.
6. Students will be expected to evaluate their four year experience in BA Theatre Senior Seminar in essay form indicating how their personal philosophy of theatre as an art form and how their personal educational goals and objectives have been met during their time at Fredonia.

E. Implementation

1. Students will be enrolled in the classes mentioned above at the beginning and the end of their career at Fredonia to evaluate where they are and how they have developed.
2. Evaluation is ongoing throughout the four years as faculty discusses student progress at the end of each semester.
3. Evaluation of student progress is made during fall and spring advising with faculty.
4. Needed changes to the program will be made as evaluations are made from the capstone course.

F. Results and Reporting

1. Assessment results of student progress in the BA 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.