LSU SCHOOL OF THEATRE

GRADUATE HANDBOOK

Revised, August 2024

lsu.edu/cmda/theatre

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I. WELCOME

Welcome to the LSU School of Theatre. We look forward to facilitating your graduate education and assisting you in your transition to the professional world.

This handbook includes resources, policies, guidelines, deadlines, and helpful hints to assist you in the completion of your graduate degree. Additional important information is available on LSU's **Pinkie Lane Graduate School webpage** and in the **LSU Graduate School Handbook**.

You are responsible for the completion of your degree. Becoming thoroughly familiar with the requirements of your degree program and the policies and procedures of the School of Theatre, Graduate School and LSU will help ensure your success. The Graduate School website includes student resources, required graduate school forms and important information including the graduate school calendar, thesis and dissertation requirements and funding opportunities. It is the student's responsibility for ensuring that they are following all graduate school requirements and meeting the appropriate deadlines. If you have any questions, please contact the Graduate Advisor for your specific program or the CMDA Associate Dean of Graduate Studies.

The University and the School of Theatre reserve the right to change any provision, offering (courses or services) or requirement at any time within the student's period of study at LSU. All classes, policies, procedures, and stipulations are only approved for the year of the handbook regardless of when students enter the program. Students are required to adhere to the policies outlined in the most current School of Theatre Handbook. Each student is personally responsible for becoming informed of any changes in the handbook during the period of their education at LSU as well as completing all requirements established for their degree by the University, college, and department. It is the student's responsibility to learn these requirements.

II. VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS

On August 26, 1998, the Board of Regents of the State of Louisiana approved the creation of the College of Music and Dramatic Arts, an act that merged the LSU School of Music and the Department of Theatre - two highly visible and respected academic units on campus. In 2015 the Board of Regents approved a change in designation from the Department of Theatre to the School of Theatre.

A. LSU STATEMENTS

Vision

As Louisiana's flagship university, LSU will deploy the knowledge generated through the work of our faculty, staff, and students to build a more healthy, prosperous, and secure future for the state.

Mission

Designated as a Land, Sea, and Space Grant institution, LSU secures, elevates, and advances Louisiana and the world through the generation, preservation, dissemination, and application of knowledge and cultivation of the arts and develops students who are prepared, confident, and inspired to achieve lifelong success.

(https://www.lsu.edu/about/mission.php)

Community Commitment

We believe that engagement is essential for creating a vibrant and enriching university experience. We strive to provide equal opportunities for students, faculty, and staff, ensuring that everyone has the chance to thrive and succeed. Our commitment extends to creating a safe and accessible campus, where individuals can feel secure and supported in their pursuit of knowledge and personal growth. Above all, we prioritize excellence in all aspects of our work, aiming to uphold the highest standards of education, research, and service.

(https://lsu.edu/president/messages/2024/2024-01-05-engagement-message.php)

B. SCHOOL OF THEATRE MISSION STATEMENT

The LSU School of Theatre is dedicated to preparing students of all identities for professional and academic careers in arts and cultural industries. Providing an inclusive learning environment as key to a well-rounded humanities education, We offer a variety of degrees and concentrations that encourage students to tailor their training to their creative and scholarly passions and intentions. Graduating students move into careers and further educational institutions as informed and empowered artists, theorists, and technicians; the practical skills learned apply not only to the arts but also to multiple related professions and industries.

Accomplished professional creative practitioners from all over the world, contribute to the School's cultural insight and cutting-edge performance tools. Our programming commits to spotlighting topical issues, celebrating shared social values, and exploring humanity. With diversity, equity, and inclusion among our core values, we work to honor the experience, perspectives, and unique identities of our students, faculty, staff, guest artists, and audience. The School also has a unique and significant place within Louisiana State University and seeks to contribute in a visible way to the quality of life and economic growth of both the state and the region.

(https://lsu.edu/cmda/theatre/about/index.php)

C. SCHOOL OF THEATRE LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

As a land, sea, and space-grant institution, Louisiana State University and A&M College (LSU) has a responsibility to acknowledge, honor, and affirm Indigenous culture, history, and experiences. LSU is a community of higher learning built upon the traditional, ancestral, and contemporary lands of Indigenous peoples. At the heart of LSU's campus are two earthen mounds, architectural remnants created by Native Americans and predating the pyramids in Egypt. These mounds are believed to be the oldest edifices in North America. Built by a people who were egalitarian fisher-hunter-gatherers, the LSU Indian Mounds were built as a place of gathering over the course of 200 years. LSU recognizes the communities native to this region including the Caddo Adai Indians of Louisiana, Biloxi Chitimacha Confederation, Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana, Choctaw Nation, Coushatta Tribe, FourWinds Cherokee Tribe, Muscogee (Creek), Point au Chien Tribe, TunicaBiloxi Tribe, United Houma Nation, and others whose memories may have been erased by violence, displacement, migration, and settlement. As a University, we thank them for their strength and resilience as stewards of this land and are committed to creating and maintaining a living and learning environment that embraces individual difference, including the Indigenous peoples of our region.

III. ACCESS AND ENGAGEMENT

A. ACCESS AND ENGAGEMENT IN THE COLLEGE OF MUSIC AND DRAMATIC ARTS

Access and engagement are core values of the LSU College of Music & Dramatic Arts. We strive to build and sustain a community honoring the experience, perspectives, and unique identities of our students, faculty, staff, guest artists, and audiences. We embrace the collaborative nature of our work and our world, and celebrate the rich perspectives we attain in a community with one another. We are committed to an ongoing evaluation of policies, practices, and curriculum to eliminate access barriers for all of our staff, students, and faculty, and pursue excellence in ways that make all members of our community feel welcomed and engaged.

(https://lsu.edu/cmda/access/index.php)

B. RESPECT

The School of Theatre strives to welcome and celebrate the wholeness of its members. As a member of our community students agree to respect the dignity of every individual.

- We will give each other grace; this is hard work and mistakes will happen
- Be accountable for the impact of your behavior.
- There is no statute of limitations for harm. Harmful behavior may be addressed at any time.
- Language matters
- Names and pronouns will be respected.
- Use inclusive language: avoid biased, discriminatory, sexist, prejudiced, racist, ableist, denigrating terms. For examples, see the **Northwestern Counseling Inclusive Language Guide**
- Avoid gendered language (unless specifically told otherwise): Avoid titles (Ms., Mr., Miss, Mrs.), avoid gendered job titles (“mail carrier” rather than “mailman”),don’t refer to groups by gender (“boys and girls” or “ladies and gentlemen” or “hey, guys”)

IV. CONTACT INFORMATION

A. ADMINISTRATION AND SCHOOL OF THEATRE OFFICE STAFF

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B. SCHOOL OF THEATRE PROGRAM HEADS AND FACULTY AND STAFF

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For a full list of School of Theatre Faculty and Staff visit the **School of Theatre Faculty and Staff page**.

C. MAIN OFFICE

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105 Music and Dramatic Arts Building
Baton Rouge, LA 70803
Telephone • 225-578-4174
Box Office • 225-578-3527
Web sites • **LSU Theatre** • **Swine Palace**

D. STUDENT RESOURCES

The School of Theatres maintains a webpage with quick links to Students Resources and Services. Students can visit the **Theatre Student Resources and Services** webpage for general information as well as information on academic, research, and productions.

V. ACADEMICS

A. ACADEMIC POLICIES

The following are select policies excerpted from the LSU General Catalog. For complete updated information please, refer to the catalog which is the source of all academic policies and procedures.

GRADUATE CREDIT

A student may receive graduate credit only for courses taught by members of the graduate faculty or other persons approved in advance by the Vice Provost & Dean of the Graduate School. LSU Graduate students enrolled in LSU advanced degree programs may not teach other LSU graduate students for graduate credit. Except as noted, a student may receive graduate credit only for work taken while officially enrolled as a graduate student.

At least one half of the credit hours required for a graduate or a post-baccalaureate professional degree must be earned through instructional hours and must be at the 7000 level (thesis hours excepted) at LSU. See also "**Transfer of Credit**", below.

Any student dropped from a graduate program because of unsatisfactory performance will not be permitted to take courses for credit toward a graduate degree beyond the semester in which the student is dropped.

Graduate students may not take credit examinations in graduate-level courses.

Grades

Graduate Grading System

Grades in the Graduate School have the following meanings:

- Marks carrying advanced degree credit are "A," "B," "C" (up to, but no more than six hours); "S" (satisfactory); and "P" (pass).
- Marks carrying no credit for advanced degrees are "D" (poor), "F" (fail), "I" (incomplete), "W" (withdrawn), "U" (unsatisfactory), and "NC" (no credit).
- Cumulative grade point average is the average based only on graded graduate work.
- Semester grade point average is the average based on graded graduate and undergraduate work.
- For purposes of probation, continuation/dismissal, and graduation, the LSU cumulative GPA will be used with a minimum of 3.00.
- For purposes of transfer of credit, a "B-" is permitted so long as the LSU cumulative GPA is above a 3.00.
- For use towards graduation, there is no limit on the number of courses completed with a "B-", though a 3.00 LSU GPA is required for graduation. There is no change to the limit of six hours with a "C (+/-)."

Plus/Minus Grading & Regulations Applicable on a Course-By-Course Basis

All regulations applicable on a course-by-course basis and requiring a specific letter grade are interpreted to mean a specific *letter grade range*. For example, if a student must achieve a C or better in one course as a prerequisite for another course, the student must achieve a final grade in the C range (i.e. C+, C, or C-) or better.

"I" Grade: An "I" grade indicates that course performance was satisfactory, but because of circumstances beyond the student's control, all requirements were not met. Authorization from the Vice Provost & Dean of the Graduate School is not required to assign an "I" grade to a graduate student.

An "I" grade should never be given to enable a student to do additional work to bring up a deficient grade. A task should not be assigned to a class that will take longer than a semester to complete, thus causing everyone in the class to get an "I" grade. An "I" grade may not be given for a course taken in the semester in which the student graduates if that course is listed on the application for degree or if changing the "I" grade to an "F" would result in the student's LSU cumulative average being less than 3.00. An "I" grade should never be assigned for thesis/dissertation research. "S" (satisfactory) and "U" (unsatisfactory) grades are given for thesis (8000) and dissertation (9000) research courses up to and including the semester the student graduates.

An "I" grade is valid only until the final day of classes in the next regular semester (fall or spring), whether or not the student is enrolled. For online degree programs, the "I" grade is valid until the final day of classes within the following online term. For on campus degree programs, "I" grades received in the spring semester or the summer term are valid until the end of classes in the fall semester. "I" grades received in the fall semester are valid until the final day of classes in the spring semester. For online degree programs, an "I" grade received during the First Spring term is valid until the final day of classes in the Second Spring term. There will be no extension of time. The responsibility for changing an "I" grade rests both with the student and the faculty member concerned. If a faculty member does not submit a "Grade Correction Report" to change, the "I" grade by the final day of class for the next regular semester, the "I" grade will become a permanent "F" grade.

Highly unusual circumstances that preclude a student from completion of course requirements may—at the discretion of the Vice Provost & Dean of the Graduate School —permit assignment of a permanent "I" grade. Such unusual circumstances might include, but would not be limited to, withdrawal of the student from the university because of prolonged medical problems, or death or resignation of the faculty member concerned, and the absence of another faculty member to supervise the unfinished work. The student must initiate the petition for a permanent "I" grade. This petition must be accompanied by a letter of justification from the faculty member concerned, if possible. The petition must also be endorsed by the chair of the student's department before it is submitted to the Vice Provost & Dean of the Graduate School.

Unusual circumstances might include, but would not be limited to, withdrawal of the student from the university because of prolonged medical problems, or death or resignation of the faculty member concerned, and the absence of another faculty member to supervise the unfinished work. The student must initiate the petition for a permanent "I" grade. This petition must be accompanied by a letter of justification from the faculty member concerned, if possible. The petition must also be endorsed by the chair of the student's department before it is submitted to the Vice Provost & Dean of the Graduate School.

"W" grade: A "W" grade indicates that a course has been dropped between the dates specified on the **Academic Calendar**. In extraordinary cases, the Vice Provost & Dean of the Graduate School may authorize a resignation and/or course drop after the last date specified.

The policies and procedures of the university governing grade appeals are described in the section concerning university **Academic Regulations**.

Pass-Fail Option

With approval of the student's major professor, department chair, instructor of the course involved, and the Vice Provost & Dean of the Graduate School, a graduate student may register on a pass-fail basis for courses not included in the major or minor requirements. The deadline for changing from pass-fail grading to letter grading, or vice versa, is the last day for adding courses for credit.

If the student's major department agrees, graduate courses passed with a grade of "P" may be offered for degree credit, but the grade will not be considered in computing the grade point average. For graduate-credit courses, a grade of "P" will be assigned only if the work is of at least "B-" quality. A grade of "F" in a pass-fail course will be treated as any other "F." Some departments have designated certain research and seminar courses to be taught on a pass-fail basis. All students enrolled in these courses will be graded in this manner.

Grade Requirements

Good Standing: Graduate students are considered to be in good academic standing, (making satisfactory academic progress), if they maintain a 3.00 LSU cumulative grade point average on all graduate coursework taken within the university (all LSU campuses) and a 3.00 semester average on all coursework (undergraduate and graduate), and earn a grade of "S" in research.

Students who are not in good academic standing may not take any graduate milestone exams. Milestone exams are defined by the Graduate School as the General Defense, Final Doctoral Defense, Master's Thesis Defense, and the Master's Non-Thesis Defense. This rule does not apply to departmental exams unless stipulated by the department.

Probation and Dismissal: A student whose semester and/or cumulative LSU average is below 3.00 will be placed on probation, except that a student whose cumulative average is as low as 2.75 may be dropped from the Graduate School without having a probationary period. For these purposes, a summer term is counted the same as a regular semester. A student already on probation whose LSU cumulative average is below 3.00 will be dropped from the Graduate School. A student receiving a "U" grade in research will be placed on probation. A student receiving a second "U" in research is normally dropped from the Graduate School. Rules governing students admitted on probation are provided in "**Admission to Graduate Study**" in this chapter. The grades recorded determine the student's academic status, even if the student changes to a different graduate degree program.

Students who have been dropped from a graduate degree program and are ineligible to continue in the Graduate School may not reapply as non-degree students.

Applicants admitted on probation and students placed on probation may not be appointed to a graduate assistantship. Refer to **PS-21** for further details concerning assistantships and students on probation.

Academic Dishonesty: Academic integrity and honesty must be fundamental qualities of any graduate student's program, and a graduate student's conduct must be above reproach. Academic dishonesty undermines the entire academic enterprise. As a result, it cannot and will not be tolerated. It is the responsibility of all students to familiarize themselves with the Code of Student Conduct and other university rules and regulations governing student conduct and activities.

The Office of the Vice President for Student Life has administrative responsibility for coordinating all university disciplinary procedures and practices.

Graduation: To receive a graduate degree, students must be enrolled for the semester and have at least a 3.00 LSU cumulative average on all graduate coursework taken that is applicable to the degree program and on all graduate coursework taken while registered in the Graduate School. "S" and "P" grades are not considered in determining whether this minimum level of performance has been achieved. A maximum of six credit hours of coursework with a grade in the "C" range (C+ to C-) may be counted toward degree requirements.

GRADUATE REGISTRATION

Specific registration dates for each semester or summer term are listed on the **Academic Calendar**. Registration procedures are published in the semester **Schedule Booklet** on the website of the University Registrar.

"Degree Only" Registration

"Degree Only" registration is only allowed for students who have met all degree requirements in the previous semester: Final Defense reports have been received by the Graduate School and approval of all format corrections requested by the thesis/dissertation editor by close of business on the last date to add classes for the semester. Non-thesis students may also register "Degree Only," provided all degree requirements are met in a previous semester and Final Defense reports have been received by the Graduate School. Degree Only registration is reserved for Master's and Doctoral students and cannot be used by students seeking a Certificate only. Students in LSU Online degree programs may not register for Degree Only. All fees for Degree Only registration must be completed by close of business on the last date to add classes for the semester of graduation.

Registration of Candidates for Degrees

Students expecting to receive their degrees in the current semester must be registered for coursework, at least one hour, if in a non-thesis degree program or one hour of thesis research, if writing a thesis and three hours of dissertation research hours, if writing a dissertation unless they qualify to be registered "Degree Only" (see "**Degree Only" Registration**"). Eligible students must submit an "Application for Degree" by the published semester deadline.

COURSE LOADS

Any graduate student who is utilizing university facilities and/or faculty time must register for an appropriate course load. Graduate students engaged in writing or defending theses or dissertations are expected to register for research hours commensurate with the amount of university resources (faculty time, equipment, library facilities, and/or office space) to be utilized that semester. There is a continuous registration requirement for doctoral students who have passed the General Defense (see section on Continuous Registration Requirement).

Full-Time Study in Graduate School

In order to be classified as a graduate student and to be considered full-time, students must maintain registration in a minimum of 9 semester hours in the fall or spring semester (with a minimum of six hours for graduate credit coursework), or a minimum of 6 semester hours in a summer term or online module (a minimum of 3 hours for graduate credit coursework). At least one half of the registered credit for part-time graduate students must be in graduate credit coursework.

Graduate students may, with prior written approval of the Vice Provost & Dean of the Graduate School, receive credit for work taken concurrently at another university. For example, LSU has a cooperative registration program with Southern University and some cooperative graduate programs with other universities in Louisiana.

Course Loads of Graduate Assistants

Graduate students holding graduate assistantship appointments must meet certain minimum registration requirements. Such students are expected to register for a full load—nine hours in the spring and fall, at least six of which must be at the graduate level, and six hours in the summer, at least three of which must be at the graduate level—each semester until all degree requirements are completed.

Course Loads of Graduate Students taking Examinations or doing a Defense

Students must be registered for a minimum of one to three semester hours of credit during any semester in which they are taking the master's Final Defense or Doctoral General Defense, or Final Doctoral Defense, including the qualifying examinations required by some departments. Masters students who are taking their Master's Thesis Defense must register for one or more thesis credit hours. Students who are non-thesis and taking a Final Defense must be enrolled in at least one credit hour. Doctoral students who have completed the General Defense should see "**Continuous Registration Requirement**" under "**Requirements for Advanced Degrees**" in this chapter.

ADDING OR DROPPING COURSES

A course may be added or dropped only in accordance with the dates indicated on the **Academic Calendar**. During the drop/add period, the student will initiate the action using the myLSU online registration system. A change from credit to audit is treated as a drop and add action, but it must be approved by the Graduate School by the published deadline. See "Auditing Courses" below for additional information about auditing courses.

AUDITING COURSES

Regularly enrolled graduate students may audit courses with the consent of individual instructors. Auditors will not receive degree credit for courses audited, nor will they later be permitted to take a credit examination on work audited. However, courses previously audited may be taken for credit later. Audited courses do not count in total course loads and are not recorded on official transcripts. Request to audit courses must be submitted on or before the last day to add courses for credit.

CHANGING DEGREE PROGRAMS

A student in one degree program who wishes to change to another degree program, or a student who completes one degree and wishes to pursue another degree, must obtain approval of the current department, new department, and the Graduate School. A "Request for Change of Department" form may be obtained from the **Graduate School website**.

Students wishing to pursue a different degree in the same department must obtain approval from the department. The department must notify the Graduate School in writing of such a change.

Requests must be submitted during a regular semester or summer term (not between semesters) in order to be effective for the next semester of enrollment. Only one request for Change of Degree Program will be processed per semester.

RESIGNATION FROM THE UNIVERSITY

Dropping an entire course load constitutes resignation from the university for that semester. A graduate student who wishes to resign must first secure approval of the Vice Provost & Dean of the Graduate School. A resignation form must be completed within 10 days of the date approved by the dean, and in no case later than the date shown on the **Academic Calendar** as the final date for resigning from the university. Completion of resignation involves clearance through certain administrative divisions of the university, as shown on the resignation form provided by the Graduate School. A student who abandons courses without resigning will receive a grade of "F" in each course.

ACADEMIC RENEWAL

Students who have been dropped from LSU because of a graduate-level GPA of less than 3.0, and who have then not attended LSU for a period of at least two consecutive calendar years may declare academic renewal and apply for re-admission to the university. Under this policy, all graduate-level work taken at an earlier date is eliminated from computation of the grade point average and cannot be applied toward a degree at LSU. Such work will remain on the student's scholastic records and transcripts, and can be considered by the department in the re-admission process, but will not be used in the computation of the graduate grade point average.

Students qualifying for academic renewal who are recommended for admission by their academic department will be admitted on academic probation.

APPEALS

Information on grade and other appeals may be found in the **LSU General Catalog**.

Students must meet all degree requirements as stated in the **LSU General Catalog**.

Disability Services: **LSU Office of Disability Services** provides appropriate auxiliary aids and services to students with disabilities to ensure they receive full participation in all activities, programs and services at the university. Any student with a documented learning, physical, psychological, or other disability that significantly impacts academic pursuits is potentially eligible to receive accommodations. Incoming students should register with LSU Disability Services at Spring Invitational, Freshman and Transfer Orientation. Continuing students should register at the beginning of their enrollment at LSU or as soon as they are able to post-diagnosis. Accommodations are determined by **LSU Office of Disability Services** and it is the responsibility of the student to provide accommodation information to professors. The guide for accommodations can be found at the **LSU Office of Disability Services** webpage.

Important Academic Dates

Students are advised to check the **Academic Calendar** each semester for current information on the following important academic dates:

- First day of Classes
- Last day for dropping classes without receiving a "W"
- Last day to add courses or make a section change
- Last day to invoke the Grade Exclusion Policy
- Course scheduling for the following semester
- Last day to drop classes or resign from the University
- Final date to request rescheduling a final exam when three exams are scheduled in 24 hours
- Last day of classes
- University Holidays

The **Final Exam Schedule** if available on the **Office of the Registrar** website.

B. DEGREE PROGRAMS

The School of Theatre offers the following graduate degree program:

Ph.D. in Theatre degree with a concentration in Theatre History, Dramatic Literature, Theory and Criticism.

Master of Fine Arts degree with the following specializations:

- **Acting**
- **Scenic Technology and Design**
- **Costume Technology and Design**
- **Properties Design and Technology**

For additional information on graduate study at LSU, please visit the **LSU Graduate School** website.

C. PH.D. IN THEATRE

The **Ph.D. in Theatre** curriculum provides students with a broad knowledge of theatre historiography, theory, literature, and criticism. In addition, students pursue a minor area of study in a field outside theatre, such as Women's and Gender Studies, Performance Studies, History, Anthropology, and English.

The PhD faculty in Theatre at LSU are committed to providing students with the necessary tools to compete in a rapidly diversifying job market. We focus on honing students' skills in writing rigorous scholarship, teaching a broad range of theatre classes, and enhancing production experience, especially in the areas of dramaturgy and directing. Our students become nimble and adaptive teachers and scholars, able to occupy positions in professional and/or academic theatre.

Our faculty balances our program's generalist foundation with particular expertise in gender and queer studies, critical race theory, African and African diasporic studies, political and social change performance, and sports history. We mentor students as teaching assistants and instructors for classes from Introduction to Theatre, Theatre History, Acting, Directing, and the option to teach Special Topics courses of the student's choosing in their third or fourth year. We encourage PhD students to participate in productions as actors, directors, playwrights, designers, and/or dramaturgs.

Our program is tailored to suit the needs and goals of each student. Once students choose a major advisor at the end of coursework, they work with that faculty member to ensure they spend the remainder of their time acquiring the necessary experience to prepare them for the position they seek whether inside or outside academia. Our students' dissertations are similarly crafted towards the audience that student hopes to go on to work with whether academic or professional, or both. Our students go on to become professors at research one and liberal arts institutions, professors at community colleges, teachers in public and private high schools, and dramaturgs and literary managers at professional theatres.

Application Process

Admission Requirements (see Graduate School Catalog for full details)

- A bachelor's degree from an accredited U.S. Institution or the equivalent from a foreign institution. A master's degree is strongly encouraged, but on occasion the School will accept exceptional students with only a bachelor's degree. (Note that students entering without master's degrees must take 30 additional graduate credit hours before advancing to general exams and dissertation writing.)
- A GPA of at least 3.00 (A=4.00) on all undergraduate work (or at least half-degree requirement) and a 3.00 GPA or better on any graduate work already completed; international applicants must have at least a 3.00 GPA, or equivalent, on all college-level work previously attempted

Application Deadline

- Deadline for Application Materials is January 15
- Apply Online at the **LSU Office of Graduate Admissions**

What's Needed To Apply

- Online application and $50 application fee
- Official transcripts from all undergraduate and graduate (if attended) institutions attended
- Statement of research interests (1 page)
- CV or Resume
- One sample of scholarly writing (e.g., a thesis chapter, a research paper, an article)
- Three letters of recommendation

We strive to offer admitted students a teaching assistantship, which includes a competitive stipend, tuition waiver, health benefits and a 20 hour a week work assignment. We offer TAships for five years of study. The School of Theatre does not offer fellowships.

Program of Study

The PhD in Theatre at LSU is designed as a four-year program. Reading knowledge in a foreign language is required. Students achieve candidacy upon completion of general exams and prospectus, usually in the spring of their third year.

- Minimum of 81 credit hours past the B.A. (excluding a minimum of 9 dissertation hours); an M.A. or M.F.A. can count for up to 30 hours
- 9-12 credit hours in minor
- 3 credit hours outside of major and minor (7000) level
- 3 credit hours in THTR 7926 or other non-Western theatre, art or culture
- 3 credit hours in THTR 7900, Introduction to Graduate Studies
- 6 credit hours in theory sequence (THTR 7924 and THTR 7925)
- 15 hours in literature and history (THTR 7901, THTR 7902, THTR 7903, THTR 7904, THTR 7912, THTR 7913, THTR 7914)
- 3 credit hours in THTR 7920, Black Drama of the Diaspora
- 3 credit hours in THTR 7923 or other Women's and Gender Studies course
- 3 credit hours of Electives
- 3 credit hours in a pedagogy-focused course
- 9 credit hours for dissertation (THTR 9000)

All courses should be taken on the 7000 level. On occasion, exceptions can be made by graduate advisor. Should you take a 4000-level course, the instructor must have graduate faculty status.

Progression Toward Degree

Annual Reviews

During orientation week every fall, all in-residence PhD students are required to meet with the PhD faculty to review the milestones from the previous academic year, and set goals for the upcoming academic year in order to ensure timely progression of all students toward their degree.

Committee Selection

By the conclusion of the student's required coursework, students should select a major advisor and minor professor in order to begin preparing for the general exam process.

General Exams
General exams should be taken in the spring semester of the third year.

- Sit-down exams given in 2nd week of classes, followed by oral defense of answers with Ph.D. faculty. Note: failure requires retaking the exams after a 4-week break
- The portfolio should be completed by 6th week of classes and submitted to the Ph.D. faculty via email.
- The take-home essay should be completed by 8th week. Normally, this is a research question arranged by the student's major advisor by the 6th week and answered by the student in the form of a 15-page response, complete with bibliography. Ideally, the essay assists the student in constructing a dissertation prospectus. The major advisor approves this essay.
- The prospectus defense with the student's dissertation committee (i.e., major professor, minor professor, at least one other Theatre professor, and the dean's representative) should occur by the 14th week. A General Exam Defense form must be filed with the Graduate School at least three weeks prior to the defense date. The prospectus itself must be circulated to the committee at least two weeks prior to the defense.

- All degree requirements, save for defending the dissertation, need to be satisfied before the start of the 4th year in order to receive 4th year of funding (or 5th year for MA/PhDs).

For Graduate School requirements related to the Ph.D., please visit the **Requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy Degree** section of the **Graduate School Catalog**.

For more information on the Ph.D. Program contact Head of the Ph.D. program, **Dr. John Fletcher**.

D. MFA IN THEATRE, ACTING

The LSU **MFA in Acting** Program provides rigorous physical, vocal, emotional, and critical actor training approaches. The M.F.A. acting students are the primary acting pool for the LSU Equity resident theatre company, Swine Palace. To promote holistic actors, candidates create and perform a 20-minute solo work of theatre as their thesis, concluding with an oral presentation on the creative process. A traditional written thesis option is also available.

The program comprises six consecutive semesters of training for the professional actor. The program recruits a new cohort every two years.

The training offers daily practice and seeks to develop the actor's body, voice, imagination, and critical thinking, all of which enables actors to live truthfully and playfully within given circumstances. Actors are encouraged to free themselves from unnecessary tensions and to be responsive to the full range of internal and external impulses for action with boldness and courage.

The program provides in-depth actor training in contemporary and classic texts with a focus in both theatre and film. The LSU School of Theatre is the central home of Seven Pillars Acting, a modern and comprehensive acting technique based in Meisner and Stanislavski teachings. M.F.A. acting students study Seven Pillars Acting in their first year and progress in their second year to focus on application

skills, style, and heightened text. Graduate students may have the opportunity to earn a Seven Pillars Acting Teaching Certification.

Movement instruction is informed by techniques such as T'ai Chi, Alexander Technique, Laban, neutral mask work, stage combat, fitness training, contact improv, Viewpoints, and dance. For those interested in a unique physical specialization, the program offers aerial silk courses and workshops. Voice instruction is informed by techniques such as Knight-Thompson Speechwork, Fitzmaurice Voicework, Estill Voice Training, and classical rhetoric. Students who have an interest in voice and accent coaching often have the opportunity to serve in productions as a vocal coach or as an assistant.

Acceptance into the MFA Acting Program is strongly encouraged before any formal application to the LSU Graduate School.

This program distinguishes itself with several features:

- **Accelerated Program Geared Toward Professional Actors:** The LSU MFA Acting Program provides an accelerated, two-year training program designed for professional actors who generally have two to four years of professional experience after earning their undergraduate degree.
- **Assistantships and Tuition Waiver**: The program offers assistantships of $30,667 annually, along with a tuition waiver. Required fees and medical insurance still apply. Graduate students on assistantship become half-time employees of the university, working 20 hours per week, often in a combination of teaching, production, and administrative duties. At specific points in the term, graduate students may be required to accomplish their assistantship hours in addition to rehearsing and performing in productions and completing their academic coursework. Candidates become eligible to teach an undergraduate course after they have earned 18 hours of graduate credits.
- **Professional Equity Resident Theatre, the Swine Palace**: The M.F.A. cohort is eligible for competitive casting in all Swine Palace productions. There is no guaranteed casting. All roles are earned. All roles are earned through a professional audition and callback process.
- **International Diversity**: The acting program is committed to recruiting students locally, nationally, and internationally to promote global citizenship and diversity in casting. Graduates include students from Taiwan, India, Uganda, Kazakhstan, Brazil and others.
- **Louisiana Film Industry:** Louisiana is one of the top states for film production in the nation. Professionals who are active in the Louisiana film industry often teach on-camera acting courses. Louisiana is a "right-to-work" state, so actors may work in professional film and television without joining the Screen Actors Guild (SAG). Alumni of our program who have taken advantage of the local industry are Joe Chrest, Donald Watkins, Yohance Miles, Jenny Ballard, Jason Bayle, among many others.
- **Influential Guest Artists:** Students are provided with multiple opportunities to work alongside professional theatre artists and scholars with international reputations of excellence. In the last decade, guest artists have included Tectonic Theatre, Robert Wilson, Anne Bogart, Ping Chong, and Adam Rapp.
- **Professional Reentry Focus:** In the last semester, the emphasis is on retooling photo/resumes, an actor's reel, auditioning, and other strategies for entering a new market upon graduation. Historically, alumni widely relocate to Atlanta, Chicago, New York, Seattle, Minneapolis, Los Angeles, New Orleans, and others.

Program Guiding Principles

The following are the guiding principles for the LSU MFA Acting Program:

- **Simplicity**: Strive to do one thing at a time. Be direct and concise in communication. Search for a single path within complex options, for every moment of work and life.
- **Authenticity**: Strive to be genuine. Find comfort and confidence in being true to yourself. Present yourself openly and truthfully to others. Actively revise and define the values which best reflect your identity and beliefs.
- **Humanity**: Strive to be kind, gracious, and accommodating. Be slow to judge and quick to forgive. Strive to find perspective and humor. Strive to take your work seriously, but do not take yourself too seriously.
- **Autonomy**: Strive to be independent. Solve problems on your own before seeking help. Cultivate self-discipline to set and meet personal goals.
- **Mastery**: Strive for a command of acting technique and its foundational knowledge. Regularly work on self-improvement with focus and enthusiasm. Know that risk-taking and failure make you stronger. Building on your weaknesses yields more significant benefits than repeating our strengths.
- **Purpose**: Strive for an exact reason for your work—a determination, a resoluteness to define the subject at hand, the point at issue. As an artist, what is your goal: personal, social, political, philosophical, etc.?
- **Courage**: Strive to stay strong, resolute, and determined in the face of fear and the unknown. Dive deep into your heart and imagination. Speak up and claim your rights. Know that the cost of personal freedom is sometimes a respectful confrontation. Stand up for what you believe.

Casting

The LSU School of Theatre endeavors to provide all students, both graduate and undergraduate, with multiple potential casting opportunities in both theatre and film throughout each school year. Graduate students are a primary source of casting for our professional theatre, Swine Palace, and the School of Theatre attempts to secure at least one theatrical or film casting opportunity for every graduate student each academic year. Nevertheless, all casting is competitive; it is conducted on a show-by-show basis without guarantees. All graduate students are required to audition for each Swine Palace production, but graduate students should see School of Theatre casting as a potential opportunity, not an expectation.

Application Process

Applicants are admitted into the program only through an audition and interview with the program heads. One can audition and interview through the University/Resident Theatre Association (URTA) auditions in or by direct submission. Offers to selected applicants will begin February or earlier if a non-URTA applicant.

If you wish to apply directly to the MFA program rather than attend URTA, please contact Nick Erickson, the program head, and send the following:

- professional actor headshot
- acting resumé

- statement of purpose detailing why you are pursuing graduate training at LSU
- three letters of recommendation
- A link to a YouTube audition video no longer than 3 minutes. Please perform a minimum of two contrasting monologues of one minute each. After your pieces, take some time to speak about your career goals and how LSU is key to your plans.

Please submit all of the materials listed above as a single digital file, PDF, or printed materials via regular mail. If you are a non-URTA applicant, please submit by January 1st, to be considered for the next cohort. Once we receive all applications, we will invite select applicants to an initial interview/audition online. We will conduct a final callback online for all shortlisted applicants in February. Offers soon to follow.

Once accepted into the LSU MFA Acting Program through the audition/interview process, students must then apply to the LSU Graduate School. The GRE is not required. Official transcripts verifying an accredited undergraduate degree will be required before formal acceptance.

Any further inquiries about the program can be sent to:

Nick Erickson
Head, MFA Acting Program
School of Theatre
Louisiana State University
105 Music and Dramatic Arts Building
Baton Rouge, LA 70803

Program of Study Requirements
Two consecutive years of residency , summers included
Total credit hours 77
71 graduate credit hours
Six credit hours in THTR 8000 (thesis research)
Solo work and oral defense, written thesis option

Sample Curriculum: **Year 1**

Fall
THTR 7000 Daily Practice 1
THTR 7002 Dance for Actors 1
THTR 7001 Pedagogy 1
THTR 7220 MFA Acting Studio I 3
THTR 7227 MFA Voice Studio I 3
THTR 7233 MFA Movement Studio I 3
THTR 7130 Script Analysis and Dramaturgy 3
THTR 7930 Theatre Production (Performance) 3

Spring
THTR 7000 Daily Practice 1
THTR 7002 Dance for Actors 1
THTR 7221 MFA Acting Studio II 3

THTR 7228 MFA Voice Studio II 3
THTR 7234 MFA Movement Studio II 3
THTR 7922 Seminar: Performance Theories and Criticism 3
THTR 7930 Theatre Production (Performance) 1
THTR 8000 Thesis Research 1

Summer
THTR 7001 Independent Projects in Perf Training (Alexander Technique) 1
THTR 7222 Acting Studio III 3
THTR 7229 Voice Studio III 3
THTR 7930 Theatre Production (Performance & Workshops) 2
THTR 8000 Thesis Research 1

***Sample Curriculum:* Year 2**

Fall
THTR 7000 Daily Practice 1
THTR 7002 Dance for Actors 1
THTR 7008 Drama Writing (optional) 3
THTR 7223 MFA Acting Studio IV 3
THTR 7230 MFA Voice Studio IV 3
THTR 7235 MFA Movement Studio III 3
THTR 7930 Theatre Production (Performance) 1
THTR 8000 Thesis Research 1

Spring
THTR 7002 Dance for Actors 1
THTR 7226 Camera Studio I 3
THTR 7230 MFA Voice Studio IV 3
THTR 7236 MFA Movement Studio IV 3
THTR 7930 Theatre Production (Performance) 1
THTR 8000 Thesis Research (Self-created Solo Performances) 2

Summer
THTR 7224 Acting Studio V (Preparing for the Profession) 3
THTR 7237 Movement Studio V (Stage Combat) 3
THTR 8000 Thesis Research 1

Final Project

To promote holistic actors, candidates create and perform a 20-minute solo work of theatre as their thesis, concluding with an oral presentation on the creative process. A traditional written thesis option is also available.

E. MFA IN THEATRE, COSTUME TECHNOLOGY AND DESIGN

LSU's **MFA in Theatre: Specialization in Costume Technology and Design** provides a solid foundation of costume construction techniques, design, rendering, and management skills. Classroom instruction is complimented by hands-on experience in a variety of areas including draping, flat patterning, millinery, crafts, tailoring, etc. All students will undertake production positions on LSU Mainstage and Swine Palace productions. Teaching, Design and Shop Manager opportunities are available to the qualified student.

Application Process

Potential applicants should express interest by contacting the program Head prior to completing the Graduate School's online application. Applicants must meet the requirements for admission to the Graduate School at LSU. In addition to the Graduate School's on-line application, all applicants must submit a letter of intent, resume, three letters of recommendation, and representative portfolio on CD or online website. An on-site interview is required of all applicants.

All applicants will be evaluated based on evidence of academic and practical achievement as well as artistic promise, as indicated by grade point average, portfolio review, letters of recommendation, and, where applicable, TOEFL scores. For more information, please visit **LSU's Pinkie Gordon Lane Graduate School.**

Any further inquiries about the program can be sent to:

James L. Murphy
Head, MFA Technology/Design Program
School of Theatre
Louisiana State University
105 Music and Dramatic Arts Building
Baton Rouge, LA 70803
225-578-3543

Program of Study Requirements

Three consecutive years of residency
Total credit hours 72
66 graduate credit hours
Six credit hours in THTR 8000 (thesis research)
Written thesis including oral defense of work

Sample Curriculum: Year 1

Fall
THTR 7130 Script Analysis & Dramaturgy 3
THTR 7521 Costume Design I 4
THTR 7524 Advanced Costume Tech. I: Draping/Patterning 3
THTR 7930 Theatre Production 2

Spring
THTR 7615 Production Planning 3
THTR 7431 Rendering for the Theatre 3
THTR 7441 Computer Techniques in Theatre 3
THTR 7525 Advanced Costume Tech. II: Tailoring 3
THTR 7930 Theatre Production 2
Jury/Portfolio Review

***Sample Curriculum:* Year 2**

Fall
THTR 7522 Costume Design II 4
THTR 7526 Advanced Costume Tech. III: Painting and Dyeing 3
THTR 4132 Advanced Stage Makeup 3
THTR 7930 Theatre Production 2

Spring
THTR 7523 Costume Design III 4
THTR 7527 Advanced Costume Technology IV: Millinery 3
THTR 7436 Period Styles and Costumes 3
THTR 7930 Theatre Production 2
Jury/Portfolio Review

***Sample Curriculum:* Year 3**

Fall
THTR 4124 Scene Design 3
THTR 7929 Independent Research 3
THTR 7930 Theatre Production 2
THTR 8000 Thesis Research 3
Portfolio Review

Spring
THTR 4435 Advanced Scene Painting 3
THTR 7929 Independent Research 3
THTR 7930 Theatre Production 2
THTR 8000 Thesis Research 3

Final Project
Each student in the M.F.A. Costume Technology and Design program is required to submit a formal thesis based on research of a topic relating to the area or the completion of a major position on a Swine Palace or LSU Theatre Mainstage production. While working on the thesis, the student will be supervised by a faculty advisor. At least six hours of thesis credit are required. Final acceptance of the Master's Thesis rests with a committee of three or more members of the graduate faculty nominated by the Department Chair and appointed by the Dean of the Graduate School. Additional information on the graduate thesis is available in the **Graduate School Catalog**.

F. MFA IN THEATRE PROPERTIES TECHNOLOGY AND DESIGN

The LSU School of Theatre is proud to be one of the few departments in the country to offer the MFA in **Properties Design and Technology**.

The course of study includes a detailed examination of the many and varied items considered properties, and different techniques and materials that can be used to create them. The intention of this course of study is to develop advanced skills in woodworking, metalworking, paper-mâché, mold making & casting, foam carving, upholstery, sewing, and management. The curriculum is augmented with classes in scenic and costume design, painting for the theatre, CAD, and dramaturgy. All students will undertake production positions on LSU Mainstage and Swine Palace productions. Teaching, Design and management opportunities exist for the qualified student.

Application Process

Potential applicants should express interest by contacting the program Head prior to completing the Graduate School's online application. Applicants must meet the requirements for admission to the Graduate School at LSU. In addition to the Graduate School's on-line application, all applicants must submit a letter of intent, resume, three letters of recommendation, and representative portfolio on CD or online website. An on-site interview is required of all applicants.

All applicants will be evaluated based on evidence of academic and practical achievement as well as artistic promise, as indicated by grade point average, portfolio review, letters of recommendation, and, where applicable, TOEFL scores. For more information, please visit **LSU's Pinkie Gordon Lane Graduate School.**

Any further inquiries about the program can be sent to:

James L. Murphy
Head, MFA Technology/Design Program
School of Theatre
Louisiana State University
105 Music and Dramatic Arts Building
Baton Rouge, LA 70803
225-578-3543

Program of Study Requirements

Three consecutive years of residency
Total credit hours 72
66 graduate credit hours
Six credit hours in THTR 8000 (thesis research)
Written thesis including oral defense of work

Sample Curriculum: **Year 1**

Fall
THTR 7130 Script Analysis & Dramaturgy 3
THTR 7801 Properties I 3
THTR 7421 Advanced Scene Design I 3
THTR 7601 Scene Shop Technologies and Theatre Safety I: Woodworking 3
THTR 7930 Theatre Production 1

Spring
THTR 7821 Furniture and Woodworking I 3
THTR 7602 Scene Shop Technologies and Theatre Safety II: Metalworking 3
THTR 4831 CAD Drafting for the Theatre 3
THTR 4435 Advanced Scene Painting 3
THTR 7930 Theatre Production 2
Jury/Portfolio Review

***Sample Curriculum:* Year 2**

Fall
THTR 7802 Properties II 3
THTR 7422 Advanced Scene Design II 4
THTR 7441 Computer Techniques in Theatre 3
THTR 7930 Theatre Production 2

Spring
THTR 7822 Furniture and Woodworking II 3
THTR 7436 Period Styles and Costumes 3
THTR 7615 Production Planning 3
THTR 7930 Theatre Production 2
Jury/Portfolio Review

***Sample Curriculum:* Year 3**

Fall
THTR 7831 Advanced Properties I 3
THTR 7423 Advanced Scene Design III 4
THTR 7930 Theatre Production 2
THTR 8000 Thesis Research 3
Portfolio Review

Spring
THTR 7623 Theatre Technology Seminar I 3
Technology or Design Elective 3-4
THTR 7930 Theatre Production 1
THTR 8000 Thesis Research 3

Final Project

Each student in the M.F.A. Properties Technology and Design program is required to submit a formal thesis based on research of a topic relating to the area or the completion of a major position on a Swine Palace or LSU Theatre Mainstage production. While working on the thesis, the student will be supervised by a faculty advisor. At least six hours of thesis credit are required. Final acceptance of the Master's Thesis rests with a committee of three or more members of the graduate faculty nominated by the Department Chair and appointed by the Dean of the Graduate School. Additional information on the graduate thesis is available in the **Graduate School Catalog**.

G. MFA IN THEATRE, SCENIC TECHNOLOGY AND DESIGN

The **MFA in Theatre: Specialization in Scenic Technology and Design** prepares the theatre artisan/manager to undertake positions with a wide scope of responsibility. The intention of the course of study is to develop skills in scenic technology and design especially in the areas of structural analysis and design, entertainment rigging, theatre machinery and automation, production management, set and lighting design, and theatre safety. There is some flexibility in the program to better serve the student's academic needs. All students will undertake production positions on LSU Mainstage and Swine Palace productions. Teaching, design and management opportunities exist for the qualified student.

Application Process

Potential applicants should express interest by contacting the program Head prior to completing the Graduate School's online application. Applicants must meet the requirements for admission to the Graduate School at LSU. In addition to the Graduate School's on-line application, all applicants must submit a letter of intent, resume, three letters of recommendation, and representative portfolio on CD or online website. An on-site interview is required of all applicants.

All applicants will be evaluated based on evidence of academic and practical achievement as well as artistic promise, as indicated by grade point average, portfolio review, letters of recommendation, and, where applicable, TOEFL scores. For more information, please visit **LSU's Pinkie Gordon Lane Graduate School.**

Any further inquiries about the program can be sent to:

James L. Murphy
Head, MFA Technology/Design Program
School of Theatre
Louisiana State University
105 Music and Dramatic Arts Building
Baton Rouge, LA 70803
225-578-3543

Program of Study Requirements

Three consecutive years of residency
Total credit hours 72

66 graduate credit hours
Six credit hours in THTR 8000 (thesis research)
Written thesis including oral defense of work

***Sample Curriculum:* Year 1**

Fall
THTR 7130 Script Analysis & Dramaturgy 3
THTR 7601 Scene Shop Technologies and Theatre Safety I: Woodworking 3
THTR 7610 Structural Design for the Stage I 3
THTR 7421 Advanced Scene Design I 3
THTR 7930 Theatre Production 1

Spring
THTR 4435 Advanced Scene Painting 3
THTR 4831 CAD Drafting for the Theatre 3
THTR 7602 Scene Shop Technologies and Theatre Safety II: Metalworking 3
THTR 7611 Structural Design for the Stage II 3
THTR 7930 Theatre Production 2
Jury/Portfolio Review

***Sample Curriculum:* Year 2**

Fall
THTR 7422 Advanced Scene Design IIA 4
THTR 7441 Computer Techniques in Theatre 3
THTR 7618 Entertainment Rigging 3
THTR 7930 Theatre Production 2

Spring
THTR 7436 Period Styles and Costumes 3
THTR 7615 Production Planning 3
THTR 7620 Stage Machinery Physics 3
THTR 7930 Theatre Production 2
Jury/Portfolio Review

***Sample Curriculum:* Year 3**

Fall
THTR 7423 Advanced Scene Design III 4
THTR 7623 Theatre Technology Seminar I 3
THTR 7930 Theatre Production 2
THTR 8000 Thesis Research 3
Portfolio Review

Spring
Elective Costume, Lighting, Projection, or Sound Design or Technology 3

THTR 7626 Theatre Technology Seminar II 3
THTR 7930 Theatre Production 1
THTR 8000 Thesis Research 3

Final Project
Each student in the M.F.A. Scenic Technology and Design program is required to submit a formal thesis based on research of a topic relating to the area or the completion of a major position on a Swine Palace or LSU Theatre Mainstage production. While working on the thesis, the student will be supervised by a faculty advisor. At least six hours of thesis credit are required. Final acceptance of the Master's Thesis rests with a committee of three or more members of the graduate faculty nominated by the Department Chair and appointed by the Dean of the Graduate School. Additional information on the graduate thesis is available in the **Graduate School Catalog**.

H. CAREER PREPARATION

The CMDA in collaboration with **LSU Olinde Career Center** has a dedicated Career Coach. The CMDA Career Coach provides the following services for undergraduate and graduate students.

- **Connect with CMDA Career Coach:**
  - Schedule a 1:1 appointment through your **Handshake** account under the Career Center tab
  - CMDA Career office: 120 MDA
  - Drop-in and career-topic group workshop times available regularly
  - For more information: **LSU Olinde Career Center**

- **Major and Career Exploration**
  - Individual exploration appointments and group workshops
  - Online career assessments, with options to review your results in-depth with a career coach
  - Graduate school decision-making support
  - Online and print resources for exploring majors and occupations
  - Career coach can help you determine what experiences (internships, informational interviews, leadership roles, volunteering, summer stock, camps/festivals, etc.) will help you be successful in your chosen field

- **Communicating Your Experience and Skills to Employers or Graduate Schools**
  - **Ready to Roar**: Guide you in identifying and communicating your unique career proficiencies
  - Personalized reviews of resumes, cover letters, personal statements, and other application/audition materials
  - Mock interviews for practicing how to best communicate your skills and experiences to employers and graduate programs
  - Handshake: your free, online career management system for browsing thousands of jobs & career resources
  - Help shape your online materials, including for Handshake & LinkedIn profiles, digital portfolios/websites, etc.

- **Connecting with Employment Opportunities or Graduate Programs**
    - Over 15 on-campus recruiting events connect you with a wide variety of employers and graduate programs—all are open to any major
    - Job search and opportunities resources, both on-campus and off-campus

Rachel Aker, Ph.D. (she/her)
Career Coach for the College of Music & Dramatic Arts
LSU Olinde Career Center
158 Student Union & 120 MDA
Office Phone: 225-578-2894
Email: **raker1@lsu.edu**

VI. THEATRE PRODUCTION PROGRAM

A. SWINE PALACE

Swine Palace serves as the professional arm of the School. Swine Palace is a major performance outlet for M.F.A. students allowing them to perform alongside professional actors. M.F.A. Technology/Design students also receive major assignments for Swine Palace productions which include serving as a Set or Costume Designer or Props Master. A limited number of undergraduate students are also cast in Swine Palace productions and all undergraduate students work in support roles such as run crew, costume crew, electricians or Assistant House Managers.

Proposals for LSU Theatre and Swine Palace productions are solicited during the fall semester through an online **Call for Proposals**. All proposals must meet the established **Guidelines for Season Programming** as defined by the LSU School of Theatre faculty in January 2015.

B. LSU MAINSTAGE

The LSU Mainstage season is reserved for undergraduate students affording them the opportunity for major roles in fully supported productions directed by faculty or guest directors. Design/Technology undergraduate students have the opportunity for a major assignment on an LSU Mainstage production such as Set, Costume, Sound or Lighting Designer.

Proposals for LSU Theatre and Swine Palace productions are solicited during the fall semester through an online **Call for Proposals**. All proposals must meet the established **Guidelines for Season Programming** as defined by the LSU School of Theatre faculty in January 2015.

C. LSU LAB SEASON

Each academic year, the Lab Season consists of four student driven productions. Undergraduate and graduate students direct the majority of the productions in the Lab Season. In addition, students serve as designers and technologists and primarily undergraduate students perform. Faculty serve as mentors for Lab productions which have limited budgets. Lab productions are selected by the Lab Season committee through a competitive proposal process. A call for proposals is held each spring for all Lab productions during the following academic year. Specific information about the Lab Season may be found in the Lab Season guidelines document.

Lab season proposals are accepted in the fall for the following academic year. Each year, the Lab Season Committee oversees the Lab Season proposal process

D. ANNUAL DANCE CONCERT AND PHYSICAL THEATRE SHOWCASE

The Annual Dance Concert and Physical Theatre Showcase, presented annually in the spring, the Dance Concert and Physical Theatre Showcase features student and faculty choreography.

VII. FILM PRODUCTION PROGRAM

A. GEAUX FILM

Each academic year, the School of Theatre funds one to three student projects – one each in the fall and spring semesters – as a way for students to gain more real-world experience in each phase of the filmmaking process. Students are responsible to pitch ideas to a faculty committee that meets once in August and once in October and then if chosen, will oversee all aspects of the production with a faculty advisor functioning as executive producer. The increased budget and larger scope of the Geaux Films results in larger sets with more resources and crew members to manage. For this reason, students functioning in producer, director, DP, or other major roles may be eligible for credits towards THTR 4735 or independent study course.

B. TAKE FILM FESTIVAL

Every Spring, the School of Theatre hosts the Take Film Festival. It is a culmination of all the work done by students in the department through the school year and also features the Geaux Films. Festival submissions open in February and run through mid-April. The Festival is managed by students in THTR 3740 Take Film Festival course. Films in the festival are eligible for awards for Directing, Cinematography, Acting, Editing, Writing, Production Design, Best Overall, and Audience Favorite. The festival is held at the end of the spring semester with a panel of industry figures that act as judges for the awards. The festival may also include panels and workshops put on by the guest judges and receptions for festival entrants. The festival entries are open to any student at any school and even includes an alumni category for graduates.

C. HORROR-BLY SHORT FILM FESTIVAL

Each October, Delta Rouge manages and hosts the Horror-bly Short Film Festival. This is a free 48-hour film festival-style event available for any member of Delta Rouge to participate in. Small teams for the festival are chosen by lottery by the Delta Rouge board and each team is assigned a package of equipment from the Equipment Office. In one weekend in October, each team is given an assigned line, prop, and action to include in a short horror film that must be written and shot in one weekend and edited in the 3 days following. The shorts are shown at the festival screening during the week of Halloween with the best film being awarded the Horror-bly Short Trophy.

VIII. REHEARSAL

A. REHEARSAL REGULATIONS

- Rehearsals for LSU Theatre and Lab productions are limited to five days per week with a maximum of four (4) hours per day. Rehearsals can be scheduled on either Saturday **or** Sunday, **but not both days.** (Notes must be contained in this period.) All rehearsals MUST end no later than 11:00pm on weekdays and weekends. Breaks for rehearsals should conform to Equity standards: five (5) minutes after sixty (60) minutes; ten (10) minutes after ninety (90) -- whatever the director prefers.

- Rehearsals for Swine Palace must adhere to the rules and regulations determined by the Equity contract. Compliance will be monitored by the Chair, Equity Stage Manager, Managing Director, and Artistic Director.

- The School of Theatre does not schedule 10 of 12 technical rehearsals. For all productions, technical rehearsals will take place from Wednesday through Saturday (Sunday if there is a home football game) during the week prior to opening with dress rehearsals on the Tuesday and Wednesday prior to the Thursday preview. Technical rehearsals will be limited to a maximum of four (4) hours per day.

- Rehearsals for all productions are carefully outlined in the production calendar; changes to the rehearsal schedule must be approved by the Chair and/or Production Manager.

- Misconduct in rehearsal (including abuse of alcohol / drugs, or violent/ unsafe behavior) is subject to the sanctions as outlined in the LSU Code of Conduct. On all productions, the stage manager is obligated to report such behavior to the Head of the Undergraduate Program or the Chair of the School. Such behavior will be reported to the Office of Student Advocacy and Accountability and students will be subject to the LSU Student Code of Conduct.

- If a student will be late to a rehearsal, they should immediately communicate with the stage manager. Rehearsal conflicts should be reported at the time of the auditions or well in advance of the rehearsal (except for MAJOR illness, emergency, or injury).

IX. FACILITIES

The Music and Dramatic Arts Building has been the primary home of the School of Theatre for over 70 years, housing classrooms, studios, faculty offices, production shops, and two performance spaces: the Claude L. Shaver Theatre and the Studio Theatre. In addition, the building serves as an auxiliary space for the LSU School of Music, housing selected music faculty offices, studios, and practice rooms. Completed in 1934, the M&DA Building re-opened in 2009 after a four-year $22-million renovation.

The School of Theatre also operates the Reilly Theatre which is located on the south side of campus. The Reilly Theatre houses LSU Theatre and Swine Palace productions.

A. PERFORMANCE SPACES

The School of Theatre maintains three primary **performance spaces**.

Claude L. Shaver Theatre

The 425-seat proscenium theatre is the permanent home of the LSU School of Theatre and the primary venue for LSU Theatre and select Swine Palace productions. Designed in the Tropical Art Deco style, the Shaver Theatre is a point of pride for the University.

Studio Theatre

The 48' x 48' black box theatre serves as the primary venue for student-generated workshops and for smaller, more experimental LSU Theatre and Swine Palace productions.

Reilly Theatre

The former livestock showing pavilion was renovated and opened during the 1999-2000 season and serves as a flexible performance space for Swine Palace and LSU Theatre. The Reilly Theatre also houses Playmakers, Baton Rouge's professional theatre for young audiences, through a collaboration with the LSU School of Theatre.

B. REHEARSAL SPACES

The M&DA Acting Studios (Rooms 125 and 135) and the Undergraduate Rehearsal Room (Room 399) are the primary spaces available to theatre majors for rehearsals and other class work. See below for hours, availability and reservation procedures. The Dance Studio (Room 123) is available for Dance rehearsals only.

C. PRODUCTION FACILITIES

The School of Theatre operates a full-scale suite of production shops: Scene Shop, Prop Construction Shop, Spray Booth, paint storage and mixing area, Costume Shop, Costume Crafts Shop, Electrics Shop,

and Sound Lab. Whether using the shops as part of a class; through a production assignment or in any other context ALL students must adhere to individual shop policies and procedures. Shops utilize equipment and potentially hazardous material. At a minimum students must be wearing appropriate attire including footwear. Please check with individual supervisors for specific regulations regarding individual shops. Failure to comply with shop regulations will result in loss of access to all of the production shops and any additional repercussions that this loss of access may cause.

C. THEATRE RESOURCES

Theatre Library
The School of Theatre operates a theatre library featuring an extensive collection of plays and other material. The Theatre Library is located in room 302 of the Music and Dramatic Arts Building.

Film and Television Equipment Office
Students may check out video equipment with priority given to students enrolled in film and television courses. Students must abide by specific policies and procedures as outlined in the **Film Equipment Policy Handbook** available online. The Film and Television Equipment Office is located in the basement of the Music and Dramatic Arts Building.

Hours for the Theatre Library and Film and Television Equipment Office vary by semester.

Design Studio/Computer Lab
Located in room 181 of the M&DA Building, the Design/Tech Lab was designed primarily for Design/Technology courses and contains portable drafting tables and design workspaces.

Editing Bays
The School of Theatre has two fully equipped editing suites available for student use. The editing bays are located in rooms 113 and 383 of the M&DA Building.

D. LOCKERS

The School of Theatre has 70 lockers located outside of the Movement Studio (Room 166, M&DA) that students can access on a first-come, first-served basis each semester (M.F.A. students are able to rent lockers for the school year). For the first two weeks of class, only students in enrolled in a Movement class are able to request a locker. After the two weeks have passed, any Theatre student may request a locker. Please see the School of Theatre Administrative Coordinator in Room 105 M&DA to request a locker.

X. ROOM RESERVATIONS

Spaces available:

- Theatre Technology/Design Lab (Room 181)
- Acting Studios (Rooms 125 and 135)
- Sound Studio Design Lab (Room 314) (by permission of Front Office Coordinator)
- UG Rehearsal Space (Room 399)
- Movement Studio (Room 166) (by permission of Professor Nick Erickson)
- Dance Studio (room 123A) (by permission of Claudio Ribeiro)
- Editing Bays (Rooms 113, 383)

Spaces in the M&DA Building are available for use by theatre majors only. Priority for use: Swine Palace productions; LSU Theatre Mainstage; LSU Lab Season; class assignments. With the exception of the UG Rehearsal Space (Room 399), graduate students have priority over undergraduates.

Spaces are available from 8:00 am to 11:00 pm Monday through Friday, and from 12 noon to 11:00 pm on weekends. Spaces will not be available on game days, holidays, or when there are no building monitors present.* (*Graduate students have open access as needed.) There are no room reservations outside of Business Hours during the summer or during the academic year when classes are not in session.

With the exception of the Theatre Technology/Design Lab (Room 181), space can be reserved for two-hour blocks per day per project; Lab productions should reserve space directly through the Front Office Coordinator. If your space has not been reserved following your usage, you can continue to work in that space as long as it is available.

The Theatre Technology/Design Lab (Room 181) will be open for all to use without a reservation. **You must still check in with the building monitor (Room 195)**

Requests for reservations must be made through the Room Reservations Request Form between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday. All requests must be made at least 24-hour in advance of the requested time or by Thursday for weekend reservations. Reservations will be filled by priority on a first-come, first-served basis. When your reservation is filled, your name will be posted on the departmental **Room Schedules and Reservations webpage**.

If your reservation is during regular business hours (M-F 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM), the Main Office can provide access to your requested room. After business hours, please report to the House Manager Office (Room 195), located in the M&DA Building Lobby. You will be required to leave your LSU Student ID with the building monitor before your space is unlocked. Your ID will be returned to you provided that you have left the space as you found it. When a production is running in either the Claude L. Shaver or Studio Theatre, the Building Monitors will be located in the Theatre Technology/Design Lab (Room 181).

Please remember that spaces are accessed by everyone in the School of Theatre community. Please treat each space with care and consideration.

XI. COMMUNICATION

A. E-MAIL

LSU e-mail is the official form of communication between the School of Theatre and the student and all communication will be sent to the student's LSU e-mail. Students are responsible for checking their LSU e-mail account.

B. CALLBOARD LISTSERV

Additionally, the School maintains the Callboard-listserv designed to serve as a way for communication between students and faculty. Job postings and other information are distributed through the list-serv. To become a member of the list follow these simple steps:

- Send an email to **listserv@listserv.lsu.edu**
- In the body of the email message send the following command
  SUBSCRIBE CallBrd-L <Your Name Here>

(In place of <Your Name Here>, type your name without the brackets i.e. Mike Tiger)
Your request will be sent to the list manager. The manager will then activate your subscription, and then you will get a confirmation message from the list telling you how to post messages as well as how to send commands to the list like unsubscribing.

Once you are a member of the list, any message that you send to **CallBrd-L@listserv.lsu.edu** will be sent out to everyone!

C. CALLBOARDS

Physical callboards are located outside of the Main Office (Room 105) and next to the green room in the Music and Dramatic Arts Building as well as in the green room of the Reilly Theatre.

D. SOCIAL MEDIA

A secondary form of communication are School of Theatre social media channels. Students should not rely on social media channels for official business, but the School does post information when available.

Facebook.com/lsutheatre Instagram.com/lsutheatre

XII. STUDENT COMP POLICY

To ensure that the Box Office is able to fulfill all ticket requests and maintain excellent customer service, we ask that you take note of the School of Theatre student complimentary ticket policies and ticket redemption procedures.

Eligibility Tiers:

- LSU Theatre Graduate Students
  - LSUT Graduate Students are eligible to receive two comp tickets per SOT event.
  - These comps are **not transferable**.

- LSUT Majors
  - LSU Theatre majors are eligible to receive one comp ticket to the first Friday performance (opening) of Swine Palace and LSU Mainstage productions.
  - These comps are **not transferable**.

- Lab Season/Dance/Physical Theatre/Film Festivals:
  - Cast and production team members are eligible to receive one comp ticket. The production team is defined as:
    1. Designers and assistants
    2. Stage management
    3. Dramaturgs
    4. Choreographers and assistants
  - These comps are transferable.

- LSU Mainstage and Swine Palace
  - Cast and production team members are eligible for two comps for these productions. Guest artists receive four comp tickets. The production team is defined as:
    1. Designers and assistants
    2. Stage management
    3. Dramaturgs
    4. Choreographers and assistants
    5. Music Directors and assistants
  - These comps are transferable

All Tiers: In the event that a person falls under more than one tier of eligibility, the tier with the highest number of comps will apply. Comps do not stack. For example, a Theatre major who serves as an Assistant Stage Manager to a Swine Palace production may not claim their first Thursday comp in addition to their production team comp.

Redemption Procedure:

- Students/Cast/Production Team Comps:

- Redeem comps by email: **cmdaboxoffice@lsu.edu**
- Comp requests must be made 24 hours before the performance for which the comp is being used and by Thursday for weekend performances. No comp requests will be accepted on the night of the performance.
- If you are transferring an eligible comp, include the name of the person using them.
- Comps must be picked up at Will Call by show start time.
- Any comps not retrieved by show start time will be released and the comp forfeited.

XIII. PERSONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

A. PERSONAL SAFETY

It advised that students take proper precautions as it is in any populated area. Please avoid being in the building if it seems deserted. All rehearsals must end by 11:00 PM. Note that the buildings will not be open on home football-game Saturdays in order to prevent unauthorized use of the building facilities. Report the appearance any unusual activity to the Theatre Office or Campus Police immediately. Please make every effort to ensure that the building remains secure by not propping doors open. CMDA students have building access via card-swipe locks on the front door of the buildings. (Please note building closures for home football games still apply-card swipe will not work on those days.) To request swipe card access, please complete the form at the following link:

Building Access Application

If you have difficulties with card swipe access, please see the Theatre front desk staff.

To improve your safety, LSU recommends downloading the **LSU Shield App**.

DO NOT LEAVE THE BUILDING ALONE AFTER DARK TO WALK BACK TO YOUR APARTMENT OR DORM. CONTACT CAMPUS TRANSIT FOR A RIDE.

For more information on campus safety, please visit the **Campus Safety Website**.

B. CAMPUS TRANSPORTATION

Information regarding parking and campus transportation services can be found on the **Campus Transportation** site.

The **On-Demand Transit** service provides the university community with access to a safe mobility solution and service that is available on demand Monday through Friday, 5:00 p.m. – 12 a.m. Faculty, staff and students needing a ride may request a ride through the **TransLōc Rider** mobile app or may call the dispatch office at (225) 261-9226.

Additional information regarding transportation services including Tiger Trails Bus Service may found on the **Campus Transportation** site.

C. LSU SHIELD

LSU SHIELD, a free smartphone app, **LSU SHIELD** is designed to help students, faculty and staff report emergencies or crimes, receive help from police, or simply check on each other to ensure they've

arrived safely at their destinations or returned safely from class, their workouts, or other outings. Please consider downloading the free app to your phone.

D. LSU EMERGENCY TEXT MESSAGES SYSTEM

For updated information on immediate safety issues register for LSU's **Text Messaging Service**. To access the LSU text messages visit **http://my.lsu.edu/** and select "Campus Community" on the left navigation bar. While there, fill out your emergency contact information. There is no fee to subscribe to the emergency text message service, but regular text messaging rates through your provider will apply.

LSU Police Department

Stay informed of campus safety issues including crime on campus by visiting the **LSU Police Department's website** and liking LSU PD's Facebook page. To reach LSU PD by phone, dial 225-578-3231 or if it's an emergency, dial 911.

For additional information on crime prevention visit the **LSU Police site**.

E. MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING AND WELLNESS

The Theatre major requires a significant investment of your time and energy. The School encourages you to maintain healthy practices and be mindful of your own psychological well-being.

CMDA Mental Health Counseling

As of Fall 2023, in partnership with LSU Psychological Services, the College of Music and Dramatic Arts and LSU Bands offers dedicated, on-site mental health counseling for graduate and undergraduate students within the College of Music and Dramatic Arts or LSU Bands including Tiger Marching Band.

The services are provided by two full-time graduate student therapists working under the supervision of a licensed psychologist. Appointments will be held on LSU's campus in Johnston Hall and through teletherapy. There is no cost for this service.

There are three Ways to Schedule:
- **https://lsu-psyc.titaniumhwc.com/schedule**
- Call (225) 578-1494
- Email: pscscheduling@lsu.edu

Appointments are available in-person in Johnston Hall or virtually, hours are flexible.

If you are experiencing an acute mental health crisis and need to speak with someone immediately, please **call 988** or **text 741741**.

Funding for this service is in part provided through the Matthew Bahlinger Memorial Fund

lsu.edu/psc

lsu.edu/cmda/therapy

In addition, the LSU Student Health Center offers a variety of mental health services. For more information, visit the **LSU Student Health Center Mental Health Services** website.

Appendix A at the back of this handbook offers additional health and wellness resources.

LSU Food Pantry

The mission of the LSU Food Pantry is to provide supplemental food to students in need who may experience hunger or food insecurity. For more information visit the **Food Pantry** website.

Life Threatening Emergencies

For all life-threatening emergencies call 911.

Most people associate 911 with medical **emergencies**. However 911 also assists with emergencies such as someone considering harming themselves and/or others.

Crisis Counseling

Crisis counseling is available through ThePhone, a 24– hour crisis counseling and support line serving the students of LSU. Callers to the LSU line are connected to volunteer paraprofessional counselors trained in crisis intervention and suicide prevention.

ThePhone 24 Hour Crisis Counseling 225-924-LSU1

XIV. ADDITONAL OPPORTUNITIES

A. ACADEMIC PROGRAMS ABROAD

The LSU Programs Abroad Plan offers undergraduate and graduate students opportunities to earn six to nine hours of credit through summer study. For more information, see the **Academic Programs Abroad** webpage.

One of the most popular of these programs is "LSU in Scotland" offered every other year and administered by Professor Nick Erickson, this program tours a student production to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland. Please contact Nick Erickson (**nickwe@lsu.edu**) for additional information.

The School of Theatre also offers academic program at the **Sundance Film Festival** and **Berlin International Film Festival** in alternating years.

B. STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Delta Rouge

Delta Rouge is a student organization that focuses on encouraging participation for students interested in film and television within the School of Theatre. Delta Rouge members help students create content and connect with other film students and foster a community of film.

Improv Club

The LSU Improv Club is a student organization dedicated to the study, practice, and most of all, celebration of improvisational performance. The club rehearses every weekday and performs each Friday in various spaces in the Music and Dramatic Arts building. Additionally, the club sends an officer-selected competitive team to the annual College Improv Tournament to compete against other teams across the country. But first and foremost, LSU Improv is dedicated to fostering the community-building, quick-thinking skills that the craft innately promotes. The club is known for its open-door policy and welcomes anyone who might be interested to participate.

Musical Theatre Club

The Musical Theatre Club at LSU provides performance opportunities to LSU's undergraduate and graduate students who have a passion for musical theatre. The organization's mission is to educate students in the area of musical theatre through production activities, cabarets, workshops, and staged readings of musicals.

Physical Theatre Club

The Physical Theatre Club is committed to creating new student work of physical theatre that is inclusive of aerial performance, dance and acting techniques. The club actively promotes indoor and outdoor performances across campus and beyond, often contributing significantly to the LSU Theatre productions that tour internationally to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. The club believes athleticism and theatre can merge to promote a celebration of life, fitness, and health while embracing all body types in a diverse community of artists.

University Theatre Alliance (UTA)

The University Theatre Alliance is an organization of, by and for, the LSU student body. The Executive Board, along with members and a team of coordinators, works to foster and to better the relationships between undergraduates with each other and the graduates/faculty in the theatre program, to support the arts community on campus and in the surrounding area through professional development activities such as service, workshops, etc., and to encourage innovation among the artists in our community.

Some of its activities include providing support for School of Theatre auditions, producing student-directed staged readings, and matching incoming students with mentors. The Board is elected each spring and includes reps from undergrad and graduate populations. UTA charges nominal dues each semester which go towards UTA activities.

XV. FUNDING SOURCES

A GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS

*Portions of this section are excerpted from **Graduate School webpage**.*

There are many reasons to become a graduate assistant, not the least of which is that an assistantship will provide necessary financial support for your education. In exchange for service, an assistantship provides a monthly stipend and a non-resident fee waiver. Some assistantships include full tuition exemption.

Graduate students in the School of Theatre fulfill an important function for the department. Students will be assigned as a teaching assistant, instructor of record and in administrative and production areas. This requires not only a mastery of the course content, but it also challenges your ability to communicate ideas clearly (a skill that is central to success in your graduate studies and professional life). For many students planning a career in academia, a TA position is an excellent training ground.

There is a new Graduate Teaching Assistant Workshop for new TAs offered each fall. The workshop offers support and other resources for teaching, enhance your effectiveness as an instructor, and help you get off to a great start in the classroom. Additional details will be provided at a later date.

CGS RESOLUTION

The CGS Resolution Regarding Graduate Scholars, Fellows, Trainees, and Assistants

Louisiana State University, as a member of the **Council of Graduate Schools' Resolution Regarding Graduate Scholars, Fellows, Trainees, and Assistants**, must comply with its terms. Please read the Resolution carefully so that all parties understand the expectations implicit in agreements for financial support. In brief, the resolution states "students are under no obligation to respond to offers of financial support prior to April 15; earlier deadlines for acceptance of such offers violate the intent of this Resolution." The Resolution also states "...acceptance given or left in force after April 15 commits the student not to accept another offer without first obtaining a written release from the institution to which a commitment has been made."

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Additional information about assistantship regulations can be found in the **General Catalog** and in **LSU's Policy Statements PS-21: Graduate Assistantships** and **PS-85: Preparation of Teaching Assistants**.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Must be enrolled in a minimum of 9 semester hours in the fall or spring semester (a minimum of six hours for graduate credit), or a minimum of 6 semester hours in the summer term (a minimum of 3 hours for graduate credit).

- Students admitted and enrolled in good academic standing, maintaining a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00.

A full assistantship requires a student to work for 20 hours per week on average. Students may or may not be required to report to work during school breaks. Departments may also offer partial assistantships.

COMPENSATION

Assistantship stipends for the School of Theatre for the 2024-2025 academic year are $23,000 (9-month) and $30,667 (12-month)

The assistantship compensation package offered at LSU includes:

- monthly stipend (paid monthly according to the university's salary payroll schedule)
- non-resident tuition fee waiver (if eligibility requirements are met)
- full tuition exemption (if eligibility requirements are met)*
- a waiver or exemption of all required fees (if eligibility requirements are met)*
- a 75% exemption for the cost of the health insurance (if eligibility requirements are met)*

* Not applicable to all assistantships. Consult with department offering the assistantship.

Tuition and Non-Resident Fee Exemption Requirements

- Student must be employed on an assistantship on or before the following dates in order to get tuition waiver:
    - Spring Semester: March 1
    - Summer Semester: 1st Day of Class of 2nd Session
    - Fall Semester: October 1
- 50% effort assistantship appointment (20 hours)
    - Receives a full tuition exemption and a non-resident tuition fee waiver (if eligibility requirements are met).
    - a waiver or exemption of all required fees including: Dedicated Fees, Technology Fee, Building Use Fee, Student Excellence Fee, Academic Excellence Fee, and Operational Fee, as defined in **PM-43 Student Fees**.
    - a 75% exemption for the cost of the health insurance. GAs will be automatically enrolled each semester (Fall, Spring & Summer) and charged the health insurance unless they submit and are approved for a waiver from Gallagher Student Health **prior** to the waiver deadline date for **each** semester (Fall, Spring & Summer).
- 25% effort assistantship appointment (10 hours)
    - Receives a non-resident tuition fee waiver (if eligibility requirements are met).
    - Student is responsible for paying additional fees & tuition.

Tax Information

All graduate assistantship stipends are considered as taxable income.

- Tax forms (W-4 and L-4 forms) must be filed within the first three days of employment, and students will receive an email to complete these documents online.
- Some countries have tax treaties with the US in which all or some portion of earnings may be tax exempt.
- Questions about tax information should be directed to LSU's Office of Accounting Services.

Pay Schedule

- All Graduate Assistants are paid once a month on the last business day of the month.
- If you have an academic-year contract (9-month graduate assistantship), your appointment will start mid-August and end mid-May. The specific dates of your contract will come from the offer letter from your employing department.

International Students

English Language Requirement

A graduate assistantship offer is contingent upon receiving and maintaining valid visa status. International students holding teaching positions must meet the University's language requirements. More information at International Student Orientation.

- All international graduate students are evaluated in a 30-minute, one-on-one oral interview.
- In order to be employed as a TA2 or TA3, you must have completed English 1051 or be exempted from the course based on your oral interview.
- This must be completed before the appointment begins, and it is usually scheduled during International Orientation.
- For more information about ESL Programs, you can visit the **English as a Second Language (ESL) Spoken English Program for International Graduate Assistants** website or contact the ESL coordinator below:

Albert S. Camp
Allen Hall, 260-J
Phone: 225-578-3041
Email: acamp2@lsu.edu

Additional Information

Additional information about assistantship regulations can be found in the **General Catalog** and in **LSU's Policy Statements PS-21: Graduate Assistantships** and **PS-85: Preparation of Teaching Assistants**.

Graduate School Contact Information

Hours of Operation
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Monday - Friday

203 West David Boyd Hall
Baton Rouge, LA 70803
Telephone: 225-578-2311

General Email: **gradawards@lsu.edu**
GSA Travel Award Questions: **gsatravelaward@lsu.edu**

B. GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION TRAVEL AWARDS

This award provides reimbursement of approved travel expenses to qualified students who attend widely recognized, professional conferences to present the results of their research.

Award Amounts

- In-State: $100.00
- Out-of-State: $200.00
- International: $450.00

Travel awards are contingent upon the availability of funds and the number of types of applications received.

As of May 1, 2021, LSU has resumed business travel. Please reference the **Current Travel Policy** for more information. Please note that in-state and international travel currently hold different policies.

Eligibility

- Be presenting work completed while enrolled at LSU.
- Be listed as first author of the abstract.
    - Consideration will be given to students who have been invited to exhibit or perform their artistic work.
- Be enrolled full-time during the semester of travel as well as the Fall/Spring semester immediately preceding travel. The student is required to be enrolled full-time and maintain full-time enrollment during the semester of travel. In addition, since all research for the presentation must have been conducted while enrolled at LSU, the student is also required to have been enrolled full-time for at least one regular semester (Fall or Spring) of graduate study at LSU immediately preceding travel. Summer enrollment is not required, but if travel is being requested for conferences during the summer, the student must have been enrolled full-time in the previous Spring semester and either the Summer or upcoming Fall semester.

  Please Note: Students departing in the current semester and returning in the next semester must be enrolled full-time in the current semester of travel and the next semester of return from travel. For example is a student departs in the Fall semester and returns in the Spring semester, the student is required to be enrolled full-time in the Spring semester.

- Be in good academic standing.
- Book airfares through the **state travel agency**, Christopherson Business Travel (CBT).

Students are eligible to receive the following number of Graduate Student Travel Awards:

- Master's Degree students – one award during the student's academic career.
- Doctoral Students – three awards for the student's academic career.
- Students who transition from Master's to Doctoral programs can receive no more than three awards during their academic career.
    - This includes students involved in dual-enrollment and other related programs.

For more information on appeals for application denial, please refer to the "Appeals Process" section.

Application Process

The Graduate School will begin accepting applications **90 days before the scheduled travel departure date**, and **not less than 30 days before departure.**

Note: The GSA Travel award has **strict** deadlines. Applications submitted more than 90 days to departure will not be accepted. Too early or late submissions **will not be accepted under any circumstances.**

Students are responsible for adhering to all set deadlines and submitting the following:

- A completed application form via **InfoReady**. Applications must be submitted by 11:59 pm (Central Standard Time) on the deadline date.

Attach the following documents to your application:

1. An Abstract

Depending on the type of presentation, submit **either** an abstract for a work being presented **or** an artistic abstract.

- **Abstract for work being presented.** The abstract must include the following:
    - Title of Abstract
    - A list of authors in order of contribution
      Note: Suppose a student's poster/presentation is in a discipline that requires authors to be listed in alphabetical order rather than in order of contribution. In that case, the student must include a list of authors in order of contribution.
    - Abstract must be **Maximum 1 page** in length and submitted as a PDF file.

  or
- **Artistic work abstract submission.** The abstract must include the following:
    - A paragraph listing the name of work/exhibit
    - Date and location of the venue

- A description of student's participation (i.e., conducting created musical piece, performing in an ensemble, etc.)
- **Maximum 1 page** in length and in PDF file format

2. Proof of Acceptance

Attach proof of acceptance to present at the conference. This attachment may be in the form of **a letter or e-mail from conference organizers** and/or a copy of the **conference program schedule listing the presenter, poster/presentation title, time,** etc.

Additionally, the proof of acceptance must include the following identifying information:

- Student author/student email
- Title of abstract
- Name of conference
- Location of conference
- Date of conference
- **Maximum 3 pages in length** and in PDF file format

Please note that this list is not exhaustive but is a guideline of pertinent identifying information.

If proof of presentation and abstract criteria is met, the application is then forwarded for further evaluation.

Note: All attached documents must be in English and self-contained in PDF format. No external links or sources will be referenced.

For GSA Travel award questions regarding pre-award eligibility, evaluation criteria, application processing, Spend Authorization and Expense Reports, email **gsatravelaward@lsu.edu**. For Additional Information on the Graduate Student Association Travel Award process visit the **Graduate School webpage**.

C. CMDA TRAVEL AWARDS

The College of Music & Dramatic Arts offers a limited number of student travel grants to assist students in their creative and research activity. Awards will be limited to a maximum of $250 for domestic travel and $500 for international travel and will be evaluated based on the merit of the proposal. Grants are available to both undergraduate and graduate students. We encourage all graduate students to also apply for Graduate Student Travel Awards (GTSA) through the Graduate School. Instructions for submitting GTSA proposals can be found above.

The most competitive proposals are thorough, complete, and make a compelling case as to why the travel will advance your educational, artistic and/or scholarly goals.

Additional information is available on the **CMDA Travel Awards webpage**.

C. ANNETTE AND JOHN DOUTHAT STUDY ABROAD FUND

The **Annette and John Douthat CMDA Study Abroad Fund** was created to enable College of Music & Dramatic Arts students to participate in life-changing international experiences. Students who have applied to (or been accepted into) study abroad programs may petition for funding through this application. Each applicant may be awarded up to $2,000. Preference will be given to voice and opera students.

Students must submit an application form by **published deadline**, and submit a letter of acceptance to the study abroad program for full consideration.

Applicants should be prepared to submit:

- A detailed budget breaking down how the funding will be spent.
- A statement of purpose. (500 word maximum)
- A description of the study abroad program.
- Proof of acceptance into the study abroad program. (Letter, email, etc.)
    - If this proof is not yet available for your program, we will accept a statement of intent that you will provide proof to the College when it becomes available.
    - When the proof becomes available, you must email it to **Pamela D. Pike, Associate Dean of Research, Creative Practice & Community Engagement** by the deadline given above.

Additional information is available on the **Annette and John Douthat CMDA Study Abroad Fund webpage**.

D. DISSERTATION AWARD

Once your dissertation has been completed and submitted to the Graduate School, you should consider submitting it to any dissertation award contests sponsored by your department and/or professional organizations in your discipline.

Additionally, your department can nominate your dissertation for the Distinguished Dissertation Award, sponsored by the LSU Alumni Association. Two awards are given: one in the arts, humanities, and social sciences, and one in science, engineering, and technology. The award consists of $2,000 along with a certificate. Awards are presented to the doctoral student in each category whose research and writing epitomize superior scholarship. Any student who receives his or her doctoral degree at any of the three commencements in a calendar year is eligible to be nominated. Winning dissertations are chosen by committee of members of the graduate faculty. Recent winners have come from English, Chemical Engineering, Biological Sciences, History, and Physics and Astronomy.

XVI. RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

A. GRADUATE SCHOOL RESEARCH CONFERENCE

The LSU Pinkie Gordon Lane Graduate School hosts an internal research conference covering all disciplines within the university. The purpose of this conference is to nurture a culture of research and provide a forum for LSU graduate students to:

- exchange research ideas
- foster cross disciplinary discussions and collaborations
- enhance research quality and productivity
- showcase research accomplishments
- celebrate and honor outstanding graduate students

All master's and PhD students are welcome to submit abstracts for the GRC in one of two categories: Poster Presentation / Visual Display / Art Exhibit and (2) Oral Presentation / Performance / Reading

B. CMDA RESEARCH EXPO

Each year, the CMDA hosts a Research Expo to showcase of faculty and student research in the College of Music & Dramatic Arts.

For more information about Research in the College of Music and Dramatic Arts visit the **CMDA Research webpage.**

XVII. STUDENT BILL OF RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Immediate Emergency: get to a safe place and call 911 or campus police 225-578-3231 at once if…

- **Emergency:** There is a fire or other dangerous catastrophe
- **Injury:** Someone gets injured, unconscious, or incapacitated (including yourself)
- **Violence:** Someone threatens harm to themselves or others
- **Crime:** heft, vandalism, disturbance

Contact campus resources (CARE, OSD, Campus Police, Health Center, Lighthouse, etc.) if…

- You require (or think you might require) special accommodations
- You are being harassed/stalked
- You feel unsafe anywhere on campus
- You wish to report a crime
- You are sick
- You are distressed, depressed, or anxious to the point that it's interfering with everyday life

Contact your instructor if…

- You are confused or concerned about a course assignment, policy, or topic
- Something about the class is interfering with your learning
- You want to check on your performance in the course
- You have an ODS accommodation

You have the right to expect that…

- Instructors will provide a syllabus outlining content, goals, and expectations for the course
- Instructors will follow their own syllabi, show up to class, start and end class on time, and maintain a professional demeanor
- Instructors will make themselves reasonably available outside of class to consult with you about the class and your performance in it
- Instructors will reply to and/or address appropriate communications or questions within a reasonable amount of time
- Instructors will comport themselves professionally toward you in and out of class
- Instructors provide a clear idea of how you are doing in class
- Instructors provide reasonable ODS accommodations

Contact us (Trusted Instructor, Department Head, Academic Advisor) immediately if…

- An instructor fails to respond to repeated attempts to contact/meet and/or does not hold office hours
- An instructor regularly (more than once or twice) cancels scheduled classes, fails to start or end classes on time, or does not show up to class
- Someone other than the official instructor appears to be teaching the class regularly
- An instructor behaves in an alarming or unstable manner
- An instructor fails to comply with official and appropriate requests for ODS accommodation

- An instructor alters significant aspects of the course without due notice, explanation, or consideration
- An instructor makes unprofessional, unreasonable, or inappropriate requests of students
- An instructor couches inappropriate requests as "just part of the course"
- An instructor exhibits bias, bigotry, or undue preferential treatment toward any student
- The environment of the classroom becomes hostile or feels unsafe (emotionally or otherwise)
- You think one or more of the above activities is going on and you just want to check in to see if your suspicions are valid
- You are distressed or uncomfortable and feel unable to express these concerns to the instructor

Instructors have the right to expect that…

- Students will show up to classes on time (i.e., not walking in right as class starts)
- Students will remain in class for the entire time required (i.e., not leaving in the middle of class)
- Students will take responsibility for their own performance in the course
- Students will respect the instructor's expertise in the subject matter
- Students will respect the instructor as the one responsible for maintaining a professional class environment
- Students will treat everyone in the class professionally and respectfully
- Students will take responsibility for their own schedules and choices beyond the classroom, accepting the natural consequences of those choices with maturity
- Students will take responsibility for their own health and wellbeing, making reasonable choices about when and how to participate in ways that keep them safe and well
- Students will read and know policies outlined in the syllabus and/or communicated or posted by the instructor through e-mail, on Moodle, in class announcements, etc.
- Students will contribute focused attention to all speakers and presentations
- Students will come to class fully prepared (materials brought, assignments completed)
- Students will devote time outside of class to the course, realizing that an average of 2-3 hours per credit hour of outside work is normal
- Students will communicate questions or concerns to the instructor in an appropriate, timely, and professional manner, following any relevant instructions outlined by the professor
- Students will refrain from coming to class if they have a contagious illness or are otherwise incapable of participating without disruption, availing themselves of medical care as necessary and communicating with the instructor as outlined in course policies for excused absences
- Students will respect appropriate procedures and boundaries that instructors establish regarding instructor-student communications
- For most non-emergency problems, questions, or concerns, students will approach the instructor first before escalating the issue to advisors, authorities, or social media

Remember…

- Instructors want you to communicate with them.
- Instructors aren't medical professionals
- Instructors must work with LSU policies and programs
- Instructors aren't personal friends

- Instructors can't control your schedule
- Instructors can't control your personal or work life
- Instructors can't control your production schedule

If you talk to a professor or student support staff…
Expect confidentiality, except if…

- Your threatening harm to someone else
- Your threatening harm to yourself
- A minor has been/is being harmed
- You are reporting a sexual assault, sexual harassment or any potential Title IX related issue related to you or another party.

FERPA: Family Education Rights and Privacy Act

- Your academic performance is your business alone
- Instructors may not divulge any info about your academic career
- Instructors technically can't even confirm or deny whether you're in their class to anyone else
- This includes parents unless there is a FERPA waiver in place!
- Instructors can talk to other instructors and academic personnel about students to coordinate approaches.

XVIII. ABOUT THE LSU SCHOOL OF THEATRE AND SWINE PALACE

The LSU School of Theatre continues to achieve national and international prominence in scholarship and performance. Our NAST-accredited B.A. degree program (concentrations in Arts Administration, Design/Technology, Performance, Physical Theatre and Theatre Studies) provides rigorous comprehensive training within the framework of a liberal arts education. In 2021, the School of Theatre added a B.F.A. in Film and Television as an additional undergraduate degree program. The M.F.A. degree—with a specialization in acting—is a two-year, year-round professional actor training program featuring the integration of both traditional and innovative physical, vocal, and process approaches for 21st century performers. The M.F.A. degree— with specializations in scenic technology and design; costume technology and design; and properties technology— is a three-year program preparing the theatre artisan for a professional role encompassing a wider range of production and/or teaching responsibilities. The training for exceptional candidates is augmented through undergraduate teaching opportunities and production positions with Swine Palace, the department's affiliate professional theatre. Our Ph.D. program—with a concentration in theatre history, dramatic literature, and theory and criticism—develops the knowledge, critical skills, and methodological approaches that will allow students to conduct research as professional scholars and become excellent teachers in the field. The School of Theatre fosters creativity and originality in its stage productions and scholarship, and offers a learning environment unique to the region.

With Swine Palace, the department has distinguished itself as one of the few programs in the country that supports a full-time, year-round Equity theatre company. While pursuing their degrees, students have the opportunity to work alongside world-class artists in every facet of production. Many students are Actors' Equity Association (AEA) eligible by the time they graduate. Not only a cultural resource, Swine Palace also contributes to the economic growth and well-being of the community. In 2006, Swine Palace was recognized with the Louisiana Governor's Arts Award for Outstanding Large Arts Organization and the YWCA Greater Baton Rouge Racial Justice Award given to an individual, organization or business for exceptional or creative contributions to the elimination of racism.

A. BRIEF HISTORY OF LSU THEATRE

The study of theatre at LSU has a long and rich history, dating back to the early twentieth century. The University began operating in January 1860, and courses related to "Speech" were offered. By 1926, the LSU catalog announced courses in "Elocution," "Forensic Oratory," "Eulogies & After Dinner Speaking," and two courses in theatre: "Technique of the Drama," and "Play Production." The latter course suggests that plays were being produced (probably one each semester), and the course provided participants with credit.

In 1928, Claude M. Wise was hired to take charge of the Speech/Theatre program, the first faculty member at the University to hold a Ph.D. degree in this field. With his engagement, the University moved all speech and theatre courses into the Department of English. Claude L. Shaver and Mrs. Flower also joined the faculty of the English Department that year as instructors in Public Speaking. Besides six courses in Speech, two courses were offered in Interpretation and four in Theatre.

In 1931, Wise was named as head of the new Department of Speech, which began offering the M.A. degree. In the following year, Giles W. Gray was hired and the Department relocated to the new Music & Dramatic Arts Building (M&DA), which contained an art deco, proscenium arch theatre based on the design of the Cleveland Playhouse. In 1935, the Department offered the first doctoral degree in Speech in the South. Shaver organized a student group called the Louisiana Players Guild, which presented one-act plays and other dramatic pieces. LPG evenings continued for over forty years, finally being disbanded in the late 1970s. Among many hundreds of other students through the years, a young Joanne Woodward acted in LPG productions.

During his forty-five years at LSU, Shaver directed over one hundred plays, including *The Importance of Being Earnest* (1931) only thirty-six years after Wilde's original London production; throughout the years, he favored the plays of Shakespeare, Shaw, Wilde, and Wilder. He also directed plays by Pirandello, Sheridan, the Capek brothers, Ben Jonson, Eliot, O'Neill, and Ibsen.

Professor Claude M. Wise gave up the Chairmanship of the Department of Speech to Waldo W. Braden in 1957. A distinguished scholar in American Public Address, Braden carefully monitored the addition of theatre courses, having doubts that theatre courses could equal the speech curriculum in academic respectability.

In 1973, Gresdna Doty became Director of Theatre within the Department of Speech; five members of the faculty were assigned to theatre courses and production. John Dennis joined the faculty (coming from the Mark Taper Forum) in 1981, and the M.F.A. in Theatre (with a specialization in Acting) was approved (1985).

Meanwhile in 1977, Boyd Professor Braden turned the Chairmanship of the Department of Speech over to John Pennybacker (whose area was Radio & TV). In 1981, the Speech faculty moved to Coates Hall while the Theatre and Communications Disorders faculty remained in M&DA. In 1982, the name of the Department became the Department of Speech Communication, Theatre, and Communication Disorders. Mary Frances Hopkins officially assumed the Chair in 1982 until 1991 when the three units became separate departments. Doty became Chair of the "new" Department of Theatre, and in that same year (1991-1992), Barry Kyle, long-time resident director with the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford-upon-Avon, joined the faculty as head of the M.F.A. Directing Program and future founder of Swine Palace Productions (1992), the School's full-time, year-round affiliate Equity company.

Doty turned over the Chair's position in 1993 to Bill Harbin, who had joined the faculty in 1973. Lesley Ferris replaced him in August 1996, where she remained only three semesters, before accepting a position at The Ohio State University. Harbin resumed the Chair, and with Provost Dan Fogel continued the process of creating the College of Music and Dramatic Arts (CMDA). (The Department of Speech Communication, Theatre, and Communication Disorders had been a unit in the College of Arts and Sciences for several decades.) Consisting of the School of Music and the Department of Theatre, the College of Music and Dramatic Arts (with Ronald D. Ross, Dean) was officially launched on July 1, 1998. Michael Tick was named Chair of the Department of Theatre in August 1999; in January 2000, the Reilly Theatre, home of Swine Palace opened with *A Midsummer Night's Dream* directed by Barry Kyle. In 2010, Department Chair and Swine Palace Artistic Director Michael Tick left LSU to become Dean of Fine Arts at the University of Kentucky. Upon his departure, Kristin Sosnowsky was appointed Interim Chair and later Chair and George Judy, Artistic Director of Swine Palace.

As part of the Department's 2000 Program Review, the M.F.A. in Theatre, specializations in Directing and Design/Technology, were dropped. Kyle resigned as Artistic Director of Swine Palace in 2001, and Chancellor Mark A. Emmert, appointed Michael Tick as Executive Producing Artistic Director of Swine Palace. Under the new restructuring plan, Swine Palace became integrated fully into the Department's academic and production programs.

The Department of Theatre received NAST Accreditation in March 2006, and a year later reinstated the M.F.A. in Theatre (with specializations in Costume Technology and Design; Properties Technology; and Scenic Technology and Design). In 2009, the Department returned to the Music and Dramatic Arts Building following a $22-million renovation. In 2015, the Department was admitted into the University/Resident Theater Association and its designation was changed from Department to School.

B. A BRIEF HISTORY OF DANCE AT LSU

As early as 1937, the Physical Education Department (now the Department of Kinesiology) offered a Dance major consisting of fourteen dance courses, supplemented with numerous drama and music courses; there was also an active performing dance group. Although the undergraduate major was eventually eliminated, the Department of Kinesiology maintained an M.S. program with a Dance concentration. Through the 1960s and 70s, this dance program for undergraduate non-majors and graduate majors played an active role in the local and state dance scene, so much so, in fact, that in 1981 a Dance major in Performance/Choreography was reinstated.

This new Dance major of the 1980's had four full-time and three part-time faculty members and was highly selective, accepting only twenty-five students from more than 150 who auditioned. When the program was eliminated in 1988, some existing courses were moved to the Department of Theatre but rarely offered until the spring of 1998 when one part-time faculty member was hired.

The new Dance minor became effective spring 2000. Its primary role is to develop essential dance skills in students who are preparing for careers in theatre and music. However, many students enrolled in dance courses are non-majors with a talent or interest in dance. The Dance minor offers rigorous, professional-level technique courses in ballet, modern dance, and jazz, in addition to a broad study of related dance areas including history, improvisation, and composition.

C. A BRIEF HISTORY OF PHYSICAL THEATRE AT LSU

This genre of theatre primarily uses physical movement to tell stories. The term was first used by DV8 Physical Theater in the '80s using dance styles, contact improvisation, and acrobatic athleticism as a foundation for the invention of new movement for expression and storytelling.

Physical Theatre can be traced as far back as ancient Greek theatre and the theatrical traditions of Asia. More recent modern influences come from Commedia Dell'Arte and its influence on the modern Mime of Decroux, Barrault, and Lecoq in the 20th century.

Post WWII brought a deep questioning of all artistic tradition throughout the world. Butoh dance arose in Japan, absurdist theatre in Europe, and the Judson Church Dance Collective in New York in the 60s brought a wealth of contemporary well-known choreographers and teachers.

Most notable companies to influence Physical Theatre today include Pina Bausch's Tanzteater, DV8, Complicité, and Théâtre du Soleil, and Pilobolus, along with many others.

1984 brought Cirque du Soleil to the world stage and with it a new appreciation for physical expression through innovative approaches to circus centered on human elitism. Diavolo: Architecture in Motion, is a current company that works within the boundaries of dance, theatre, circus, and interactive structures designed for physical expression and metaphor. Now, with the global pandemic, physical theatre is struggling to redefine it's presence in the live-streaming and prerecorded world of social media and video-conferencing platforms.

The LSU Physical Theatre Concentration was formed in 2011 by Movement Professor, Nick Erickson, who was a founding member of Diavolo in the 90's prior to joining LSU Theatre School in 2001. Professor Erickson discovered a hunger for athletic physical expression among LSU students who loved performing in shows with high energy challenges and started touring productions overseas as a summer study abroad program in 2008. Aerial silk performance gained popularity among the students after the renovation of the Music & Dramatic Arts building in 2009 created a new two-story Movement Studio designed for aerial apparatus.

D. A BRIEF HISTORY OF FILM AND TELEVISION AT LSU

The School of Theatre began offering a concentration in Film and Television within the Bachelor of Arts in Theatre program in the 2012-2013 academic year. The program which began as a collaboration between the LSU School of Theatre and Baton Rouge Community College, which offered some of the production-oriented courses, recognized the important historical evolution of digital storytelling from the Theatre tradition. In 2014, the School hired its first full-time Professor of Film and Television. The concentration was quite popular with enrollments growing from 12 in the concentration's initial year to 66 in the 2020-21 academic year. Student interest in the program led the School to create a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Film and Television which received final approval as a new degree program by the Louisiana Board of Regents in spring 2021.

In addition to the curriculum, the School of Theatre offers a number of co-curricular programs for students to engage with the broader film industry and apply their skills outside of the classroom. Each year, students participate in the Sundance Film Festival program where they screen dozens of films and connect with industry professionals. Founded in 2015, the "Take" Film Festival is the School's juried film festival featuring the work of students and alumni from institutions across the state. In 2018, the School began producing the "Geaux" Film as the first departmentally produced feature film. The School now produces multiple "Geaux" Films annually as fully student driven and departmentally funded projects. In 2020, the School added the First-Year Film as a way to engage first year and transfer students in the film

program from their initial days on campus. Both the “Geaux” Films and the First Year Film are shown at the “Take” Film Festival.

The BFA in Film and Television complements the multiple other digital media programs across campus including the BA in Screen Arts which is offered by the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. In addition to serving a large contingent of students who are expressly interested in the filmmaking process, the program significantly enhances the experience and training of Theatre majors who also seek to work across mediums. With the new BFA in place, the School of Theatre offers a complement of degree programs which train students in narrative storytelling across mediums.

APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL CAMPUS RESOURCES

Student Health Center

Main Page

- On the home page you will see a quick links portal to help you make appointments, figure out the hours, and connect to sexual assault resources.
- LSU is now partnering with Our Lady of the Lake Health to provide comprehensive health resources and education that empower students to take ownership of their personal health and wellness — preparing you for a lifetime of excellent health. In order to provide students with the quality, inclusive care, some Student Health Center units will continue to be operated by LSU, including the Sexual Health & GYN Clinic, Lighthouse Program, and Wellness & Health Promotion. Our Lady of the Lake will partner to operate the Medical Clinic and Mental Health Service. Students can create a MyChart accounts in "Student Health Portal" to schedule appointments.
- There is also a link to the Lighthouse page.

Medical

- Services provided include x-rays, lab work, physical rehab, primary care, GYN clinic and specialty clinics.

Mental Health

- Link to Mental Health Services, Levels of Care, Groups & Seminars
- **Emergency & Mental Health Crisis Intervention** offers information on how to identify a crisis as well as a phone number for 24-hour crisis and emotional support.
- Also offered are **group services** in the form of seminars and group therapy. If you click the group and seminars drop down it'll bring you to a page full of classes that are offered. Click on the class you are interested in, then more information and it will bring you to a flyer where you can find out who to contact about the class

Wellness

- Under classes you can find QPR Suicide Prevention Gatekeeper Training offers:
    - How to Question, Persuade and Refer someone who may be suicidal
    - How to get help for yourself or learn more about preventing suicide
    - Common causes of suicidal behavior
    - Warning signs of suicide
    - How to get help for someone in crisis
- Other classes include Eating Disorders & Body Image, Emotional Wellness, Healthy Relationships, Health Insurance Options and Benefits, Nicotine Cessation, Nutrition and Eating Habits, Sexual Health and Contraception, Sleep Hygiene, Sexual Assault Prevention and Support, and Stress and Time Management.
- The Lighthouse program tab will bring you to their page. The Lighthouse Program provides interpersonal violence prevention, advocacy, and support to students who are survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, relationship violence and stalking. If you or someone you know needs

these services, you can fill out a form on their page and they will be contacted. Correspondence is confidential and nonjudgmental and appropriate support services for all survivors regardless of gender identity, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, ability or whether the crime is reported

Office of Disability Services

- Disability Services is committed to providing appropriate auxiliary aids and services to students with disabilities to ensure they receive full participation.
- On the home page you can find links to register with Disability Services
- Under the forms dropdown you will find the forms you need to submit for various accommodations

UREC

- The UREC completed a full renovation a couple of years ago
- Right now the UREC is open
- Commitment to gender inclusivity
- The UREC features such amenities as a leisure river, climbing area
- You can take classes and get involved in intramural sports
- There is also an outdoor gear rental. Want to paddle board but don't have any money you can rent one! Prices are listed on the website
- Your UREC membership is included in your fees
- You can also apply to work at the UREC

Olinde Career Center

- You can make individual appointments or attend workshops about building a CV or Resume
- You can set up mock interviews
- They will help you decide what major is best for you if you are unsure
- They have a salary calculator and resources to help you connect your major to a career opportunity

LSU Campus Life

- The LSU campus life page tells you what campus events are coming up
- Under the involvement drop down there will be a link to all of the Student Organizations on campus
- Under the Service drop down you will find a link to the LSU Food Pantry
- The Food Pantry provides supplemental food to LSU students in need who may be experiencing food insecurity
- You can go up to two times a week, no questions asked, and all you need is your LSU ID
- Right now, services are limited; you will need to fill out the LSU Food Pantry Online Request form (found on their page)
- The form is open to accept requests each week from 8 a.m Monday to 3 p.m. Friday

LSU Center for Academic Success

- Main office is B-31 Coates
- Free tutoring and supplemental instruction

- Will help you prepare for class presentations; they are also offering digital resources and tips for online learning
- GPA calculator
- Virtual Learning Center (Now called Tips and Tools under "Earn Better Grades") that helps you prepare for tests
- Tips for focused and engaged study sessions
- Time management resources including a LSU **Academic Calendar** you can print, weekly planner pages you can print, and tips for organizing your life

Division of Engagement, Civil Rights and Title IX

The **Division of Engagement, Civil Rights and Title IX** Is dedicated to fostering an environment that embraces the active participation of all members of our campus community. Signature programs and services contribute to an inclusive and welcoming environment at LSU. For information, on all of the services offered through the Division visit the Programs and Initiatives tab on each of the Engagement Centers' webpages.

- **The Engagement Centers include**
    - **The Intercultural Center -** provides opportunities for the mutual exchange of ideas and cultural norms and the development of relationships. We serve as a resource for academic, professional, and social development to all interested members of the LSU community.
    - **The Women's Center -** promotes the advancement of women's issues and gender equality through its services, advocacy efforts, and educational programs.
    - **Clarence L. Barney Jr. African American Cultural Center** – retains the goal of student development through access and representation of historic African American culture, heritage and tradition.
    - **LGBTQ+ Center** – supports the safety and success of the overall LSU community by connecting faculty, staff and community members with information and resources.

Sample programs include:

- **Genesis Mentoring Program** works with traditionally underrepresented students during their first semester to ensure a successful transition, both personally and academically, to college life.

  While participating in Genesis Mentoring, students can expect a variety of programs, each aimed a different area of success:

    - **One-on-one mentoring**: Students will meet weekly with their Genesis mentor to discuss a variety of topics including classes, college life, identities, etc.
    - **Professional Development**: Mentors and mentees come together and participate in workshops that help students grow professionally
    - **Personal Development**: Students will experience personal growth through their mentor/mentee relationship, by working with the Intercultural Center staff, and through workshops
    - **Socials**: Mentors and Mentees will attend several planned socials, as well as engage in a variety of Intercultural Center sponsored events