

THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI



DEPARTMENT OF
THEATRE
ARTS



BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS, EMPHASIS IN ACTING

In our Bachelor of Fine Arts in acting program, you will receive an education unlike any other in the country. Sophomores, juniors and seniors are trained through our studio program, which immerses you in three years of studio-format training in acting, voice and speech, and movement. With an acting specialist, a movement specialist and a voice and speech specialist on hand in each class, you not only will be introduced to the latest training techniques but also will be led through the process of incorporating these techniques into your performance. With a 1:6 faculty-to-student ratio, you are guaranteed individual attention.

You will be schooled in Stanislavski-based acting techniques as well as trained in a variety of acting styles including Shakespeare, Chekhov, Moliere and commedia dell'arte. Instructors

certified in Fitzmaurice Voicework and proficient in Linklater Technique will immerse you in a variety of vocal techniques with additional emphasis on speech and dialect training. A certified Alexander Technique teacher and Laban Movement analyst will instruct you in Laban Movement Analysis for the actor along with period movement and dance. All of this is taught as coordinated parts of a "whole" actor training program.

In addition to the existing work in the studio program, you will have the opportunity to participate in short films, six to eight full-length shows each year, numerous showcases, musical theatre productions and a student-directed series. Every fall semester culminates with an acting-for-the-camera project.



BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS, EMPHASIS IN MUSICAL THEATRE

Our Bachelor of Fine Arts in musical theatre program offers comprehensive training in vocal, dance and performance styles. With two mainstage musicals every Ole Miss Theatre season, as well as smaller musicals and the opportunity to perform in Ole Miss Theatre plays and Ole Miss Opera Theatre productions, you will have many chances to perform.

The philosophy of our musical theatre program is simple: To perform chorus roles, you have to be able to sing and dance. To land a lead role, you have to sing, dance and act. Our program emphasizes an approach to musical theatre training that prioritizes the importance of acting in song.

You will take three years of acting classes, which provide specialized actor training in all the major musical theatre styles, as well as three semesters of musical theatre performance studies that focus on how to act a song, the diverse styles of musical theatre and the basics of music. You will receive dance instruction in styles such as tap, ballet, jazz, modern, theatre dance and composition. In addition, you have the opportunity to enroll in the acting studio program.

As an alumnus of our program, you'll be helped in your transition from student to professional by our well-established network of Ole Miss musical theatre graduates who can provide you with indispensable insight and connections.

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS, EMPHASIS IN DESIGN/THEATRE PRODUCTION

In our Bachelor of Fine Arts in design/theatre production, you will receive the hands-on and practical experience that you need to excel in your chosen specialization: costume, scenic, lighting or sound design. Our comprehensive program will immerse you in training that provides individualized instruction, multiple opportunities for realized design projects during Ole Miss Theatre's mainstage season, the skills to compile an attractive portfolio, and an excellent faculty-to-student ratio.

You'll receive as many as three design assignments each year, ranging from straight plays and musicals to dance, opera and cinema, creating an impressive portfolio. Students have opportunities to work as design assistants for our design faculty,

who regularly work at regional theatres around the country. Not only does this experience provide insight into how a professional designer works, it also creates the invaluable networking opportunities crucial to starting a career.

Our commitment to introducing our students to the most current technology has resulted in the installation of a new sound system, the continued growth of our moving light inventory and the use of projection design in our productions. Through a mix of technical training, including wig ventilation, scenic painting, moving light programming and maintenance, and realized design experiences, our students graduate with a breadth of experience and knowledge.



BACHELOR OF ARTS IN THEATRE

Our Bachelor of Arts in theatre program is a generalist degree program that will allow you to study and train in as many different facets of theatre as you wish. It is designed specifically for students who want maximum flexibility in structuring their curricula.

If you want to pursue a career in directing, stage management, arts administration, dramaturgy, cinema, teaching at the secondary or college level, or a graduate degree in one of theatre's academic areas (history, literature or criticism), the Bachelor of Arts will prepare you for postgraduate work or study. As a B.A. student, you will be eligible for all of the performance and design opportunities available to our B.F.A. students,

and you can take advantage of our student-directed, one-act productions, which are part of our Ole Miss Theatre season, or student-produced shows, which offer additional directing opportunities.

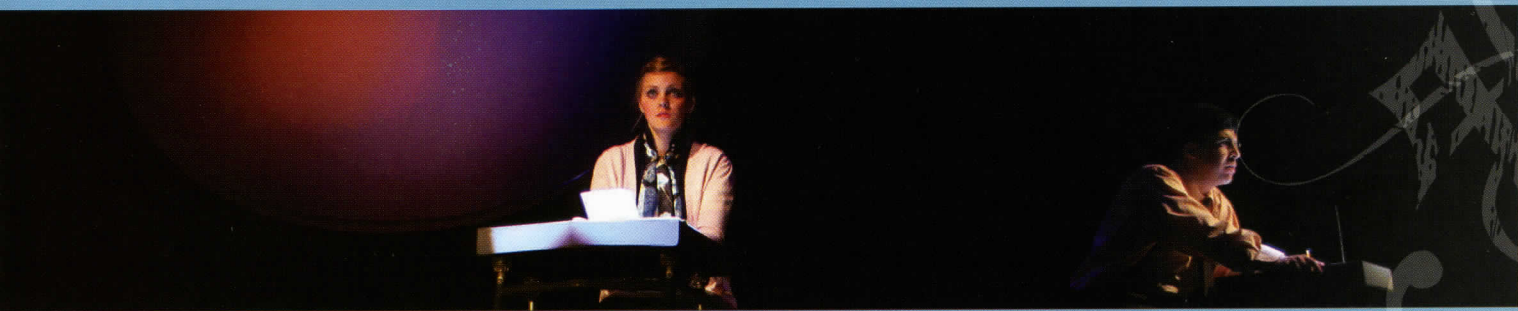
Due to the flexibility of your training, upon graduation you will have the well-rounded liberal arts education that so many employers seek. Your individually tailored course of study, your experiences in performance, design, technology and production, and your academic work in theatre history and literature will give you the skills to transition easily into a variety of careers in theatre and give you the option of pursuing opportunities in many other areas as well.

STAGE MANAGEMENT

Our students who specialize in stage management build an extensive resume and portfolio.

Through a specialized course of study, intended to expose you to a full spectrum of theatre specialties—as well as give you the opportunity to work on realized projects including straight plays, musicals, dance and opera—you will graduate with a resume filled with experiences that will be highly desirable to potential employers.

In addition to work with Ole Miss Theatre, stage management students have the opportunity to work as assistants to our faculty on professional productions, shadowing and learning from professional stage managers in regional theatres around the country. Creating a network of contacts is an invaluable experience that can lead to employment immediately following graduation.



CINEMA MINOR

Our department proudly supports the College of Liberal Arts' new interdisciplinary cinema minor. With numerous professors from various departments contributing their expertise, the minor is designed to give you the opportunity and flexibility to explore the many aspects of both cinema production and cinema studies.

The minor provides students concentrating in cinema production a greater understanding of the hands-on experience involved in the core aspects of moviemaking, including acting, directing, producing, cinematography, screenwriting and

editing. The minor provides students concentrating in cinema studies with the critical vocabulary and perspective to analyze motion pictures within larger artistic, cultural, historical, political, linguistic and global contexts.

Whether you are interested in studying the way motion pictures are made or in studying the infinite variety of existing cinema, you will gain the understanding needed to pursue your artistic or academic goals. And because of the diversity of cinema content, analysis, technology and distribution, our cinema minor complements almost any major.

DANCE

The dance program is a nondegree-granting program housed within the Department of Theatre Arts. Dance classes are geared toward acting and musical theatre students in the B.F.A. program, but they are open to all students.

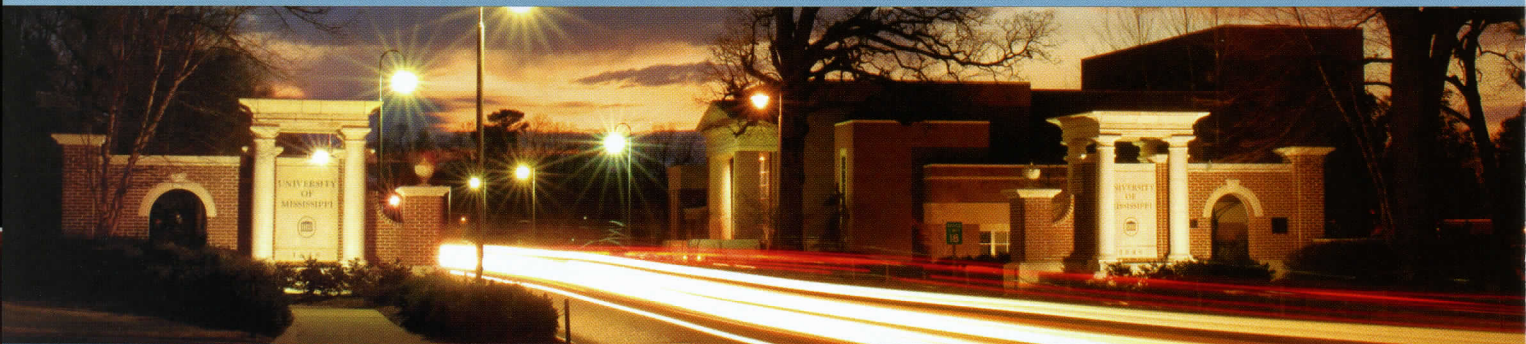
The department offers instruction in all levels of modern, jazz, tap and ballet, and students have the opportunity to work with nationally and internationally renowned guest teachers and choreographers. Dance composition courses

give many of our students the opportunity to take their choreographed pieces to the American College Dance Festival or have them produced as part of our mainstage season.

The department sponsors two performing dance companies: the modern-based Mississippi: The Dance Company and musical theatre-based Showstoppers. Mississippi: The Dance Company has performed at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C.

WHY OLE MISS?

- Ole Miss Theatre offers great performance, design and stage management opportunities for all students—including freshmen, who are often cast and play integral roles in our production season.
- The department's faculty-to-student ratio of 1:10 guarantees individualized attention from a faculty with extensive professional experience.
- Ole Miss Theatre is accredited by NAST (National Association of Schools of Theatre).
- The department houses an interdisciplinary cinema minor that offers study in cinema production and cinema study.



WHAT OUR ALUMNI ARE DOING NOW

We have alumni working across the country in positions such as the resident lighting designer at Lexington Children's Theatre, an automation/rigging technician/senior technician for Carnival Cruise Lines and an entertainment manager for the Walt Disney Co. Alumni are pursuing graduate degrees at schools including North Carolina School of the Arts, The New School and California Institute of the Arts. And our recent graduates are working on

Broadway productions ("Spiderman: Turn Off the Dark," "The Philanthropist"), feature films ("Remember Me," "The Green Lantern"), national tours ("Hairspray," "The Drowsy Chaperone" and "The Producers"), commercials and television shows such as "Scrubs," "NCIS," "CSI New York," "Friday Night Lights," "Law and Order" and "The Closer."

EXTRAORDINARY OXFORD

Home to Nobel Prize-winning author William Faulkner, Oxford is a culturally rich town renowned as a mecca for writers and artists. Nestled in the Mississippi hill country, Oxford's Downtown Square is the center of a rich community life. Southern charm pervades the entire Oxford community, and music and artistic events are numerous.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Merit-based scholarships are available to incoming students. For complete information about scholarships, grants, loans and part-time employment, visit the financial aid website at www.olemiss.edu/depts/financial_aid.

Theatre Merit Scholarship: The department awards up to 25 Theatre Merit Scholarships each year. Auditions and portfolio reviews for these scholarships are conducted four times a year on campus.

For more information on Theatre Merit Scholarship auditions and portfolio reviews, or to reserve a slot during one of the weekends, send an e-mail to theatre@olemiss.edu, or complete our online reservation form on our website at www.olemiss.edu/depts/theatre_arts/.

The Patricia Tarr Leavitt Scholarship: Established by two Ole Miss theatre alumni, this scholarship is awarded yearly to full-time undergraduate students from Mississippi pursuing a B.A. or a B.F.A. in theatre arts.

Located 75 miles southeast of Memphis, Tenn., Oxford is easily accessible from Interstate 55 and is less than a six-hour drive from Atlanta, Birmingham, New Orleans and Nashville.

The Upton-Cantú Scholarship for Bachelor of Fine Arts in Acting: The Upton-Cantú Scholarship is a merit-based award given every year to a B.F.A. acting student. Students are invited into the B.F.A. acting program after auditioning at the end of their sophomore year.

The Wallace Hamilton Scholarship: Any full-time theatre student is eligible for this annual scholarship, established by the friends and family of Wallace Hamilton.

The Susan Colbert Davis Memorial Scholarship is awarded yearly to theatre students from Mississippi, preferably from either Chickasaw or Alcorn counties, who demonstrate financial need and academic achievement and who are in at least their junior year of study.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Michael Barnett, head of recruitment, at theatre@olemiss.edu.

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www.olemiss.edu/depts/theatre_arts



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Photographs by Michael Barnett, Charles Harrell, Ryan Moore,
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