

BFA in Acting for the Stage and Screen

69-77 units

APU's Bachelor of Fine Arts in Acting for the Stage and Screen program (<https://www.apu.edu/vpa/programs/acting-major-bfa/>), located just 26 miles from Los Angeles, the entertainment capital of the world, is an innovative acting degree program providing real-world connections, professional on-camera credits, and an industry showcase of film and live performances for seniors. It is also one of the first programs in the country to train actors for equal excellence in on-camera and stage acting.

In addition to core courses, students must choose either the 6-unit theater elective option or the 14-unit musical theater emphasis. Auditions are required for admittance to the BFA program, as well as for admittance to the musical theater emphasis. All BFA students take core acting, voice, and movement courses together, but then students in the theater elective option take a selection of electives, while those in the musical theater emphasis take core musical and dance performance classes and voice lessons.

Program Policies

- If students are involved in other campus clubs, athletics, choirs, etc., they must understand that BFA expectations for courses and production responsibilities take priority over other commitments.
- Students must attend all scheduled rehearsals and tech days for productions in which they are cast or are crewing.
- Students must receive written approval from the College of the Arts to participate in the Industry Showcase if they become part-time students during their senior year.
- The BFA in Acting for the Stage and Screen is a sequential four-year cohort. Courses must be taken in sequence and progress cannot be expedited to allow for early graduation.
- Freshmen and sophomore BFA students must attend warm-ups (see the APU Student Handbook (<https://www.apu.edu/student-handbook/>)), and all BFA students must follow the standards listed in the Student Handbook or risk being put on probation, as per handbook policy.

Requirements

The BFA in Acting for the Stage and Screen is a four-year cohort degree program. All acting, voice, and movement courses have prerequisites, and students must take courses with their cohort in sequence.

Students must earn a 2.0 in each of their major courses and meet policies outlined in the Department of Theater Arts handbook. Failure to do so can result in probation.

Code	Title	Units
BFA in Acting for the Stage and Screen Core Courses		
Acting Courses		
THTR 171	Acting Fundamentals for the Stage	3
THTR 173	Improvisation and Acting Fundamentals for the Text	3
THTR 271	Intermediate Acting for the Stage	3
THTR 273	Acting Shakespeare ¹	3
THTR 361	Acting Fundamentals for the Screen	3
THTR 371	Intermediate On-Camera Scene Study	3
THTR 471	Advanced Acting for the Camera	3
THTR 472	Business of Acting/Hollywood Showcase ²	3
Voice and Movement Courses		
THTR 200	Beginning Voice for the Actor ³	3
THTR 201	Beginning Movement for the Actor	2
THTR 250	Intermediate Voice for the Actor ³	3
THTR 251	Intermediate Movement for the Actor	2
THTR 260	Advanced Voice for the Actor	3
THTR 301	Advanced Movement for the Actor	2
THTR 400	Advanced Voice and Movement Integration	3
Performance Course		

THTR 216	Performance Cast ⁴	6
Film and Theater History Courses		
THTR 225	History of Theater to the Nineteenth Century ⁵	3
THTR 226	History of Theater: 19th Century to the Present	3
CINE 285	History of Film ¹	3
Technical Theater Courses		
THTR 217	Technical Theater Practicum ⁶	2
THTR 218	Production Crew ⁷	1
THTR 223	Theatrical Makeup	3
Total Units		63

In addition to core courses, students must choose either the Musical Theater Emphasis (14 units) or Theater Elective Option (6 units).

Code	Title	Units
Musical Theater Emphasis ⁸		
THTR 216	Performance Cast ⁹	3
THTR 440	Musical Theater Workshop	3
MUS 111	Applied Voice ¹⁰	8
Total Units		14

Code	Title	Units
Theater Elective Option ¹¹		
Select two of the following:		6
THTR 221	Theatrical Sets and Properties	
THTR 222	Theatrical Lighting and Sound	
THTR 224	Introduction to Stage Management	
THTR 365	Theater for Social Change ¹²	
THTR 374	Writing 3: Playwriting ¹³	
THTR 423	Directing	
THTR 440	Musical Theater Workshop	
Total Units		6

¹ Meets the General Education Humanities: Fine Arts requirement.

² Meets the General Education Integrative and Applied Learning requirement.

³ Taking THTR 200 and THTR 250 meets the General Education Oral Communication requirement.

⁴ All BFA students are required to take a minimum of 6 units of THTR 216. Students who are cast in a production must be enrolled in THTR 216.

⁵ Meets the General Education Intercultural Competence requirement.

⁶ Students are required to take 1 unit of THTR 217 in the fall AND spring semesters of their freshman year in the program.

⁷ Students are required to take 1 unit of THTR 218 in EITHER the fall or spring semester of their sophomore year of the program.

⁸ Students must audition for admittance into the Musical Theater Emphasis.

⁹ All Musical Theater Emphasis students must take 2 units of THTR 216 Performance Cast: Cabaret and 1 unit of THTR 216 Performance Cast: Dance to fulfill the 3 units of THTR 216 Performance Cast in the emphasis.

¹⁰ Students must take the Music Theory Diagnostic before starting the program. If they do not pass, they will take MUS 120 before MUS 111.

¹¹ In order to satisfy the 120-unit requirement to graduate, students who take the Theater Elective Option may be required to take additional undergraduate units.

¹² Meets the General Education Civic Knowledge and Engagement requirement.

¹³ Meets the General Education Writing 3 requirement.