



## **2020 Course Catalog Addendum**

This catalog addendum contains new and updated information, as well as corrections of errors in the original catalog. These changes replace what is printed in the current 2020 Catalog.



The following chart lists the pages in the AMDA 2020 Catalog to be replaced with the content in this addendum.

Addendum Pages (new content)	2020 Catalog Pages (content replaced)	Catalog Section
2	[new page; follows page 30]	Overview: AMDA Programs
3 - 5	52 - 53, 54 - 55, 56 -57	Associate of Occupational Studies Sample Curricular Tables
6 - 9	[new section; follows page 49]	[new section] Bachelor of Arts Degree in Theatre Arts
10 - 12	[new section; follows page 59]	[new section] Master Degree Programs
13 - 17	[new section; follows page 129]	Bachelor of Arts Degree Program Course Descriptions
18 - 20	[new section; follows Bachelor of Arts Degree Program Course Descriptions]	Master Degree Programs Course Descriptions
21	67	Admissions [additional content]
22	72 -73	Refund Policies And Procedures: Tuition Refund Information
	New text replaces "Tuition Refund Information," "Tuition Refund Policy: New York Campus," and "Tuition Refund Policy: Los Angeles Campus"	
23	76	Costs and Financial Aid
	New "Return of Title IV Funds (R2T4) Policy" content follows "Federal Work Study"	
24	94	Academic Policies: Residency Requirement
25	103 - 104	Academic Standards: Veterans Affairs Standards
26	7, 69, 81, 88, 107	Misc. policy additions. See page 16 for details.
27	156	Appendix: Academic Calendar

## Bachelor of Arts Degree Program

The Bachelor of Arts program at AMDA offers a well-rounded liberal arts education. Students gain a broad perspective of their subject matter while drawing connections to a variety of liberal arts courses centered in the humanities, literature, history, and social sciences. AMDA's Bachelor of Arts program provides a diverse educational experience, helping students develop individually and intellectually as capable and contributing members of their chosen professional communities.

### BA DEGREE IN THEATRE ARTS



## Page 52: Revised AOS Acting Sample Curriculum

### First Term Sample Curriculum

AC100	Acting I: Beginning Scene Study	2.5
AC102	Acting I: Techniques	2.5
AC103	Iconic Theatre: 19th through Mid-20th Century	1.0
AC122	Improvisation I: Foundations	1.5
AC200	Alexander Technique	1.0
DN150	Dance and Movement for the Performing Artist I	1.0
SC100	Stage Combat I: Unarmed	1.5
FS100	First-Semester Seminars	0.5
VP140	Voice, Production and Speech I: Foundations	2.0
ENG101	English Composition	3.0
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>16.5</b>

### Second Term Sample Curriculum

AC110	Acting II: Contemporary Scene Study	2.5
AC112	Acting II: Period Scene Study	2.5
AC113	Iconic Theatre: Ancient Greece to Romanticism	1.0
AC123	Improvisation II: Techniques	1.5
DN170	Dance and Movement for the Performing Artist II	1.0
FL120	Acting for the Camera I	2.0
SC180	Stage Combat II: Rapier and Dagger	1.5
VP141	Voice, Production and Speech II: Techniques	1.5
SPC205	Introduction to Oral Communication	3.0
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>16.5</b>

## Page 53: Revised AOS Acting Sample Curriculum

### Third Term Sample Curriculum

AC222	Acting Styles	2.0
AC227	Acting III: Advanced Scene Study	3.5
AC318	Career Preparation	1.0
FL121	Acting for the Camera II	2.0
FL380	Film Studies: The Art of the Motion Picture	1.5
VP243	Voice, Production and Speech III: Advanced Techniques	1.5
CRT200	Applied Logic and Critical Thinking	3.0
<b>Select one of the following elective courses:</b>		
AC202	Improvisation: Introduction to Long Form	1.5
MT338	Ensemble Singing for the Actor	1.5
SC280	Stage Combat III: Broadsword	1.5
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>16.0</b>

### Fourth Term Sample Curriculum

AC242	Acting Production Showcase	5.0
AC244	Acting Scene Showcase	5.0
AC246	Industry Workshop	1.0
AC250	Mock Audition	0.5
FL240	Film Projects	3.0
PI203	Finding Your Voice: Rotational Offering	0.5
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>15.0</b>
<b>Total Program Credits</b>		<b>64.0</b>

## Page 54: Revised AOS Musical Theatre Sample Curriculum

### First Term Sample Curriculum

AC100	Acting I: Beginning Scene Study	2.5
DN150	Dance and Movement for the Performing Artist I	1.0
DNB111-113	Ballet	1.0
IV101	Individual Voice I	0.5
MT130/ MT130L	Musical Theatre I: Techniques & Accompanist Music Lab	3.5
MT141	Iconic Music Theatre History	1.0
MU144	Sightsinging Fundamentals	1.0
VP140	Voice, Production and Speech I: Foundations	2.0
FS100	First-Semester Seminars	0.5
ENG101	English Composition	3.0
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>16.0</b>

### Second Term Sample Curriculum

AC110	Acting II: Contemporary Scene Study	2.5
DN170	Dance and Movement for the Performing Artist II	1.0
DNB111-113	Ballet	1.0
DNJ111-113	Jazz	1.0
DNT111-113	Tap	1.0
IV102	Individual Voice II	0.5
MT134/ MT134L	Musical Theatre II: Styles & Accompanist Music Lab	3.5
MU148	Sightsinging Techniques	1.0
VP141	Voice, Production and Speech II: Techniques	1.5
SPC205	Introduction to Oral Communication	3.0
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>16.0</b>

## Page 55: Revised AOS Musical Theatre Sample Curriculum

### Third Term Sample Curriculum

AC227	Acting III: Advanced Scene Study	3.5
AC318	Career Preparation	1.0
DN231	Musical Theatre: Dance Audition Techniques	1.0
DNJ111-113	Jazz	1.0
DNT111-113	Tap	1.0
IV201	Individual Voice III	0.5
MT233/ MT233L	Musical Theatre III: Scenes & Accompanist Music Lab	3.5
VP243	Voice, Production and Speech III: Advanced Techniques	1.5
CRT200	Applied Logic and Critical Thinking	3.0
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>16.0</b>

### Fourth Term Sample Curriculum

AC244	Acting Scene Showcase	5.0
AC246	Industry Workshop	1.0
FL240	Film Projects	3.0
IV202	Individual Voice IV	0.5
MT244	Musical Theatre: Auditions	1.0
MT264	Musical Theatre Production Showcase	5.0
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>15.5</b>
<b>Total Program Credits</b>		<b>63.5</b>

## Page 56: Revised AOS Dance Theatre Sample Curriculum

### First Term Sample Curriculum

DCB111-113	Core Techniques: Classical Ballet Foundations*	1.0
DCO111-113	Core Techniques: Contemporary Ballet Foundations*	1.0
DCC111-113	Core Techniques: Contemporary Foundations*	1.0
DCJ111-113	Core Techniques: Classic Jazz Foundations*	1.0
DNB111-113	Ballet	1.0
DNM111-113	Modern	1.0
DTP101	Dance Theatre Project I	2.0
DN130	Fitness and Injury Prevention	1.5
DN140	Iconic Dance Theatre Pop Culture	1.0
AC116	Acting Fundamentals	1.5
ENG101	English Composition	3.0
FS100	First-Semester Seminars	0.5
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>15.5</b>

### Second Term Sample Curriculum

DCB111-113	Core Techniques: Classical Ballet Foundations*	1.0
DCH111-113	Core Techniques: Hip-Hop Foundations*	1.0
DCM111-113	Core Techniques: Modern Foundations*	1.0
DCZ111-113	Core Techniques: Commercial Jazz*	1.0
DNB111-113	Ballet	1.0
DNJ111-113	Jazz	1.0
DNM111-113	Modern	1.0
DTP102	Dance Theatre Project II	2.0
DN141	Dance Theatre History	1.0
AC100	Acting I: Beginning Scene Study	2.5
MT122	Introduction to Singing Techniques	0.5
SPC205	Introduction to Oral Communication	3.0
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>16.0</b>

## Page 57: Revised AOS Dance Theatre Sample Curriculum

### Third Term Sample Curriculum

DCB111-113	Core Techniques: Classical Ballet Foundations*	1.0
DCJ111-113	Core Techniques: Classic Jazz Foundations*	1.0
DCO111-113	Core Techniques: Contemporary Ballet Foundations*	1.0
DCS111-113	Core Techniques: Broadway Styles/Theatre Dance*	1.0
DTP201	Dance Theatre Project III	2.0
DN200	Dance Theatre: Kinetic Storytelling I	2.0
AC318	Career Preparation	1.0
FL120	Acting for the Camera I	2.0
MT338	Ensemble Singing for the Actor	1.5
CRT200	Applied Logic and Critical Thinking	3.0
<b>Select one of the following elective courses:</b>		
DNB111-113	Ballet	1.0
DNJ111-113	Jazz	1.0
DN_11_	Dance Specialty* (Heels or Hip-Hop)	1.0
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>16.5</b>

### Fourth Term Sample Curriculum

DCB111-113	Core Techniques: Classical Ballet Foundations*	1.0
DCH111-113	Core Techniques: Hip-Hop Foundations*	1.0
DCM111-113	Core Techniques: Modern Foundations*	1.0
DCZ111-113	Core Techniques: Commercial Jazz*	1.0
DN204	Dance Theatre: Audition Techniques	1.0
DN241	Dance Theatre Production Showcase	4.0
DNO202	Dance Theatre Company IV	2.0
DN242	Dance Theatre: Kinetic Storytelling for the Camera I	2.0
AC246	Industry Workshop	1.0
<b>Select one of the following elective courses:</b>		
DNB111-113	Ballet	1.0
DNJ111-113	Jazz	1.0
DN_11_	Dance Specialty* (Ballroom or Latin Fusion)	1.0
<b>Total Fourth Semester Credits</b>		<b>15.0</b>
<b>Total Program Credits</b>		<b>63.0</b>



# BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE IN THEATRE ARTS

## Program Learning Outcomes

Students completing the Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts program should be able to:

- Demonstrate abilities to exhibit excellence in preparation, presentation, and credibility, incorporating these in the specific craft of theatre arts.
- Demonstrate comprehension of the core concepts, processes, history, and theory of theatre and performance.
- Implement analytical, conceptual and technical skills in a variety of performance practices.
- Work effectively in groups, to create theatrical moments or events and solve production problems.
- Demonstrate, across the various sub-fields, skills in personal discipline (organization, focus, energy commitment), effectively applied to theatrical problem-solving and the creation of theatrical moments and events.
- Formulate constructive critical responses to theatrical phenomena.
- Compare different theatrical forms, aesthetic values, or cultural contexts, as a way of deepening one's technical skills and expanding one's awareness of what is theatrically possible.

The liberal arts Bachelor's Degree in Theatre Arts is designed for students interested in pursuing a full range of academic study alongside a vibrant exploration of theatre. This eight-semester degree program begins with foundational theatre training that focuses on the study of theatre history, performance, directing, theatre design, playwriting, and script analysis. Students are provided with a breadth of opportunities to examine live theatre performances through which the personal, social, and aesthetic impact of theatre arts may be experienced.

As a liberal arts degree program, students will also focus on acquiring knowledge in the areas of arts, humanities, and natural and social sciences. Each semester provides opportunities for gaining a greater understanding of communications, theatre analysis, and critical thinking. AMDA's liberal arts theatre program provides a diverse educational experience helping students emerge as informed and thoughtful citizens prepared to contribute to the global communities in which they live. With specific knowledge, skills, and competencies that can be applied to existing and emerging theatre environments, students are prepared to work effectively in a variety of careers in theatre and related industries.

Theatre arts related jobs\* include, but are not limited to: Art Directors (27-1011); (Arts) Manager (11-9190); Producers and Directors (27-2012); Writers and Authors (Advertising Copy Writer, Playwright, Television Writer) (27-3043); Art, Drama, and Music Teachers, Postsecondary (25-1121); Self-Enrichment Teachers (25-3021).

\*The 6-digit codes following each job represent the Standard Occupational Classification determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics ([www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov)).

## SUMMARY OF REQUIRED COURSES

Degree Requirements	Credits	Program Category Key	Credits
Theatre Arts Foundation	61.0	Theatre Arts Foundation	61.0
General Education	60.0	General Education	60.0
Foundations	12.0	Elective (options may vary)	3.0
Arts and Humanities	12.0		
Social and Behavioral Sciences	15.0		
Physical and Biological Sciences	8.0		
Creative Expression	6.0		
Lifelong Learning and Self Development	3.0		
Writing Intensive	4.0		
Elective (options may vary)	3.0		
<b>Minimum Credits Required</b>	<b>124.0</b>	<b>Total Credits Prescribed</b>	<b>124.0</b>







### First Semester Sample Curriculum

THR100	Introduction to Theatre and Performance	3.0
THR105	Acting I: Foundations and Techniques	3.0
THR134	History of the American Musical	3.0
ENG101	English Composition	3.0
FIN101	Personal Finance	3.0
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>15.0</b>

### Second Semester Sample Curriculum

THR110	Acting II: Scene Study	3.0
THR112	The Speaking Voice: Vocal Production and Performance	2.0
THP100	Theatre Practicum: Theatre Viewing	1.0
SPC205	Introduction to Oral Communication	3.0
HUM110	Exploring World Literature	3.0
CRE208	A History of Science Fiction	3.0
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>15.0</b>

### Third Semester Sample Curriculum

THR210	History of the Theatre I	3.0
THR220	Principles of Dramatic Analysis	3.0
CRT200	Applied Logic and Critical Thinking	3.0
SCI219	Biology Concepts	4.0
<b>Select one of the following elective courses:</b>		
THR107	Introduction to Musical Theatre Technique	3.0
THR109	Introduction to Improvisation	
THR111	Introduction to Movement	
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>16.0</b>

### Fourth Semester Sample Curriculum

THR230	Introduction to Design, Technology and Production (with lab)	4.0
THR235	Analyzing the Classics	3.0
THR240	Introduction to Playwriting	3.0
MAT202	Applied Statistics	3.0
ANT200	Introduction to Anthropology	3.0
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>16.0</b>





## Fifth Semester Sample Curriculum

THR310	History of the Theatre II	3.0
THR305	Essentials of Stage Management	3.0
HUM226	Introduction to Philosophy	3.0
SOC304	Introduction to Sociology	3.0
SCI222	Astronomy Foundations	4.0
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>16.0</b>

## Sixth Semester Sample Curriculum

THR330	Directing for the Theatre	3.0
SOC203	Introduction to Psychology	3.0
CRE303	Cultures of Fear and the Horror Film	3.0
ENG300	Academic Research and Writing	4.0
HUM310	Classic American Literature	3.0
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>16.0</b>





### Seventh Semester Sample Curriculum

THR411	Theories of Theatre	3.0
THR321	Classic Repertoire	3.0
THR417	Applied Theatrical Design	3.0
POL307	Introduction to Political Science	3.0
ART306	Visual Art and the Human Experience	3.0
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>15.0</b>

### Eighth Semester Sample Curriculum

THR323	Contemporary Black Theatre: 1960 to Present	3.0
THR327	Writing: Experiments With Characters and Form	3.0
THR427	Adaptation and the Theatre	3.0
THR450	BA Capstone Project	3.0
SOC301	Mass Communication and Societal Impacts	3.0
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>15.0</b>
<b>Total Program Credits</b>		<b>124.0</b>

# MASTER OF FINE ARTS DEGREE IN WRITING FOR THEATRE AND MEDIA

## Program Learning Outcomes

- **Advanced Skills in Dramatic Construction:** Demonstrate the ability to create texts that effectively incorporate dramatic strategies and structures.
- **Concept to Script:** Demonstrate the ability to cultivate an idea from concept to finished product.
- **Script to Production:** Demonstrate the ability to edit a script through the process of collaboration to final production.
- **Interdisciplinary Competency:** Demonstrate a command of interdisciplinary research and practice through written and oral presentation.
- **History, Theory and Criticism:** Acquire an advanced understanding of theatre history, theory and criticism as it reflects current and historical discussion and debate and apply this knowledge to the production of creative pieces.
- **Cross-cultural Responsibility:** Demonstrate a grasp of global perspectives and cross-cultural analysis.
- **Research:** Engage in original, focused research pertaining to their field of study.
- **Professional Writing:** Demonstrate key professional capacities related to writing for performance, including effective communication skills, technology literacy and an understanding of professional ethics and best practices.

The Master of Fine Arts in Writing for Theatre and Media is a three-year terminal graduate degree designed for students who are passionate about developing the professional-level skills necessary to create narratives from concept to production. Students prepare for their careers as professional writers by learning how to think critically about society and how to approach current issues such as diversity, inclusion, access and modern theatre theory. With a focus on the collaborative process, students develop advanced storytelling techniques through writing-intensive coursework and in co-curricular programming. Creating production-ready content is at the core of this program and to this end, students have many opportunities to witness their work being brought to fruition by AMDA's student performers on the stage and screen. Graduates complete the program having created a portfolio of professional pieces, preparing them to enter the business of writing for theatre and media.

## SUMMARY OF REQUIRED COURSES

Program Category Key	Credits
Creation and/or Presentation of Theatre	39.0
Advanced Analytical and Academic Theatre Studies	12.0
Writing Internship	9.0
<b>Total Program Credit Hours</b>	<b>60.0</b>

# Sample Curriculum

## YEAR ONE

### Fall Semester

THR520	Seminar in Theatre History	3.0
WTM510	Theatre and Media Writing: Collaboration	3.0
WTM520	Theatre and Media Writing: Research and Application	3.0
Total Credits		9.0

### Summer Semester

WTM581	Writing Internship	3.0
Total Credits		3.0

### Spring Semester

THE550	Seminar in Theories of Drama and Theatre	3.0
WTM511	Writing Workshop/Lab 1	6.0
Total Credits		9.0

## YEAR TWO

### Fall Semester

THE560	Seminar in Critical Race Theory	3.0
WTM530	Theatre and Media Writing: Dramaturgy	3.0
WTM540	Theatre and Media Writing: Readings, Analysis and Adaptation	3.0
Total Credits		9.0

### Summer Semester

WTM582	Writing Internship	3.0
Total Credits		3.0

### Spring Semester

WTM561	The Business of Writing for Theatre and Media	3.0
WTM512	Writing Workshop/Lab 2	6.0
Total Credits		9.0

## YEAR THREE

### Fall Semester

THE570	Seminar in Queer and Gender Theory	3.0
WTM571	Advanced Design, Technology and Production	3.0
WTM513	Writing Workshop/Lab 3	3.0
Total Credits		9.0

### Summer Semester

WTM583	Writing Internship	3.0
Total Credits		3.0
Total Program Credits		60.0

### Spring Semester

WTM550	Theatre and Media Writing: Contemporary and Future Media	3.0
WTM514	Writing Workshop/Lab 4	3.0
Total Credits		6.0

# MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE IN THEATRE

## Program Learning Outcomes

- **History, Theory and Criticism:** Acquire a comprehensive understanding of theatre history, theory and criticism as they reflect current and historical discussion and debate.
- **Research:** Engage in original, focused research pertaining to their field of study.
- **Cross-cultural Responsibility:** Demonstrate a grasp of global perspectives and cross-cultural analysis.
- **Interdisciplinary Competency:** Demonstrate a command of interdisciplinary research through written and oral presentation.
- **Academic and Professional Writing:** Demonstrate skills in academic and professional writing, including an effective understanding of primary research, project organization, drafting, revision, and final editing, resulting in work worthy of critical peer review and publication.
- **Praxis:** Produce original scholarly work and/or analysis of creative primary research that will add to the general body of knowledge.

The Master of Arts program at AMDA offers students the opportunity to develop as original scholars of theatre. Unique at AMDA is the opportunity to study theatre arts at the graduate level amongst an active and diverse community of performing artists. This intensive graduate program is completed in one year, including three semesters of immersive courses and an original thesis project. Student theses are completed under the mentorship of faculty and through collaboration with peers. The program's curriculum includes a course sequence in academic writing that emphasizes peer learning and review as well as organization, technique and writing project management. Students graduate from this program with highly developed skills in the analysis of theatre literature, history and criticism.

## SUMMARY OF REQUIRED COURSES

Program Category Key	Credits
Advanced Analytical and Academic Theatre Studies	27.0
Advanced Analytical and Academic Theatre Studies, Elective	12.0
<b>Total Program Credit Hours</b>	<b>30.0</b>

## Sample Curriculum

### First Semester

THR570	Academic Writing in Theatre Studies: Development, Revisions, and Critique	3.0
THR550	Seminar in Research Methods	3.0
THE550	Seminar in Theories of Drama and Theatre	3.0
THR520	Seminar in Theatre History	3.0
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>12.0</b>

### Second Semester

THR541	Seminar in Cross-Cultural Theatre Studies (Asian Theatre Focus)	3.0
THR530	Seminar in Theatre History II	3.0
THR580	Academic Writing in Theatre Studies: Articles, Conferences, and Publication	3.0
<b>Select one of the following elective courses:</b>		<b>3.0</b>
THR540	History of Musical Theatre	
THE560	Critical Race Theory	
THE570	Queer and Gender Theory	
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>12.0</b>

### Third Semester

THR600	Thesis Seminar	6.0
<b>Total Program Credits</b>		<b>30.0</b>





# Course Descriptions

AMDA Los Angeles  
Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts



## Theatre Arts

### THP100 Theatre Practicum:

#### Theatre Viewing

A mixture of attending live performances of AMDA productions with viewing recorded outside theatrical performances provides the basis for building skill sets in theatre analysis. After each viewing, students submit written observations and analysis as related to a variety of production components. This is designed to illuminate the collaborative nature of theatre as an event and create a more informed and enlightened audience viewing experience. This course is largely independent and reflective in nature. (1.0 credits)

### THR100 Introduction to Theatre and Performance

The foundations of the study of theatre and performance are explored in this introductory class. Through a historical survey of seminal works, students develop their theatre appreciation and knowledge base. With a greater understanding of theatre and its impact on culture, students then go on to develop their own set of analytical skills related to performance through observing, writing about and actively participating in theatre exercises. (3.0 credits)

### THR105 Acting I: Foundations and Techniques

Students bring to life characters and stories within a given text. Through life-study observation and various acting techniques, students actualize natural human behavior within rehearsed scenes. Techniques for demonstrating the "who, where, when and what" in role preparation are developed. The goal is to develop performances that are infused with passion, commitment and craft. (3.0 credits)

### THR107 Introduction to Musical Theatre Technique

Students are introduced to the foundational skills needed for effective musical theatre performance. The use of AMDA's "Approach to a Song," a method for developing skills in acting and singing, is introduced to students as a method for overcoming challenges related to musical theatre performance. (3.0 credits)

### THR109 Introduction to Improvisation

Designed to enhance range, imagination, and physical choices, students master basic improvisational skills that focus on facing performance anxiety, developing creativity, listening on stage, learning to trust oneself and one's partner and supporting other performers on stage. (3.0 credits)

### THR111 Introduction to Movement

Students are introduced to elements of movement for the theatre as related

to professional attitudes, physical awareness, flexibility, and precision. There is a foundational emphasis placed on spatial relationships, posture, rhythmic accuracy, energy and the ability to respond to direction. (3.0 credits)

### THR110 Acting II: Scene Study

As students continue to apply acting techniques and expand performance skill sets, they begin to explore physically incorporating honesty, economy, specificity and spontaneity into performances from 20th-century American dramas. Students grow as performers and learn to take risks while maintaining simplicity and suitability in acting choices. **Prerequisite:** THR105 Acting I: Foundations and Techniques (3.0 credits)

### THR112 The Speaking Voice: Vocal Production and Performance

Students are trained in a series of practical exercises, including relaxation, breath, production of tone, range of voice, elongation of breath and tone, and clarity of speech. These exercises assist in developing healthy, natural and career-sustaining vocal technique and help students fully realize the potential and variety in their own voices. (2.0 credits)

### THR134 History of the American Musical

This select yet comprehensive study explores American musical theatre from 1875 to 1943, the dawn of the form's golden age. (3.0 credits)

### THR210 History of the Theatre I

History of the Theatre I explores the artistic, intellectual, historical, sociopolitical and overall cultural context of major playwrights and theatrical traditions. Significant dramatists are studied and numerous works spanning Egyptian ritual of 2500 BCE to the Spanish Golden Age of 1640 CE are read, discussed and analyzed. The cultural framework of each period is examined. (3.0 credits)

### THR220 Principles of Dramatic Analysis

Students learn to break down a play into its parts, from plot components like inciting incident, crisis, climax, etc., to style and genre. The course begins by examining Aristotelian methods and then further investigates dramatic structure, adaptation and deconstruction. Analytical and critical skills are developed for identifying essential dramatic components used for creating performable characters. (3.0 credits)

### THR230 Introduction to Design, Technology and Production (with lab)

The look and feel of a show's design can greatly impact the theatre experience for performers and audiences alike. The set, lights, direction and other design components can enhance the mood, energy and ultimate reality in which a story will unfold. This course delves into why and how design elements come to fruition. Discussions

include how the type of performance space, such as proscenium, thrust, amphitheater, etc., might affect a production. Additionally, the need for communication and collaboration among design teams is emphasized. Practical considerations such as costs, materials and methods are intersected with artistic creativity. This course includes a hands-on lab component to expose students to the realities of theatrical design. (4.0 credits)

### THR235 Analyzing the Classics

Students learn to identify and develop the critical skills needed to effectively analyze dramatic text, identifying the essential information theatre artists use to create successful productions. The perspective of the actor, director and designer are considered. The elements of dramatic structure, character creation, story arc, psychological and physical environments, vocal score, mood, theme, and dramatic style are explored. Research, readings and analytical discussions are essential components of the class. Several different plays from the American canon illustrating different dramatic approaches are examined. Works by Treadwell, O'Neill, Williams, Hellman, Hansberry, Wilson, Miller, Albee, Mamet, Nottage and Kushner may be explored. (3.0 credits)

### THR240 Introduction to Playwriting

Students explore the fundamentals of playwriting while developing skills in creating compelling characters, dialogue and plot. The basic elements of dramatic structure and the parallels and differences of the art forms are examined. **Prerequisite:** ENG101 English Composition (3.0 credits)

### THR305 Essentials of Stage Management

Essentials of Stage Management serves as an introduction to the theories, techniques and practices of stage managing a production, from the initial stages to the conclusion of the run. Plays, musicals, opera, dance and touring productions are examined from the perspective of the stage manager. Working with directors, choreographers and other members of the production team is discussed as well as calling shows. Students acquire practical experience through assignments on AMDA productions. **Prerequisite:** THR230 Introduction to Design, Technology and Production (with lab) (3.0 credits)

### THR310 History of the Theatre II

Students trace the development of contemporary Western theatre by examining dramatic texts from 19th-century realism to the present. Emphasis is placed on the influence of Ibsen, Chekhov and Strindberg. The conventions and acting styles of each period are compared, and the role of politics, economics and philosophy in developing theatre is analyzed. **Prerequisite:** THR210 History of the Theatre I (3.0 credits)

**THR321 Classic Repertoire**

Students are familiarized with a vast classical repertoire, including the Greek dramatists, Shakespeare, Calderon, Molière and Racine. Students research and perform works from a classic repertoire, specifically focusing on influential theatrical movements and the acting styles they fostered. (3.0 credits)

**THR323 Contemporary Black Theatre: 1960 to Present**

Through the study of African American theatre from 1960 to the present, students gain perspective on the impact of social movements and how they influenced playwriting. Style, form, and content are explored through the cultural environments that existed during the Civil Rights and Black Arts movements. Students read and analyze work by Childress, Wolfe, Baldwin, Baraka and others. **Prerequisite:** ENG101 English Composition (3.0 credits)

**THR327 Writing: Experiments With Characters and Form**

Students are provided opportunities to creatively express themselves by writing for film, television and theatre. Through detailed exploration of the principles surrounding character and story construction, students are encouraged to create, on the page, three-dimensional characters with wants, needs and an emotional arc. The writing workshop process has students brainstorm, structure, edit, review and revise and ultimately prepares them to draft an outline for a new, full-length script. **Prerequisite:** THR240 Introduction to Playwriting (3.0 credits)

**THR330 Directing for the Theatre**

This course is an introduction to the art of Theatre Direction and the contributions made by collaborative team members involved in creating a theatrical production. Exploration includes history of stage directing, house, and stage management. **Prerequisite:** THR230 Introduction to Design, Technology and Production (with lab) (3.0 credits)

**THR411 Theories of Theatre**

Why and how did theatre develop as it did? What ideas and events influenced and determined the direction of theatre exploration and creation? Theories of Theatre explores the relationship between theatre performance and literature and the cultural and political ideas at the heart of intellectual debate and creative artistic development, from the ancient Greeks to contemporary realism and modern experimental theatre. **Prerequisite:** THR310 History of the Theatre II (3.0 credits)

**THR417 Applied Theatrical Design**

In a continuation of Introduction to Design, Technology and Production, Applied Theatrical Design offers students a chance to create their own aesthetic design for theatre. Students are guided to create and/or articulate basic designs for sets, lights and costumes. Each student then chooses one of their basic designs to develop in greater detail. The course culminates with each student presenting their final, fully developed design. **Prerequisite:** THR310 History of the Theatre II (3.0 credits)

**THR427 Adaptation and the Theatre**

A detailed look at the structures of storytelling and the challenges faced when adapting a story for the medium of live theatre. With any adaptation, the goal is to maintain the integrity of the original story. Films are written in three acts consisting of numerous quick scenes and multiple locations providing extensive visuals. Novels are constructed of multiple dense chapters designed to slowly unfurl exposition with modulated character and story development to inspire the imagination. Conversely, plays and musicals usually adhere to a strict two-act structure, using longer and fewer scenes to communicate the story with minimal locales. This course examines works successfully adapted to the theatre. Original source material for these adaptations includes literature and film. **THR310 History of the Theatre II** (3.0 credits)

**THR450 BA Capstone Project**

The Bachelor of Arts in Theatre capstone project provides students with the opportunity to demonstrate their intellectual, practical and personal growth. With project approval and guidance from an AMDA faculty member, students exercise and apply the skill sets they have developed throughout the program. Project objectives include a summative demonstration of critical thinking skills related to performance, an understanding of playwriting and production processes, an awareness of theatre repertoire, and the ability to develop and communicate informed judgements about theatre. (3.0 credits)



## General Education

### ANT200 Introduction to Anthropology

The field of anthropology seeks to describe elements of humanity through a social scientific approach to the study of culture, biology, evolution, language and history. Students explore these fields in terms of theory, methodology and information analysis. Through a survey of the five major subfields, students gain an understanding of the holistic and comparative methods by which anthropologists probe human and cultural development. (3.0 credits)

### ART306 Visual Art and the Human Experience

Employing a diverse array of artists and artworks to help students distinguish artistic form, content and their importance in society, this course serves as an exploration of visual art forms and their cultural connections. A brief study of the origins/historical development and the impact of art from ancient times to the 21st century guides this exploration. Students learn how to examine, analyze, interpret and discuss works of visual art within various contexts and themes. Examined works encompass artistic styles from western and other major world cultures. Course topics may include developing a personal set of standards for judging art, understanding the language of art, and the exploration of the technical and formal aspects of various art media (painting, printmaking, photography, sculpture, architecture, etc.). (3.0 credits)

### CRE208 A History of Science Fiction

Through close analysis of visual style, themes and the subtexts of seminal science fiction films, students have the opportunity to discover the Wellsian "fantasies of possibility" through the eyes of visionary filmmakers. This course's survey-style exploration not only provides students a sense of the history and functions of the cinematic sci-fi genre, but also provides a forum for writing lucid and perceptive film criticism. **Prerequisite:** ENG101 English Composition (3.0 credits)

### CRE303 Cultures of Fear and the Horror Film

Cultures of Fear and the Horror Film examines the construction and application of central themes in the scope of international horror cinema and how they reveal salient aspects of cultural similarities and differences. Gender, sexuality, violence and socio-political climates are part of this exploration. The genre of horror provides students with an opportunity to approach such contemporary issues through an unconventional lens. **Prerequisite:** ENG101 English Composition (3.0 credits)

### CRT200 Applied Logic and Critical Thinking

At a time when the sheer volume of information that we receive each day

can seem overwhelming, it has become increasingly important that we think deeply about exactly how we think, the sources on which we rely and the beliefs that underpin our worldviews. With a focus on developing methods in thinking critically, logically and objectively, this course offers the opportunity for students to strengthen skills in formulating arguments and communicating them effectively. Students participate in evaluating contemporary issues through the lenses of multiple perspectives. Then, by way of collaborative discussions and interactive class activities, students are challenged to analyze beliefs, investigate their own thought processes and support their informed conclusions. **Prerequisite:** ENG101 English Composition (3.0 credits)

### ENG101 English Composition

Students are challenged to think critically about complex ideas and express responses through well-structured, logically reasoned, effective and grammatically accurate prose. Writing assignments are situated in the contemporary world, so students have the opportunity to focus their writing on issues that are current, relevant and compelling. This course is designed to develop and enhance the student's writing ability through cultivating skills in planning, drafting, revising and editing. (3.0 credits)

### ENG300 Academic Research and Writing

This upper-level course aims to prepare students for professional and graduate level research and writing. Topics covered include selecting a topic and developing a research plan, using library and digital resources to identify reliable sources that point to relevant research questions, building an argument, creating a coherent draft, and proofing and editing. Students develop a primary research paper throughout the term that includes a number of peer-reviewed milestones and workshop opportunities. **Prerequisites:** ENG101 English Composition; CRT200 Applied Logic and Critical Thinking (4.0 credits)

### FIN101 Personal Finance

The purpose of this course is to prepare students with essential personal finance management skills. Topics include how to build strong credit, preparing for tax season, creating secondary revenue streams, and technology that can help promote sound budgeting practices. Students participate in activities that help to reinforce these skills, including creating mock investment portfolios and developing personal budgets. (3.0 credits)

### HUM110 Exploring World Literature

Across space and time, the human experience is unified through the expressions of social, cultural and emotional phenomena such as love, strife, hope and faith. The exploration of

world literature provides windows into how these most universally lived realities have been experienced and articulated by some of the greatest storytellers the world has known. In this discussion-based course, students are guided on a thematic tour through the multicultural literary landscape from the 11th century until today. Students develop skills in close reading, critical analysis and thesis development. **Prerequisite:** ENG101 English Composition (3.0 credits)

### HUM226 Introduction to Philosophy

Introduction to Philosophy systematically explores texts and thinkers from the history of philosophy (East and West, ancient, and modern) through in-class presentation, readings, discussions, and student writings. Students delve into concepts such as knowledge, reality, the mind, free will, personal identity, the nature of God, and the meaning of life. Emphasis is placed on developing critical thinking techniques and creating philosophical awareness. **Prerequisite:** ENG101 English Composition (3.0 credits)

### HUM310 Classic American Literature

Based on a chronological study of classic American literature from the Civil War to the present, this course presents a broad overview of notable literary works with an emphasis on understanding the relationship between form and content and on formulating criteria for artistic judgment. **Prerequisite:** ENG101 English Composition (3.0 credits)

### MAT202 Applied Statistics

We frequently use our own observations to make predictions about what will happen in the future. With a collective approach to making these kinds of projections, applied statistics offers us the tools to more dependably hypothesize about probability. This course guides students in their development of research, data collection and analysis skills, all of which are activated to explore correlations between variables that we observe in the world around us. Much of this course is project-based, providing significant opportunities for students to use their statistical abilities to investigate and present findings on issues that are important to them and relevant in their lives as performers, artists and humans. **Prerequisite:** ENG101 English Composition (3.0 credits)

### POL307 Introduction to Political Science

Contemporary politics impact our daily lives and shape the trajectory of our futures. The concepts of power, legitimacy and political ideology are put into conversation with theory that ranges from classical to modern. Discussions and coursework also include ethics, forms of government and comparative politics. **Prerequisite:** ENG101 English Composition (3.0 credits)



**SCI219 Biology Concepts**

This introduction to biological concepts provides students with an overview of the fundamental principles that help to explain the wonders of life on earth. Students explore a history of biological discovery, evolution and the origin of species, basic physiology and human development. A variety of hands-on learning opportunities contribute to developing an understanding of the scientific method and how humans have used this tool to dramatically expand our comprehension of the living world. **Prerequisite:** ENG101 English Composition (4.0 credits)

**SCI222 Astronomy Foundations**

Astronomy Foundations takes students on a journey to the stars, exploring the wonders of the universe through an overview of astronomical concepts and the methods we have developed to better understand the cosmos. Topics include a history of human cosmological understanding and space exploration; the solar system; stars and stellar development; galaxies near and far; the universe and its origin via the Big Bang; basic forces, matter and energy; and black holes, dark matter and remaining mysteries of the cosmos. This course also includes a variety of hands-on learning opportunities, which contribute to developing an understanding of the scientific method

and how humans have used this tool to dramatically expand our comprehension of the universe. **Prerequisite:** ENG101 English Composition (4.0 credits)

**SOC203 Introduction to Psychology**

This introduction to the scientific field of psychology provides students with an overview of contemporary perspectives on the human mind. In an exploration of the interactions between our thoughts and behaviors, students gain insights into modern psychology's theoretical frameworks, methodological approaches and applications. Topics covered include historical and modern psychology, research approaches, developmental psychology, sex/gender/sexuality, learning and memory, thinking/intelligence, human emotions, social psychology, and personality. **Prerequisite:** ENG101 English Composition (3.0 credits)

**SOC301 Mass Communication and Societal Impacts**

In this highly interactive course, students investigate, collaborate and present their ideas related to mass communication in the 21st century. The quickly shifting dynamics of social media and the entertainment and news industries are discussed in terms of their historical development and their impact on modern societies. Students

also explore the relationship between the media and the government, advertising and consumer trends and propaganda and social unrest. **Prerequisite:** ENG101 English Composition (3.0 credits)

**SOC304 Introduction to Sociology**

Introduction to Sociology provides an overview of the organizing concepts, methods and application of sociology. It surveys classical and contemporary perspectives on society, community, organization, inequality and social change. Each perspective is considered in relation to social forces, including race, gender, class and sexuality. **Prerequisite:** ENG101 English Composition (3.0 credits)

**SPC205 Introduction to Oral Communication**

Introduction to Oral Communications surveys the principles and application of speaking effectively to diverse audiences in a variety of settings. Topics focus on the verbal and nonverbal elements of communication and the development of communication skills – including topic selection, organization, analysis of research, critical listening, audience analysis, language use, reasoning, persuading, informing, ethics, and effective delivery – through formal and informal oral presentations. **Prerequisite:** ENG101 English Composition (3.0 credits)



# Course Descriptions

## Master of Arts Degree in Theatre

### ADVANCED, ANALYTICAL AND ACADEMIC THEATRE STUDIES

#### **THE550 Seminar in Theories of Drama and Theatre**

Students experience an intensive survey of theories of drama, theatre and performance from historical and contemporary perspectives. Topics include semiotics, phenomenology, queer and gender theory, critical race theory and ecocriticism. (3.0 credits)

#### **THE560 Seminar in Critical Race Theory**

This seminar identifies and examines existing power structures that perpetuate white heteronormative ideologies and the marginalization of people of color. It investigates race and racism as a social construction and highlights the ways these theories are supported and/or condemned in the performing arts. Topics include Afropessimism, Latinx race theory, Orientalism, Native American race theory and multiculturalism. (3.0 credits)

#### **THE570 Seminar in Queer and Gender Theory**

This seminar offers an intersectional approach to understanding identity and its relationship to sex and sexuality. It is a post-structural analysis of heteronormative power structures that promote heterosexuality as the preferred sexual orientation and institutionalize patriarchy. It examines the ways these analyses and theories are supported and/or condemned in the performing arts. Topics include identity and performance, queer theory and intersectional feminism. (3.0 credits)

#### **THR520 Seminar in Theatre History**

This survey course provides a concise study of the diverse expansion of drama and the development of theatre from its earliest ritual beginnings through the turn of the 21st century. Students will read, discuss and analyze the theatrical, societal and cultural significance of each historical era as well as seminal playwrights and plays. Plays and course lessons are drawn from Western and non-Western sources. Some of the topics explored could include the evolution of the physical stage, acting styles, the introduction of psychology as a new science, cultural diversity and the rise of women in theatre. (3.0 credits)

#### **THR530 Seminar in Theatre History II**

This course offers a deep exploration of highly impactful periods in the history of theatre and drama. Critical moments in theatre history are examined through the lenses of their social, political and economic environments. Individuals who

made significant contributions to these paradigm-shifting eras are discussed in terms of how theatre shaped their perspectives and how their perspectives shaped theatre. (3.0 credits)

#### **THR540 History of Musical Theatre**

This topical course explores the history and development of musical theatre (primarily, American musical theatre) as well as various related subjects, themes, concepts and ideas. The contributions of major composers, lyricists, directors, performers and choreographers are examined as well as various genres of musicals including book, concept, jukebox and rock/pop. Possible topics explored could include the deconstruction of Oklahoma, race and cultural diversity in casting, women in musical theatre, and the Off-Broadway musical. The course utilizes lectures, student presentations, video clips, sound recordings, live performance attendance and assigned readings. (3.0 credits)

#### **THR541 Seminar in Cross-Cultural Theatre: Asian Theatre**

This survey course introduces students to the dramatic texts, theatrical arts, traditions and new developments in Asian theatre. The course focuses on traditional as well as modern Asian theatre and explores material drawn from each of the five diverse regions of Asia. Topics explored could include politics and the theatre in Hong Kong, Taiwan and Korea; the Muhammadan religion and theatre; and rising female playwrights in modern Japanese theatre. The reading and viewing of dramatic material from each region covered is supported by class lecture and discussion and relevant critical texts that provide the student with an informed perspective on the rich cultural, artistic, intellectual, historical and sociopolitical contributions of Asian theatre. (3.0 credits)

#### **THR550 Theatre Research Methods**

Research and theatre have a variety of developing relationships. This course considers those relationships from multiple angles, including research as theatre, archival research and practice-based research. As such, the course will explore experimental research practices that bring theatre together with sociological, communication and historical practices. Students in the course will engage in collaborative research through the media of performance, text and visual documents. (3.0 credits)

#### **THR570 Academic Writing: Development, Revisions and Critique**

This is a practice-oriented introduction to the fundamentals of academic literacy, including effective research, critical reading and written communication using the MLA style. The course focuses on invention, researching, drafting,

revising and editing, along with effective techniques for critiquing both personal work and the work of colleagues. Special attention is given to constructing an effective argument. (3.0 credits)

#### **THR580 Academic Writing in Theatre Studies**

Articles, Conferences and Publication (A practice-oriented, intensive analysis of the principles of excellent academic writing as they specifically pertain to the goals of conference presentations and publication of articles, chapters in anthologies, and books. Practical instruction includes the submission process and guidelines for submissions for academic conferences, preparing and submitting a book proposal and the specifications of academic journals. (3.0 credits)

#### **THR600 Thesis Seminar**

This seminar is designed to guide candidates in the development and effective completion of their thesis. Focus will be on the essential components of identifying the subject and methodology for the thesis; producing, critiquing, analyzing and revising the thesis; and completing a finished thesis, edited according to MLA guidelines and suitable for publication. (6.0 credits)

# Course Descriptions

## Master of Fine Arts Degree in Writing for Theatre and Media

### CREATION AND/OR PRESENTATION OF THEATRE

#### WTM510 Theatre and Media

##### Writing: Collaboration

A laboratory-style introduction to creative collaboration. The course applies effective strategies for researching, experimenting and devising new work. Emphasis is placed on communication and the process of theatrical collaboration. Artists from different disciplines work together to create a 10-minute performance composition for the Artist's Lab. (3.0 credits)

#### WTM511 Writing Workshop/Lab 1

This course addresses the principles of writing for performance. It examines the core pillars of writing such as structure, character, theme lines, plot points, voice, dialogue and moving from concept to script and script to production. It further addresses necessary skills in organization, software, idea cultivation and work ethic. This course unfolds in a series of four labs with each lab emphasizing different aspects of script development. Lab 1 will develop these skills in a one act or short film and a treatment and pitch. (6.0 credits)

#### WTM512 Writing Workshop/Lab 2

This course addresses the principles of writing for performance. It examines the core pillars of writing, such as structure, character, theme lines, plot points, voice, dialogue and moving from concept to script and script to production. It further addresses necessary skills in organization, software, idea cultivation and work ethic. This course unfolds in a series of four labs, with each lab emphasizing different aspects of script development. Lab 2 will focus development on a full-length script. (6.0 credits)

#### WTM513 Writing Workshop/Lab 3

This course addresses the principles of writing for performance. It examines the core pillars of writing, such as structure, character, theme lines, plot points, voice, dialogue and moving from concept to script and script to production. It further addresses necessary skills in organization, software, idea cultivation and work ethic. This course unfolds in a series of four labs with each lab emphasizing different aspects of script development. Lab 3 will focus on the development of the thesis project. (3.0 credits)

#### WTM514 Writing Workshop/Lab 4

This course addresses the principles of writing for performance. It examines the core pillars of writing, such as structure, character, theme lines, plot points, voice, dialogue and moving from concept to script and script to production. It further

addresses necessary skills in organization, software, idea cultivation and work ethic. This course unfolds in a series of four labs with each lab emphasizing different aspects of script development. Lab 4 will focus on the culmination and staged reading of the thesis project. (3.0 credits)

#### WTM520 Theatre and Media

##### Writing: Research and Application

This course implements research techniques and practices that foster the student's ability to create worlds in their writing. It examines how to build context to clearly convey their play's aesthetic. Topics may include historical accuracy, understanding genre and cultural relevance. Students apply these methods to one piece of work for the Artist's Lab. (3.0 credits)

#### WTM530 Theatre and Media

##### Writing: Dramaturgy

This course examines the role of the dramaturg in relation to writing—from concept to script, script to production and production to publication. It focuses on topics such as research, development, continuity, editing and supporting writers to implement their vision. Students create a dramaturgical presentation about one of their scripts. (3.0 credits)

#### WTM540 Theatre and Media Writing:

##### Readings, Analysis and Adaptation

This course explores the benefits and challenges of adaptation for the stage and various media platforms. It addresses the ethics of adaptation in both fiction and nonfiction storytelling, and it examines techniques for reading and analyzing materials for the purpose of adapting a story from one medium to another or from antiquity to modernity. Students demonstrate their learning by writing a short play or screenplay adaptation. (3.0 credits)

#### WTM550 Theatre and Media Writing:

##### Contemporary and Future Media

This course examines the emerging practices of writing in digital environments such as social media, video games, web sites, mobile apps and virtual reality. Students learn both theory and practice through readings, viewings, discussion and software tutorials. Students demonstrate their knowledge through a series of online writing projects or by writing an immersive theatre script. (3.0 credits)

#### WTM561 The Business of Writing

##### for Theatre and Media

This course is a thorough exploration of the business of writing for stage and screen. It discusses the relationship between art and commerce through topics such as securing an agent, submitting and pitching a script, networking, conferences, creating a strong portfolio, publishing, the WGA and how

to interview. Students create a portfolio and submit an actionable career plan for their culminating project. (3.0 credits)

#### WTM571 Advanced Design, Technology and Production

This seminar focuses on all aspects of design as they relate to scripts and production. It emphasizes research, text analysis, conceptualization, visual expression, execution and professional collaboration. It examines the ways productions aesthetically execute mood, psychology, time, problems and other various aspects required by a story or text. Students must present a researched presentation of one design element for one of their plays. (3.0 credits)

#### WTM581 - 583 Writing Internship

Students have the option to choose either an internship within AMDA's Production Department, working with highly skilled members of staff to bring creative pieces to life on both stage and screen, or an approved writing-related internship within the expansive entertainment industry that surrounds AMDA's Los Angeles dynamic campus.

### ADVANCED, ANALYTICAL AND ACADEMIC THEATRE STUDIES

#### THE550 Seminar in Theories of Drama and Theatre

Students experience an intensive survey of the theories of drama, theatre and performance from historical and contemporary perspectives. Topics include semiotics, phenomenology, queer and gender theory, critical race theory and ecocriticism. (3.0 credits)

#### THE560 Seminar in Critical Race Theory

This seminar identifies and examines existing power structures that perpetuate white heteronormative ideologies and the marginalization of people of color. It investigates race and racism as a social construction and highlights the ways these theories are supported and/or condemned in the performing arts. Topics include Afropessimism, Latinx race theory, Orientalism, Native American race theory and multiculturalism. (3.0 credits)

#### THE570 Seminar in Queer and Gender Theory

This seminar offers an intersectional approach to understanding identity and its relationship to sex and sexuality. It is a post-structural analysis of heteronormative power structures that promote

heterosexuality as the preferred sexual orientation and institutionalize patriarchy. It examines the ways these analyses and theories are supported and/or condemned in the performing arts. Topics include identity and performance, queer theory and intersectional feminism. (3.0 credits)

**THR520 Seminar in Theatre History**

A comprehensive survey of the history of theatre and drama from its beginnings to the present. Special emphasis is given to the social, political and economic environments of each time period as they pertain to the development of theatre. (3.0 credits)



## Master Degree Programs

Applicants are encouraged to use the following list as a guide for completing the steps of the admissions process.

1. **Application:** Apply online or request an application by mail.
2. **Statement of Intent:** Applicants must provide a statement of intent for graduate study, explaining their goals for the program.
3. **Interview:** Applicants must complete an interview with the Admissions Department to provide more information on their educational background and interest in the program.
4. **Writing Portfolio:** Submit writing materials as requested. Applicants for the MFA in Writing for Theatre and Media must include original dramatic work.
5. **Letters of Recommendation:** Applicants must provide letters of recommendation from individuals who have known the applicant for two years or longer, such as an instructor, faculty advisor or employer (but not a friend or family member).
6. **Personal Essay:** Submit a response to a personal essay question from a provided prompt.
7. **Degree Verification:** Provide proof of a bachelor's degree with a grade point average of 3.0 or above.
8. **Official Transcript(s):** Provide a final official transcript from all undergraduate coursework attempted or completed.

### ■ Tuition Refund Policy

Return of federal funds is administered in accordance with US Department of Education regulations. Students who received federal financial aid will be entitled to a refund of monies not paid from federal funds. If the school cancels or discontinues a course or program, the school will make a full refund of all charges. Refunds are paid within 45 days of cancellation, withdrawal or course/program discontinuation.

New students who cancel within the first week of the semester receive all monies returned with the exception of any non-refundable fees. Thereafter, students will be liable for any non-refundable fees, the cost of any textbook or supplies accepted and the tuition liability as of the student's last date of physical attendance.

### Withdrawal and Leave of Absence

Students who withdraw or take a leave of absence from AMDA after instruction has started will receive a prorated refund for unused portions of the tuition and other refundable charges provided they have completed less than 60% of their course of study.

Students who withdraw or take a leave of absence after completing the ninth week (60%) of the semester will not be eligible for a refund.

The percentage of tuition to be charged is determined by the week of the withdrawal, as outlined below. The amount of the refund shall be the amount paid for instruction multiplied by a percentage based on the number of weeks attended. A week is defined as Monday through Sunday.

Week of Withdrawal	Tuition Liability Percentage
1st week	10%
2nd week	20%
3rd week	30%
4th week	40%
5th week	50%
6th week	60%
7th week	70%
8th week	80%
9th week	90%
10th - 15th weeks	100%

### ■ Student Account Policy Appeals

Appeals of student account policies may be made in writing to the Student Accounts Department. All financial appeals are reviewed by the Student Accounts Appeals Committee. Students are notified in writing once a decision is made.

### ■ Student's Right to Cancel (Los Angeles Campus Only)

Students who sign the Enrollment Agreement have the right to cancel and obtain a refund of charges paid through attendance at the first class session or the seventh day after enrollment (whichever is later) by providing a written notice to the Director of Academic Services, The American Musical and Dramatic Academy, 6305 Yucca Street, Los Angeles, CA 90028. This notice may be provided by mail, email or hand delivery. If sent by mail (properly addressed with postage prepaid), the written notice of cancellation is effective as of the date of the postmark. The written notice of cancellation need not take any particular form and is effective if it shows that the student no longer wishes to be bound by the Enrollment Agreement.

#### Summer 2020 Semester Two-Week No Tuition Liability

This policy is effective for the Summer 2020 semester only. Students who decide not to continue with their enrollment up through week two will be eligible for a full tuition refund. After week two, students will be held liable for the percentage of tuition charges as outlined in the Tuition Refund Policy. Students considering not to continue should contact the Education and Financial Aid Departments.

#### Fall 2020 Semester Two-Week No Tuition Liability

This policy is effective for the Fall 2020 semester only. Students who decide not to continue with their enrollment up through week two will be eligible for a full tuition refund. After week two, students will be held liable for the percentage of tuition charges as outlined in the Tuition Refund Policy. Students considering not to continue should contact the Education and Financial Aid Departments.

## Return of Title IV Funds (R2T4) Policy

Title IV funds are awarded and disbursed under the assumption the student will attend AMDA for the entire period in which aid was distributed. Students who officially withdraw from AMDA and have received federal funds must have a Return of Title IV Funds (R2T4) calculation performed to determine the percentage of aid earned based on a prorated schedule. The official withdrawal date for R2T4 calculations is determined by the Registrar's Office using the student's last day of attendance or submitted coursework.

Any Title IV funds received in excess of the earned amount are considered unearned. Unearned aid must be returned to the respective federal programs, regardless of remaining charges on a student's account. The student may owe a balance to AMDA if they have not earned enough Title IV funds to cover all institutional charges. AMDA has its own institutional refund policy separate from R2T4 to determine the charges a student will owe to AMDA after withdrawal (see the Tuition Refund Policy). Questions about this policy should be addressed to the Student Accounts Department.

### ■ Calculation of Earned and Unearned Title IV Aid

#### Step 1

AMDA will determine the total amount of Title IV aid disbursed (if any) for the semester the student withdrew as well as the amount that could have been disbursed. Title IV aid is counted as aid disbursed in the calculation if it has been applied to the student account on or before the date the student withdrew.

#### Step 2

AMDA will calculate the percentage of aid earned by using the number of calendar days completed by the student divided by the total number of calendar days in the semester the student withdrew (weekends included). The total number of calendar days in a semester shall exclude any scheduled breaks of more than five days. If the calculated percentage equals or exceeds 60%, the student is considered to have earned all aid for the period and there is no need to return any federal funds.

#### Step 3

AMDA will calculate the amount of aid earned by multiplying the percentage of Title IV aid earned by the total amount of Title IV aid disbursed or the amount that could have been disbursed.

#### Step 4

If the aid already disbursed equals the earned aid, no further

action is required. If the amount already disbursed is greater than the earned aid, the difference must be returned to the appropriate Title IV aid program. If the aid already disbursed is less than the earned aid, the Student Accounts Department will calculate a post-withdrawal disbursement.

### ■ Return of Funds

In accordance with federal regulations, unearned aid will be returned to the federal programs within 45 days of the student's withdrawal in the following order:

- Unsubsidized Federal Direct (or Stafford) Loans
- Subsidized Federal Direct (or Stafford) Loans
- Federal Parent PLUS Loans
- Federal Pell Grants
- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants
- Other assistance under this title for which a return of funds is required

Loans must be repaid by the loan borrower as outlined in the terms of the borrower's promissory note. The student's grace period for loan repayments for Unsubsidized and Subsidized Stafford Loans will begin on the day of withdrawal from AMDA. The student should contact the lender if they have questions about their grace period or repayment status.

### **Residency Requirement**

---

Students enrolled in the Bachelor Degree Programs must complete a minimum of 60.0 of their degree credits in residence in order to qualify for graduation at AMDA. Courses that do not apply toward program requirements may not be used in the calculation of residency.

Students enrolled in the Master Degree Programs must complete a minimum 80 percent of the program's total required credits in residence in order to qualify for graduation at AMDA. Courses that do not apply toward program requirements may not be used in the calculation of residency.

## Veterans Affairs Standards

### ■ Veterans Benefits and Transition Act of 2018 (Section 103)

AMDA College of the Performing Arts (The American Musical and Dramatic Academy) is a participant in the Veterans Benefits and Transition Act of 2018 signed into law on December 31, 2018, by the President of the United States. This provision was effective August 1, 2019, for any students that are considered “a covered individual” using Chapter 33: Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits or any participants in Chapter 31: Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Program benefits at a public, private for-profit or not for profit institution regarding unpaid tuition and fees.

The policy states that the college will NOT:

1. Assess late penalty fees/charges due to delayed disbursements from the Department of Veterans Affairs under Chapter 31 or Chapter 33.
2. Prevent students from enrolling in classes
3. Require the student to secure alternative or additional funding to cover the applicable tuition and fee expenses.
4. Deny the student access to any school resources to include (access to classes, libraries or other institutional facilities) that are available to other paid students.

The college WILL require that each student provides the following:

1. An official Department of Veterans Affairs “Certificate of Eligibility” or “Statement of Benefits” from the VA website or (eBenefits, VAF 28-1905) on or before the first day of class for the semester
2. Complete a written certification request to be certified for benefits, and
3. Provide additional information required to ensure proper certification of benefits.
4. If there is a difference in the amount of the student’s financial obligation to the university and the amount that the student is eligible to receive from the Department of Veterans Affairs, the student may incur an additional fee or payment may be required to make an additional payment to make up the difference.

With all contingencies met the Department of Veterans Affairs will provide the college with payment either ending on the earlier of the dates following:

- the date in which the payment from the VA is made to the institution.
- 90 days after the date that the institution has

certified tuition and fees following the receipt of the “Certificate of Eligibility”

### What is a “Covered Individual?”

Any individual who is entitled to receive educational assistance under either Chapter 33: Post 9/11 GI Bill or a participant under Chapter 31: Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Program.

## **Page 7 (inserted at end of section): Accreditation and Approvals, State Approvals**

Inquiries regarding accreditation status or state approval should be directed to the Office of Institutional Effectiveness.

---

## **Page 69 (addition): Admissions**

### **Vaccination Policy**

---

AMDA requires all students submit a Physician Health Certificate completed by a licensed medical professional. The measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine is required. Tetanus, meningococcal, varicella and hepatitis B vaccinations are recommended but not required. Vaccination exceptions can be made if the student provides a signed statement from a physician documenting the student's vaccine contraindications or other evidence of immunity.

---

## **Page 81 (addition): Academic and Student Services, Information Technology**

### **Acceptable Use of Technology Policy**

Users of AMDA's networks are expected to abide by all state and federal laws and regulations and the behavioral standards of the AMDA community. Downloading or sharing of illegal media (e.g. music or video files), software and other protected files and data is forbidden. Violations of institution guidelines on computer use will result in disciplinary action, which may include warnings, loss of computer privileges, suspension and/or legal prosecution.

---

## **Page 88 (addition): Academic Policies, Registration**

### **Distance Education**

AMDA delivers select distance education courses via Canvas, a web-based learning management system. Online learning provides convenience and flexibility while still maintaining engagement between the student and instructor.

Within Canvas, instructors will respond to and evaluate students' lessons, projects and demonstrations within approximately ten days of receipt or due date. AMDA maintains a record of the dates on which lessons, projects and demonstrations were received and responses were returned to each student. The first lesson and assignments

will be delivered within the first seven days of the semester.

If the student has fully paid for the educational program, they can request in writing to the Education Department that all course content be provided after they have received the first lesson and initial materials. Once this request is received, AMDA will transmit all lessons and materials for the course while providing all educational services agreed upon (such as responses to student inquiries, student/instructor interaction, and evaluation and comment on lessons submitted by the student). AMDA is not obligated to refund any payment after all lessons and materials are transmitted.

---

## **Page 107 (addition): Academic Standards**

### **Copyright Infringement**

---

Copyright infringement is the act of exercising, without permission or legal authority, one or more of the exclusive rights granted to the copyright owner under section 106 of the Copyright Act (Title 17 of the United States Code). These rights include the right to reproduce or distribute a copyrighted work. In the file-sharing context, downloading or uploading substantial parts of a copyrighted work without authority constitutes an infringement. Unauthorized distribution of copyrighted material, including unauthorized peer-to-peer file sharing, may subject the student to civil and criminal liabilities.

Students who engage in illegal downloading, peer-to-peer file sharing or unauthorized distribution of copyrighted materials using AMDA's information technology system may result in disciplinary action up to and including suspension or dismissal.

Penalties for copyright infringement include civil and criminal penalties. In general, anyone found liable for civil copyright infringement may be ordered to pay either actual damages or "statutory" damages affixed at not less than \$750 and not more than \$30,000 per work infringed. For "willful" infringement, a court may award up to \$150,000 per work infringed. A court can, in its discretion, also assess costs and attorney fees. For details, see Title 17, United States Code, Sections 504, 505. Willful copyright infringement can also result in criminal penalties, including imprisonment of up to five years and fines of up to \$250,000 per offense.

### Notice Regarding Summer 2020 Semester

The Summer 2020 semester will be shortened from 15 weeks to 14 weeks for the Los Angeles campus.

The Summer 2020 semester for Los Angeles students will begin on July 20. The final day of classes will be October 23.

SUMMER 2020		
MONDAY Jun. 22, 2020	Classes Begin (fourth-term students)	NYC
MONDAY Jun. 29, 2020	Classes Begin (all other students)	NYC
SATURDAY Jul. 4, 2020	Independence Day: no classes	NYC LA
MONDAY Jul. 20, 2020	Classes Begin	LA
MONDAY Sep. 7, 2020	Labor Day: no classes	NYC LA
FRIDAY Oct. 2, 2020	Classes End (fourth-term students*)	NYC
SATURDAY Oct. 3, 2020	Graduation	NYC
FRIDAY Oct. 9, 2020	Classes End (all other students)	NYC
FRIDAY Oct. 23, 2020	Classes End	LA
SATURDAY Oct. 24, 2020	Graduation	LA





[amda.edu](http://amda.edu)