



## Bachelor of Fine Arts [BFA] Degree CREDIT REQUIREMENTS & FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### How many credits do I need to graduate?

Students need to complete a **total of 120 credits** to graduate.

- **90 credits** must be in the [Performance Immersion](#) category.
- **30 credits** must be in the [General Education](#) category. The 30 credits are categorized into the following requirements:

BFA General Education Requirements (Categories – for Enrolled students Effective Fall 2017)	Course Prefix	Credits Required
Written Communication	(ENG)	3
Oral Communication	(SPC)	3
Math/Quantitative Reasoning	(MAT)	3
Critical Thinking	(CRT)	3
Social and Behavioral Sciences	(SOC)	6
Physical and Biological Sciences	(SCI)	3
Arts and Humanities	(HUM)	6
Creative Expression	Any GE category	3
<b>Total General Education Credits Required for BFA</b>		<b>30</b>
GE classes comprise of 10 classes to equal 30 credits as part of earning the BFA Degree		

BFA General Education Requirements (Categories – for Enrollees as Effective Summer 2021)	Course Prefix	Credits Required
Foundational College Writing	ENG	3
Foundational Communications	COM	3
Foundation Critical Thinking	CRT	3
Foundational Quantitative Reasoning	MAT	3
Arts & Humanities Courses (Lower and Upper Level)	HUM	6
Social and Behavioral Sciences Courses (Lower and Upper Level)	SOC	6
Information and Digital Literacy	IDL	3
Physical and Biological Sciences Course	SCI	3
<b>Total General Education Credits Required for BFA</b>		<b>30</b>
GE classes comprise of: a Total of 10 classes to equal 30 credits as part of earning the BFA Degree		

### How many credits should I take each semester?

To Stay on Track... a minimum of 15 credits each semester is necessary to complete the degree program in the traditional eight semesters. Each semester a “Course Registration Guide” is the reference to be used by students to “Self-Register” classes. The “Guide” [PDF document] is available on AMDA’s student Portal under “Academic Forms” reflecting the intended courses for each particular program and semester level.

### **Can I take more than 15 credits in a semester? Can I take less?**

Yes, students are permitted to register for more than the 15.0 credits. However, registering for more than 15.0 credits results in additional “per credit” tuition charges. Students may register for less than a 15.0 credit semester, however, curriculum completion may be delayed affecting an extended anticipated graduation date and financial aid borrowing affected. Students must meet with the **Student Accounts Dept** to confirm any necessary adjusted tuition & fees. *NOTE: Certain semesters, AMDA may provide for a particular course load that is above 15.0 credits. For those semesters, when the course load is prescribed, there is no additional tuition charge to a student taking the advised credit load.*

Students may take as few as 12.0 credits in a semester while maintaining “full-time” status, however tuition covers 15.0 credits. Therefore, AMDA recommends students maintain 15.0 credits per semester until completion. If a student registers for less than 12.0 credits and is identified as “three-quarter time or part-time”, their financial assistance may be affected.

### **If I am cast in a production, can I receive credit?**

Students may register for BFA Productions when they have been cast in any of the performance opportunities that are applicable for credit. Adding the performance opportunity for credit is completed by submitting the “Add/Drop Form”, thereby officially registering for those credits. Adding credits allows a student to earn additional “performance immersion” credit towards their BFA degree.

Students may **substitute** performance opportunity credits for other “non- core” courses.

Contact the *Education Dept/Academic Advising & Registrar’s Office* : [laregistrar@amda.edu](mailto:laregistrar@amda.edu) .

### **Transfer Credits as they relate to Performance Immersion Requirements**

Students with applied GE transfer credits will need to register Performance Immersion credits in place of those GE transfer credits so as to register for the full 15 credits.

AMDA will do its best to offer the student as many alternative Performance Immersion course/credit opportunities as possible. Please know that availability of courses (and the ability for a desired course to fit into a required schedule) cannot be guaranteed.

### **What is the Add/Drop/Withdrawal Class Policy? (Applicable to BFA Programs Only)**

#### **Students may add/drop courses within two timeframes:**

1. *During Week 15* of the current semester for the upcoming semester’s classes
2. *During Week 1 of the upcoming semester* (Students must USE THE PORTAL when adding/dropping classes)

#### **After Week 1, the ADD/DROP FORM must be submitted:**

- **Week 2- 11 Course Withdrawal:** Students who withdraw from class during the SECOND to the ELEVENTH week will have a “W” (Withdrawal) recorded, however tuition is unchanged
- **Week 12- 14 Course Withdrawal:** Students who withdraw from class during the TWELFTH to the FOURTEENTH week will have a “W/F” (Withdrawal/Fail) recorded and GPA is affected, however tuition is unchanged.

ADD/DROP forms are located on the AMDA Website under Student Life (“Education Department tab” → FORMS section) as well as on the student Portal under Academic Forms. A completed form must be on record in the Education Dept/Registrar’s Office before the student’s official class schedule can be adjusted and finalized. **Forms must be submitted to the Education Dept/Academic Advisement & Registrar’s Office for processing [laregistrar@amda.edu].**

**\*CHARGES/FEEs MAY BE INCURRED WHEN ADDING/ DROPPING COURSES. PLEASE CHECK WITH STUDENT ACCOUNTS AND/OR FINANCIAL AID STAFF IF THERE ARE ANY QUESTIONS.\***

### **Advanced Standing**

Students who have earned credits beyond their semester year/level and by the end of the fifth semester and have only 15 – 30 credits remaining may be eligible to advance to 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> semester depending on the earned amount of credits. Upon review of the submitted form, a student’s total accumulated credits, overall GPA and skill level, standing in the AMDA community, financial status as it pertains to AMDA’s Student Accounts Office, and other criteria deemed appropriate by AMDA, a student may be approved to “advance”, thereby skipping their 6<sup>th</sup> and/or 7<sup>th</sup> semester classification.

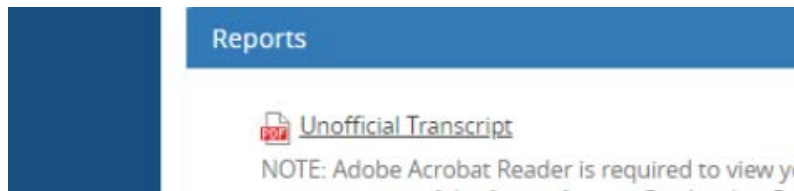
Advanced Standing Procedure: **Within a student's 5<sup>th</sup> semester** and by **no later than the FIFTH week** of the semester, students<sup>3</sup> may apply for a credit evaluation review to determine their eligibility for advanced standing. The Application is available via the AMDA website. Students complete and submit the form for evaluation. If applicable, the students' following semester will reflect the approved "new" classification by registering the student in the appropriate 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> semester classes. The Registrar's Office will provide a full outline, sent to the student via email.

### **How do I start planning my credits for next semester?**

During the current semester, when the 'class registration announcement' is emailed, students access the "Course Registration Guide" [PDF document via Portal] to view and plan for their next semester's class registration. Course selections are not guaranteed, and course offerings may change without prior notice.

### **How do I start to track my courses so that I complete the necessary 30 credits of General Education?**

Students are strongly encouraged to view and track their academic record by viewing their Portal transcript as the student's completed and in-progress General Education and Performance Immersion credits are listed.



To view an unofficial transcript through the Portal, please select "My Academics", "Degree Audit", locate REPORTS section and select unofficial transcript.

Questions regarding BFA credits and staying on track, **Education Dept/Academic Advisement & Registrar's Office at:**

laregistrar@amda.edu / (323) 603-5900

Located on 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of Main Building

AMDA College of the Performing Arts / 6305 Yucca Street, Los Angeles, CA 90028

#### **General Education Courses: Categories and Sample Courses for Applicable Transfer**

General Education Categories as pertaining to AMDA's General Education Category Requirements

#### **Arts & Humanities: 6 credits required**

1. History and Appreciation of the Arts (Art History, Art Appreciation, Humanities, Music Appreciation, History of the Theater)
2. Philosophy
3. Foreign Language
4. Western Culture (American Studies, History of Civilization, Civilization, Humanities)
5. Non-Western Culture (Generally other than European and North American, e.g., African, Asian)
6. Religion
7. Historical Settings (History, Historical Anthropology, Western Civilization)
8. Political Institutions (U.S. Government, U.S. History, U.S. Political Science)
9. American Government/History (U.S. Government, U.S. History, or U.S. Political Science)

#### **Communication/English: 6 credits [3 Communication Oral, 3 Communication Written [English Composition]**

1. English Composition (usually English 1, 1A or 101)
2. Speech, Oral Communication, Foundations of Communication

#### **Critical Thinking: 3 credits**

1. Philosophy, Argumentative Essays, Ethics, Critical Thinking, Logic

#### **Information and Digital Literacy: 3 credits**

1. Information Literacy, Technology, Digital Sciences

#### **Social and Behavioral Sciences: 6 credits**

1. Social Institutions (Anthropology of Religion, Cultural Anthropology, Cultural Geography, Earth History, Psychology, Gerontology, Sociology)
2. Economic Institutions (Concepts of Business, Principles of Business, Introduction to Business, Economics)
3. Contemporary Settings (American Social Problems, Contemporary History, Contemporary Society, Mass Communications, Sociology of or History of Women or Racial and Ethnic Minorities)
4. U.S. Government (usually Political Science 1 or 101)

#### Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning: 3 credits

1. Mathematics (All mathematics courses except remedial, non-transferable courses such as Mathematics A, B, R, 30, 31, 32, and 125)

#### Physical & Biological Sciences: 3 credits

1. Physical Science (Astronomy, Chemistry, Earth Science, Physical Environmental Science, Geography, Geology, Meteorology, Physical Oceanography, Physical Science, Physics)
2. Life Science (Anatomy, Biological Anthropology, Physical Anthropology, Biology, Botany, Biological Environmental Science, Microbiology, Biological Oceanography, Physiological Psychology Zoology)

Students' prior college course work will be evaluated for possible Critical Studies (General Education) transfer credit upon receipt of official transcripts from all previous schools attended. Courses eligible for transfer evaluation must have a final grade of "C" or above and apply to one of the Critical Studies categories listed above. Courses in Theatre Immersion are ineligible for transfer evaluation. Students are requested to have all official transcripts mailed directly to AMDA. AMDA will maintain a written record of previous education/training evaluated. Students will be notified in writing, and credit will be reflected on the official transcript.

International Baccalaureate transfer courses may be submitted for evaluation of transfer course status provided an official transcript record document is submitted to AMDA. Courses that fall under the General Education course category will be evaluated for transfer credit based on HIGH LEVEL (HL) course designation. A score of five (5) and above may be accepted toward AMDA's Bachelor of Fine Arts Degrees. Courses listed under the category of Standard Level (SL) will not be considered for evaluation.

Students who have tested through the College Board's Advanced Placement Program (AP) or College Level Examination Program (CLEP) may submit official exam/scoring documentation for evaluation of transfer course(s) toward the BFA Program. Documentation must be received directly from the College Board. AP scores earned must be a score of 3 or higher to be accepted. CLEP scores must be 50 or higher to be accepted.

## AMDA Academic Planning Sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_@amda.edu

Use the charts below to track your completed courses for both Performance Immersion & General Education course requirements:

_____ (Sem/Year)				
Course #	Course Title	Category	Completed?	Credits
Performance Immersion (P.I.) Credits Accrued				
General Education (G.E.) Credits Accrued				

_____ (Sem/Year)				
Course #	Course Title	Category	Completed?	Credits
Performance Immersion (P.I.) Credits Accrued				
General Education (G.E.) Credits Accrued				

_____ (Sem/Year)				
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_____ (Sem/Year)				
Course #	Course Title	Category	Completed?	Credits
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General Education (G.E.) Credits Accrued				

List any classes you need to retake (cross out once you complete): \_\_\_\_\_

Academic Planning Sheet  
 Academic Advisement: Education Dept/Registrar's Office Team: [laregistrar@amda.edu](mailto:laregistrar@amda.edu)  
 General Support: Student Success Team: [LAStudentSuccess@amda.edu](mailto:LAStudentSuccess@amda.edu)

Continue to fill in courses/credits for your 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> semesters.

_____ (Sem/Year)				
Course #	Course Title	Category	Completed?	Credits
Performance Immersion (P.I.) Credits Accrued				
General Education (G.E.) Credits Accrued				

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(Sem/Year)				
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General Education (G.E.) Credits Accrued				

Use the table below to <b>keep track of completed G.E. classes and credits.</b>			
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Written Communication	(ENG)	3	
Oral Communication	(SPC)	3	
Math/Problem Solving	(MAT)	3	
Critical Thinking	(CRT)	3	
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BFA Degree Requirements	
P.I. Credits Required:	90.0
G.E. Credits Required:	30.0
Total Credits Required for Completion:	120.0

Use the following table to <b>calculate your credits toward degree completion.</b>		
Credit Categories	Total Earned	Still Required
Performance Immersion Credits		
	Add all credits accrued for P.I.	90.0 – “Total Earned”
General Education Credits		
	Add all credits accrued for G.E.	30.0 – “Total Earned”

Use the table below to <b>keep track of completed G.E. classes and credits.</b>			
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Update these tables at the end of each semester.

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