

Theatre Design - Experiential Major Map

	FIRST YEAR	MIDDLE YEARS	LAST YEAR	
A ACADEMIC MASTERY	- Establish foundational knowledge of theatre history, dramatic literature, theatrical vocabulary, and the elements of theatrical production. - Develop fundamental skills in design, technology, stagecraft, visual communication, and production practices. Learn to analyze plays and performances through text, research, observation, visual analysis, and critical discussion. - Explore the principles and elements of design and their application to theatrical storytelling. - Begin connecting classroom learning to the collaborative process of creating theatrical designs and production work.	- Integrate historical, theoretical, literary, and artistic knowledge with increasingly sophisticated design practice. - Develop advanced skills in areas such as scenic, costume, lighting, properties, sound, technical direction, drafting, rendering, construction, or related theatrical technologies. - Apply research and contextual analysis to develop design concepts based on dramatic texts and production needs. - Develop increasingly sophisticated skills in visual communication, drafting, modeling, rendering, budgeting, scheduling, and production problem-solving. - Apply design theory and technical knowledge to increasingly complex production projects.	- Synthesize knowledge of theatre history, dramatic literature, design theory, visual arts, technology, and production practice. - Demonstrate advanced competence in the student's primary area(s) of design and related theatrical technologies. Independently research, conceptualize, develop, document, and execute theatrical designs. - Articulate and defend design choices through research, text analysis, visual evidence, theory, and production requirements. Complete a culminating design portfolio project, production design, capstone, or other experience demonstrating integration of the student's theatrical design education.	ACADEMIC SUCCESS CHECKLIST - Academic Success Checklist for Theatre Design Majors: - Meet with your Advisor to review your four-year plan - Build relationships with faculty and staff - Get help when you need it - Stay healthy and set appropriate boundaries - Work toward your capstone - Work toward your artistic ambitions and develop your creative voice - Engage in service learning and campus opportunities
S SELF-DISCOVERY & STRENGTHS	- Explore the many areas of theatrical design and technology and identify areas of interest and strength. - Develop an understanding of the designer as an artist, problem-solver, collaborator, and storyteller. - Develop awareness of individual visual, spatial, technical, organizational, and creative strengths. Identify personal limitations and areas for growth. - Develop the ability to give and receive constructive feedback and begin developing an individual design voice.	- Refine design and technical skills while identifying areas of increasing specialization and strength. - Evaluate personal design choices, processes, habits, strengths, and areas for continued growth. - Develop an increasingly independent approach to research, conceptualization, problem-solving, drafting, rendering, and production work. - Experiment with different design styles, materials, technologies, processes, and theatrical approaches. - Begin articulating an individual design aesthetic and philosophy.	- Demonstrate confidence, independence, adaptability, creativity, technical awareness, and self-awareness as a theatre designer. - Clearly articulate an individual design voice, aesthetic, strengths, and professional goals. Demonstrate the ability to evaluate one's own design work critically and identify strategies for continued growth. - Make purposeful design choices grounded in text, research, artistic intention, practical requirements, and personal perspective. - Recognize design as an ongoing process of experimentation, problem-solving, learning, and artistic development.	
PI PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION INTEGRATIVE & EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING	- Gain an understanding of professional opportunities in theatrical design, technology, production, and related fields. - Participate in productions through design, assistant design, technical, stagecraft, production, and other experiential assignments. - Begin developing professional habits including preparation, punctuality, organization, communication, responsibility, safety, and collaboration. - Create initial professional materials such as résumé, portfolio pieces, production documentation, renderings, drafting, or other discipline-specific materials. - Begin identifying personal career and educational goals.	- Apply classroom knowledge through increasingly responsible design and production assignments, internships, practicums, independent projects, and professional experiences. - Develop and refine a professional portfolio appropriate to the student's area of design. - Develop skills in design presentation, portfolio presentation, drafting, budgeting, scheduling, production communication, and other discipline-specific professional practices. - Seek opportunities to work with professional designers, technicians, theatres, and production organizations. - Refine career goals and identify pathways toward employment, graduate study, internships, or continued artistic development.	- Demonstrate readiness to enter the professional design/production field or pursue advanced study. - Prepare a polished, coherent professional portfolio and résumé appropriate to the student's goals. - Demonstrate the ability to independently pursue design, technical, production, internship, graduate, fellowship, and other professional opportunities. - Articulate a realistic professional or educational plan and the skills necessary to pursue it. - Demonstrate the ability to translate conceptual ideas into professional theatrical designs and production solutions.	
RE RELATIONSHIPS & LEADERSHIP ENGAGEMENT & WELL-BEING	- Explore design and technology as collaborative components of the theatrical process. - Learn the responsibilities and expectations of designers, technicians, and production personnel within a theatrical ensemble. - Develop effective communication, listening, organization, dependability, and conflict-resolution skills. - Learn to collaborate with directors, performers, designers, technicians, and production staff. * Develop healthy and safe practices for managing the physical, emotional, and time demands of theatrical production.	- Assume increasing responsibility within productions, design teams, technical crews, classes, organizations, and collaborative projects. - Develop leadership skills through design, assistant design, technical direction, crew leadership, stage management, production management, student organizations, internships, and other experiences. - Mentor and support less-experienced students. - Develop sustainable and safe practices for maintaining personal well-being while meeting the demands of theatrical production.* Develop the ability to communicate effectively across theatrical disciplines and navigate collaborative decision-making.	- Demonstrate leadership, professionalism, generosity, adaptability, and accountability within collaborative theatrical environments. - Build and maintain professional and artistic relationships beyond the university. - Demonstrate the ability to lead design and production teams while collaborating effectively with directors, performers, and other designers. - Contribute to a healthy, inclusive, safe, productive, and creative artistic community. - Demonstrate readiness to function as an independent theatre designer, technician, collaborator, leader, and lifelong learner.	

