



FINE & PERFORMING ARTS

SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

THEATRE

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How large is the department?

SLU has 8 full-time and 7 part-time theatre faculty members; 2 theatres [a 360+ seat mainstage proscenium theatre and a 70-seat black box studio theatre]; and approximately 30 theatre majors/minors. 30-40 students participate in each Production.

How many shows do you put on per year?

The University puts on 4 mainstage shows a year [some combination of drama, comedy, musical, contemporary and classical productions]. In the Studio Theatre the program in conjunction with Alpha Psi Omega (APO - theatre student honors fraternity) produce student directed, designed, and often written full length productions as well as one acts, stage readings, and musical cabarets.

Do you produce musicals?

Yes, we typically produce one musical per year.

May freshman be involved?

Yes. We are always interested in providing all students the opportunity to expand their skills. This includes freshman as performers, technicians, and designers.

May non-theatre majors participate?

Absolutely. Acting and Design/Tech opportunities are available to all SLU students. In keeping with our liberal arts tradition, we want all students, whether or not they want professional theatre careers, to explore their creativity.

Why should I choose Saint Louis University's B.A. program?

Our core curriculum is one of the finest educations you will find anywhere. We are firm believers in the liberal arts approach to higher education. We encourage students to receive a full education which includes philosophy, science, literature, and history. A B.A. allows for creation of well-rounded, well-educated theatre artists.

How many credit hours do you need as a theatre major?

The theatre major itself requires 36 hours in specialized theatre classes. In addition, there are practicum and participation requirements.

May a student have a double major or minor?

Yes. The study of theatre partners well with many other areas of study. The theatre curriculum was devised to make it easy to major/minor in another subject.

What is unique about your program?

We use all of St. Louis as a campus. While keeping SLU productions and academic work as priorities, theatre students are encouraged to work in the large arena of St. Louis professional theatres before they graduate.

Are their internship opportunities?

All SLU theatre faculty are working professionals in Saint Louis and beyond. Their many connections allow them to find student internships in almost any area of theatre.

Does SLU Theatre have professional theatre connections?

SLU Theatre has both formal and informal connections to most of the professional theatres in town. Our faculty and students are in regular demand as actors, directors, designers, stage managers, and crew/tech personnel.

Is Saint Louis a good city for theatre?

There are over 30 professional theatres of various shapes and sizes in the St. Louis area. We have access to all of them. Theatre in St. Louis is growing by leaps and bounds. Every Saint Louis University Theatre faculty member is a working professional, providing students and alumni valuable access to the St. Louis professional world.

Is it possible to be involved with other extracurricular activities outside theatre?

Yes! Theatre students often participate in the Student Government Association, Greek Life, service-learning communities (such as Micah House), etc. Theatre is a major time commitment, but students should also nurture other aspects of life and the college experience.

What are your graduates doing now?

There are Saint Louis University graduates across the globe working for professional theatre and film companies. Recent alumni have gone to Los Angeles, New York, Chicago, and St. Louis to launch their careers. We also place graduates in some of the top theatre graduate programs (Yale, California Institute of the Arts, Univ. of Iowa, Univ. of Nevada – Las Vegas, UCLA, Brown University, University of Washington, etc.). Saint Louis University graduates succeed in the professional and academic worlds due to the fine training received from the program.

What do you do with a theatre major?

SLU theatre alumni are working as actors, designers, directors, stage managers, theatre educators, technicians, drama therapists, film studio executives, producers, lawyers, clergy, etc. The comprehensive nature of theatre may take you anywhere!