

Lighting Design and Technology, M.F.A.

Degree Offered

- Master of Fine Arts

Nature of the Program

The M.F.A. design program is an intense three-year course of study for students seeking professional preparation in scenic, costume, or lighting design.

Studio design courses, together with fully realized production experience, offer expectations found in the real world.

- Three years of graduate courses and production work totaling at least sixty-four designated credit hours
- A production or research thesis
- Oral defense of the thesis project
- A successful evaluation at the end of each semester of study
- An overall grade point average of 3.0

Admissions for 2025-2026

Prospective candidates for the degree of master of fine arts in theatre must have a B.A. or B.F.A. degree or equivalent from an accredited institution. Ordinarily, a minimum of thirty semester hours in theatre at the undergraduate level is expected to have been completed with a grade point average of no less than 2.75; although, students with an undergraduate grade point average of 2.25 to 2.75 may be admitted with probationary status.

Auditions

Applicants must audition/interview to gain admittance into the program. Applicants intending to specialize in acting must submit a complete resume of their acting experience, at least two letters of recommendation from acting coaches or directors, and must present an audition before at least one member of the acting faculty. Those intending to specialize in design must submit a complete portfolio of their work, a resume of their design experience, and at least two letters of recommendation from design instructors or directors. An interview with members of the design faculty is also required.

For further details regarding these requirements, please contact the School of Theatre & Dance, West Virginia University, P.O. Box 6111, Morgantown, WV 26506-6111, visit theatre.wvu.edu (<http://theatre.wvu.edu/>), or call (304) 293-2020.

Advanced Standing

Students may be eligible for eighteen hours of graduate transfer credit for advanced-standing if they meet the regular requirements of graduate admission. Students admitted with advanced standing are required to be in residence at WVU for a minimum of two semesters and a summer session. The request for advanced standing should be made to the school director at the time of application

Major Code:3737

Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Minimum GPA of 3.0 required.		
Theatre Studies		
THET 610	Research Methods	3
THET 627S	Graduate Costume and Decoration 1	3
THET 628S	Graduate Costume and Decoration 2	3
THET 697	Research	3
THET 697	Research	3
THET 697	Research	3
Graduate Design Studies		3
THET 622S or THET 624S	Graduate Scene Design Graduate Costume Design 1	
Theatre Performance/Design		
THET 427	Lighting Technology	3
THET 520S	Principles of Stage Lighting	2
THET 613S	Stage Management	3

THET 625S	Graduate Lighting Design	3
THET 625S	Graduate Lighting Design	3
THET 630S	Graduate Rendering Techniques	3
THET 629	Graduate Computer Assisted Design Seminar	3
THET 631S	Graduate Drafting for the Stage	3
THET 725S	Portfolio Development	1
Practicum		
Graduate Production Practicum (taken 4 times, 1 credit each)		4
THET 600	Graduate Production Practicum	
Electives		12
Oral Defense		
Evaluation and Portfolio (semesterly)		
Total Hours		61

SUGGESTED PLAN OF STUDY

First Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
THET 520S		2 THET 427	3
THET 631S		3 THET 625S	3
THET 600		1 THET 629	3
THET 610		3 THET 600	1
		9	10

Second Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
THET 622S or 624S		3 THET 613S	3
THET 627S		3 THET 625S	3
THET 630S		3 THET 628S	3
THET 600		1 THET 600	1
		Elective	3
		10	13

Third Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
THET 697		3 THET 697	3
THET 725S		1 THET 697	3
Elective		3 Elective	3
Elective		3	
		10	9

Total credit hours: 61

Major Learning Outcomes

LIGHTING DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

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