

# THEATRE ARTS (MFA)

## Master of Fine Arts in Theatre Arts

Unit: College of Arts and Sciences (<https://louisville.edu/artsandsciences>) (GA)

Department: Theatre Arts (<http://louisville.edu/theatrearts>)

Program Website (<http://louisville.edu/theatrearts/graduates>)

Academic Plan Code(s): TA\_MFA

## Program Information

Dedicated to Art in Action and offering the only Graduate Certificate in African American Theatre in the United States, our Master of Fine Arts in Performance program offers a three-prong approach. We train actors to act, teach, and make theatre that resonates locally, nationally, and internationally. Our students push boundaries of thinking and challenge conventions of theatre and society through exploration of classical, contemporary, and global dramatic forms. Marrying theory, practice, and engaged outreach, we encourage the application of research, creativity, and sustainability in embodied, socially-conscious performance.

The MFA in Performance offers a three-year course of study that includes classes in acting, movement, voice, drama, and performance theory. Students perform in shows directed by faculty and guest artists and staged in our two main theatres. They also perform in our Repertory Company's touring production and may mount their own performance projects. The Graduate Certificate in African American Theatre, which can be completed alongside the MFA in Performance, features classes in the craft and theory of acting and directing African American theatre.

The African American Theatre Program, founded in 1993, is integral to the Department of Theatre Arts. Further information about the Graduate Certificate in African American Theatre (<https://louisville.edu/theatrearts/aatp>) can be found in the Graduate Catalog.

## Admission Expectations

- Evidence of a Bachelor's Degree and 3.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA).
- Audition at the University of Louisville, at a regional or national conference site, or through a video submission
- Transcripts of all undergraduate and (if applicable) graduate work
- General Test score on the Graduate Record Examination prior to the start of the first semester in the program
- Two letters of recommendation
- Personal Statement (500-800 words, double-spaced)
- Department committee reviews application materials and makes a recommendation to the Graduate School.
- All applicants are automatically considered for Graduate Teaching or Research Assistantships that include full tuition, stipend, and health insurance for the academic year (August–May).
- Students must submit an online application (<http://louisville.edu/graduate/futurestudents/apply-materials/application>) through the Graduate School.

## Program Requirements

MFA Candidates must complete the following course requirements. Students are paired with a faculty advisor and graduate committee to review their progress at the end of each semester, evaluating coursework, professionalism, performance projects, and any GTA responsibilities.

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Performance Courses</b>		<b>42</b>
TA 624	Graduate Acting I-V (5 semesters, 3 credits each)	
TA 622	Graduate Movement I-IV (4 semesters, 3 credits each)	
TA 623	Graduate Voice I-IV (4 semesters, 3 credits each)	
Theatre Arts Elective (at the 500+ level, minimum 3 credits)		
<b>Academic Courses</b>		<b>12</b>
TA 571	Playscript Interpretation - WR	
TA 555	Special Topics in Theatre (Tools for a Global Theatre)	
TA 620	Performance Theory	
TA 664	Approaching African-American Theatre	
<b>Related Coursework</b>		<b>8</b>
TA 610	Introduction to Graduate Study in Theatre	
TA 611	Theatre Pedagogy	
TA 654	Independent Study in Community Service	
Elective (at the 600+ level, outside of Theatre Arts, minimum 3 credits)		
<b>Performance Projects</b>		<b>10</b>
TA 625	MFA Performance Project I	
TA 626	Thesis Performance	
TA 600	Thesis Guidance	
<b>Minimum Total Hours</b>		<b>72</b>