

# ACTING, BFA

## Contact

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## Faculty

Christine Albright-Tufts, Alec Barbour, Kathleen Baum, Bradley Beckman, Danyon Davis, Kathryn Fathers, Eleanor Holdridge, Robert Hupp, Nicholas Kowerko, Celia Madeoy, Zizi Majid, Thomas Miller, Kathryn Miranda, Katherine McGerr, Erica Murphy, Leslie Noble, Ricky Pak, Whitney Pak, Hanni Schwarlander, Blake Segal, Holly Thuma, Joseph Whelan, Matthew Winning, Ralph Zito

## Program Description

The BFA program in acting takes full advantage of the resources provided by Drama Department faculty, the University, and the Department's relationship with Syracuse Stage in order to provide emerging professional theater artists with rigorous training in performance technique, text analysis, voice, speech and actor movement. Students are immediately immersed in a program of pre-professional study in their first year, devoting as many as 18 hours of class time per week to various theater arts. Students who are interested in directing, playwriting, film or new media may choose additional courses in these areas under drama elective requirements.

Although first-year students are not permitted to perform on stage for the public, they work on productions behind the scenes in a wide variety of jobs, ranging from run crews to front of house. From the second year on, students may audition for roles in: faculty-directed productions and scenes and plays directed by students; films produced by undergraduate and graduate film students; and productions outside the department, including Syracuse Stage productions in appropriate roles or as understudies where union rules permit the use of non-Equity actors. Equity points may be earned through work with Syracuse Stage.

## Student Learning Outcomes

1. Analyze a wide range of dramatic materials for the purpose of making informed choices in rehearsal about the character, story, and interpretation
2. Demonstrate the ability to listen, follow an impulse, and respond truthfully to a scene partner while making active choices under a specific set of circumstances
3. Demonstrate the physical expression appropriate to the given form and imaginary circumstances in at least three (3) different genres of dramatic material
4. Demonstrate healthy and expressive vocal use in a range of diverse dramatic material
5. Creatively synthesize the use of the body, voice, text and emotional truth in performance
6. Demonstrate the ability to participate in collaborative artistic endeavors to a professional standard

## Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Drama Requirements: 32 credits</b>		
DRA 115	Drama in Context I	3
DRA 116	Drama in Context II	3
DRA 121	The Actor's Speech	2
DRA 221	Voice/Verse I	3
DRA 222	Voice/Verse II	3
DRA 321	Rotating Topics in Advanced Voice Verse	3
DRA 322	Advanced Voice/Verse II	3
DRA 355	Drama in Context III	3
DRA 356	Drama in Context IV	3
Dramatic Literature (x2) 3 credits each		6
<b>Movement Requirements: 10 credits</b>		
DRA 273	Movement for Actors I	2
DRA 274	Movement for Actors II	2
DRA 373	Clown Technique	3
DRA 374	Solo Creation in Physical Poetry	3
<b>Acting Requirements: 36 credits</b>		
DRA 125	Introduction to Acting I - Majors	5
DRA 126	Introduction to Acting II - Majors	5
DRA 220	Introduction to Scene Study (x2, 3 credits each)	6
DRA 320	Rotating Topics in Advanced Scene Study	3
DRA 420	Advanced Scene Study: Poetic Drama	3
Upper Level Acting (x2) 3 credits each		6
On Camera Acting: 1 semester (3 credits) of:		3
DRA 333 Introduction to On-Camera Acting		
or DRA 433 Advanced Acting for the Camera		
or DRA 534 Cinema Acting&Directing		
Acting in Productions (2 credits)		2
DRA 526 Plays in Performance		
or DRA 560 Musical Theater Production		
<b>Theatre Laboratory: 0 credits</b>		
DRA 090	Theater Lab	0
Seven Required semesters of Theater Lab: total of zero credits		0
<b>Drama Electives: 16 credits</b>		
Drama electives (also known as drama support) are courses that are not required specifically for the student's program of study, but which are meant to enhance their understanding of their major field or their overall undergraduate experience.		18
NOTE: Students may only receive credit for a combined total of 12 credits from Independent Study or Experience Credit courses.		
<b>University Requirements: 7 credits</b>		
FYS 101	First Year Seminar	1
WRT 105	Studio 1: Practices of Academic Writing	3
WRT 205	Studio 2: Critical Research and Writing	3
<b>Academic Electives</b>		

Academic electives are courses that involve critical thinking and theoretical understanding as opposed to practical application, mostly in the Liberal Arts. These academic courses usually have non-art-related content, such as math, natural sciences, astronomy, global history, political science, psychology, entrepreneurship, and languages, among others. A maximum of 9 credits out of 23 can be from the department of drama.

You can find a comprehensive list of courses that count here.  
(<https://vpa.syr.edu/student-services/advising/>)

**Total Credits** **123**

**Degree Awarded: BFA in Acting**

**Undergraduate University Requirements**

The following requirements and experiences apply to all Syracuse University Undergraduate matriculated degree programs.

- IDEA Course Requirement (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/undergraduate/idea-course-requirement/>)
- First Year Seminar (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/undergraduate/courses/fys/>)