GRADUATE

MFA directing requirements

All requirements described below are for the standard candidate entering in fall semester for a three-year residency.

FROM THE CATALOG

For the concentration in directing, students must complete 3 credits in research; 9 credits in history and/or theory (minimum 3 credits in Asian and 3 credits in Western, 3 credits of which must be in theory); 3 credits of THEA 692; 3 credits in script analysis; 12 credits in graduate-level directing (minimum 3 credits in Asian and 3 credits in Western); 6 credits in design/technical theater (in two areas—design, costume, lighting, or set); 6 credits in creative/performance courses (in at least two areas—acting, choreography, dance, movement, music, playwriting, puppetry, or voice); 6 credits of THEA 690 Graduate Theater Workshop (minimum 4 credits in directing including assistant directing and dramaturgy); 2 credits may include acting, design, playwriting, stage managing, etc.; minimum 2 credits in faculty directed and 2 credits in student-directed shows); and 6 credits of THEA 695 Creative Project.

The qualification for an MFA in directing should be judged on one qualifying project, usually completed in the 2nd semester of Year One (once the candidate has identified a thesis advisor and two additional committee members), or in the 1st semester of Year Two. Qualifying projects may take place in the following ways:

- A Late Night Theatre production
- A one-act directed in a class such as THEA 680 or THEA 682
- An outside or in-house project as approved in advance

The candidate’s committee will then meet to discuss the qualifier, and the candidate’s plans for a Thesis Project.

The Thesis Project will usually take place in Year Three. It is meant to be a culminating final project, comprising 6 credits of 695 (Creative Project). Students should normally present a thesis project proposal to his/her committee by no later than December of Year Two. The Thesis Project will be evaluated by the candidate’s committee on the basis of the production itself, on a portfolio assessment of the final project in the form of an essay and production book, on production evaluations turned in by cast and crew, and on a final thesis defense meeting with the committee.