

Program Change Request

APPROVED BY SENATE

03/09/2026

EP.26.116_FINAL

Approved by EP 03/02/2026

Date Submitted: 12/06/25 6:31 pm

Viewing: **10KR4086BFA : Theatre: Scenic Design,**

BFA

Last approved: 02/25/25 12:38 pm

Last edit: 02/26/26 12:22 pm

Changes proposed by: Nicole Turner

Catalog Pages Using [Theatre: Scenic Design, BFA](#)
this Program

Proposal Type:
Concentration (ex. Dietetics)

This proposal is for

a:
Revision

In Workflow

1. U Program Review
2. Gen Ed Review
3. 1883-THEAT
Committee Chair
4. 1883-THEAT Head
5. KR Dean
6. University Librarian
7. COTE Programs
8. Provost
9. Senate EPC

10. Senate
11. U Senate Conf
12. Board of Trustees
13. IBHE
14. HLC
15. Catalog Editor
16. DMI

Approval Path

1. 12/10/25 10:39 am
Brianna Vargas-
Gonzalez (bv4):
Approved for U
Program Review
2. 12/15/25 12:44 pm
Melissa Steinkoenig
(menewell):
Approved for Gen
Ed Review
3. 12/16/25 12:58 am
Jeffrey Eric Jenkins
(jej): Approved for
1883-THEAT
Committee Chair

4. 12/16/25 7:34 am
Valleri Robinson
(valleri2): Approved
for 1883-THEAT
Head
5. 02/05/26 3:37 pm
Nicole Turner
(nicturn): Approved
for KR Dean
6. 02/10/26 2:55 pm
Tom Teper (tteper):
Approved for
University Librarian
7. 02/10/26 3:38 pm
Suzanne Lee
(suzannel):
Approved for COTE
Programs
8. 02/11/26 4:02 pm
Brooke Newell
(bsnewell):
Approved for
Provost

History

1. Mar 21, 2019 by
Deb Forgacs
(dforgacs)
2. Dec 11, 2019 by
Nicole Turner
(nicturn)
3. Feb 26, 2020 by
Cynthia Kocher
(ckocher)
4. May 5, 2022 by
Nicole Turner
(nicturn)
5. Sep 30, 2024 by
Nicole Turner

(nicturn)

6. Feb 25, 2025 by

Nicole Turner

(nicturn)

Administration Details

Official Program Name Theatre: Scenic Design, BFA

Diploma Title Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre

Sponsor College Fine & Applied Arts

Sponsor Department Theatre

Sponsor Name Cindy Kocher

Sponsor Email ckocher@illinois.edu

College Contact Nicole Turner

College Contact Email

nicturn@illinois.edu

College Budget Officer ~~Greg Anderson~~

College Budget Officer Email ~~gnanders@illinois.edu~~

If additional stakeholders other than the Sponsor and College Contacts listed above should be contacted if questions during the review process arise, please list them here.

KR Dean

Does this program have inter-departmental administration?

No

Effective Catalog Term

Effective Catalog Term Fall 2026

Proposal Title

Proposal Title (either Establish/Revise/Eliminate the Degree Name in Program Name in the College of XXXX, i.e., Establish the Bachelor of Science in Entomology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, include the Graduate College for Grad Programs)

Revise the Concentration in Scenic Design in the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre in the College of Fine and Applied Arts

Does this proposal have any related proposals that will also be revised at this time and the programs depend on each other? Consider Majors, Minors, Concentrations & Joint Programs in your department. Please know that this information is used administratively to move related proposals through workflow efficiently and together as needed. Format your response like the following "This BS proposal (key 567) is related to the Concentration A proposal (key 145)"

This Scenic Design (key 682) concentration proposal is related to the BFA proposal (key 146) and concentration proposals for Acting (key 679), Costume Design & Technology (key 680), Sound Design & Technology (key 684), Lighting Design & Technology (key 681), Scenic Tech (key 683), Arts & Entertainment Technology (key 950), Stage Management (key 685), and Theatre Studies (key 686).

Program Justification

Provide a brief description, using a numbered item list, of the proposed changes to the program.

1. Eliminate category, "General Non-Theatre Electives" and 9 hours required in category
2. Update THEA 121 requirement, from 3 to 2 hours
3. Reduce degree hours from 128 to 120.
4. Update THEA core hours, from 24 to 23 hours
5. Update Summary of Credits table

Did the program content change 25% or more in relation to the total credit hours, since the most recent university accreditation visit? See the italicized text below for more details.

No

Provide the reasoning for why each change was necessary, using a corresponding numbered item list as it relates to the brief description numbered list above.

1. The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Department of Theatre withdrew from National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST) Membership during the 2016-2017 academic year. NAST has a specific BFA expectation that states: "Specific Recommendations for General Studies" (pg. 99 NAST Handbook 25-26), which are then detailed for the various concentrations within the theatre concentrations (history, foreign language, media, cultural studies, etc.) Because the department elected to withdraw from NAST and students are free to take any free electives of their choosing to complete the degree, this category is not necessary. Students may elect to take free electives in any area as this category is eliminated.
2. THEA 121 was recently revised and approved to change from 3 to 2 hours (FA 26 approval attached). This updates the POS table.
3. With the reduction of 10 credit hours of specific requirements, there is no need to have a 128 credit hour degree when the campus minimum is 120 hours. The Office of the Provost manages a UI system audit (last conducted June 2025), which asks for a list of and justification for all bachelor's degrees that exceed 120 hours. The response from theatre this year was: "The typical BFA is between 120-130 hours, and in that regard, this program is in align with peer programs. This is actually one of the ways Theatre departments distinguish between BA and BFA experiences. As an intensive, pre-professional training program, this program offers significant, specialized training in each area, which adds to the credit load. The biggest factor that grows the minimum number is that the Department of Theatre gives credit hours for production work. As such, students who act, design, tech, manage, or otherwise work on a performance with the department get credit for that work. Many programs do not give credit for such work, but the UIUC Department of Theatre sees it as fully curricular and do credit it." This proposal makes no changes to the production work students are receiving credit for, but rather have examined the total credit hours for the major and degree and no longer have a justification for needing 128 hours. With the program changes outlined in this proposal, students will complete approx. 35 general education hours, 23 core theatre hours, 49-51 concentration hours, and 10-13 free elective hours to equal 120.
4. Due to the decrease in 1 hour from THEA 121, the THEA core requirements have decreased by 1 hour.
5. The summary of credits table is edited to change the core requirements to 23 hours, eliminate the general non-theatre electives line, and update the total degree hours to 120. This reflects accuracy from the above program changes.

Instructional Resources

Will there be any reduction in other course offerings, programs or concentrations by your department as a result of this new program/proposed change?

No

Does this new program/
proposed change result in the replacement of another program?

No

Does the program include other courses/subjects outside of the sponsoring department impacted by the creation/revision of this program? If Yes is selected, indicate the appropriate courses and attach the letter of support/acknowledgement.

No

Program Features

Academic Level Undergraduate

Is this program part of an ISBE approved licensure program?

No

Will specialized accreditation be sought for this program?

No

Additional concentration notes (e.g., estimated enrollment, advising plans, etc.)

Does this program prepare graduates for entry into a career or profession that is regulated by the State of Illinois?

No

Program of Study

Provide detailed information (course rubrics, numbers, and credit hours) of how a student could obtain 40 credit hours of upper-division coursework.

~~Advanced Hours in Theatre Core = 7 hours~~ THEA 304 (3 hrs)

THEA 364 (3 hrs)

THEA 404 (1 hrs) ~~Scenic Design Concentration = 31-32 minimum hours of 300/400 level~~

THEA 300 (4 hrs)

THEA 400 (4 hrs)

THEA 415 (3 hrs)

THEA 416 (3 hrs)

THEA 426 (6 hrs)

THEA 427 (3 hrs)

THEA 438 (3 hrs)

THEA 458 (3 hrs)

THEA 461 or 456 or 457 (2-3 hrs)

2nd 'Choose 3 credits from' category or Free electives (this concentration estimates 11 ~~8-9~~ hours) = ~~or General Non-Theatre Electives (9 hrs required)~~ = to meet 1-2 additional hour of 300/400 level

Revised programs [Theatre BFA sample schedule Scenic Design FA 26.docx](#)

[THEA 121 Course Credit Hour Change Approved FA26.pdf](#)

Catalog Page Text - Overview Tab

Catalog Page Overview Text

Level 21: Design, Technology and Management Concentrations

Level 21 reflects the design, technology and management disciplines in theatre arts. It has seven unique yet inter-related concentrations in: Arts + Entertainment Technology, Costume Design + Technology, Lighting Design + Technology, Scene Design, Scenic Technology, Sound Design + Technology, and Stage Management. Freshman and sophomore students learn the foundations of theatrical production with a focus on acquiring practical skills for application in advanced course work and in theatre productions. Junior and senior students participate in advanced study in their chosen discipline supported by one-on-one faculty mentoring of assigned projects. Students in this area are the designers, technicians, managers, artisans and crew for over a dozen theater, musical theater, dance and opera productions at Krannert Center for the Performing Arts and work on these shows in various roles throughout their entire course of study.

Is the overview text above correct?

Yes

Statement for
Programs of Study
Catalog

~~Graduation Requirements~~ Graduation Requirements

Minimum hours required for graduation: 120 ~~128~~ hours.

Twelve hours of 300 and 400-level courses in the major must be taken on this campus.

~~University Requirements~~ University Requirements

Minimum of 40 hours of upper-division coursework, generally at the 300- or 400-level. These hours can be drawn from all elements of the degree. Students should consult their academic advisor for additional guidance in fulfilling this requirement.

The university and residency requirements can be found in the [Student Code](#) (§ 3-801) and in the [Academic Catalog](#).

~~General Education Requirements~~ General Education Requirements

Follows the [campus General Education ~~General Education~~ \(Gen Ed\) requirements](#). Some Gen Ed requirements may be met by courses required and/or electives in the program.

Composition I	4-6
Advanced Composition	3
fulfilled by THEA 304	
Humanities & the Arts (6 hours)	6
fulfilled by THEA 122 & THEA 208	
Natural Sciences & Technology (6 hours)	6
Social & Behavioral Sciences (6 hours)	6
Cultural Studies: Non-Western Cultures (1 course)	3
Cultural Studies: US Minority Cultures (1 course)	3
Cultural Studies: Western/Comparative Cultures (1 course)	3
Quantitative Reasoning (2 courses, at least one course must be Quantitative Reasoning I)	6-10

Language Requirement (Completion of the third semester or equivalent of a language other than English is required) 0-15

~~Core Requirements for all Theatre Majors~~ Scenic Design

~~Concentration~~ ~~General Non-Theatre Electives~~ Core Requirements for all Theatre Majors

FAA 101	Arts at Illinois	1
THEA 100	Practicum I	2
THEA 200	Practicum II	2
THEA 121	Theatre Foundations: Performance	2
THEA 122	Theatre Foundations: Theory and Practice	3
THEA 123	Theatre Foundations: Production	3
THEA 208	21st Century Dramaturgy	3
THEA 304	Global Theatre Performance	3
THEA 364	Topics in Theatre History	3
THEA 404	Professional Career Development	1
Total Hours		23

Scenic Design Concentration

General Non-Theatre Electives		9
THEA 100	Practicum I (must be repeated in addition to the THEA 100 practicum I required in the core)	1
THEA 119	BFA Production Seminar (repeated for 4 total hours)	4
THEA 126	Stagecraft	3
THEA 222	Introduction to Scenic Design	3
THEA 225	Scenographic Drafting	3
THEA 300	Practicum III (repeated for 4 total hours)	4
THEA 400	Practicum IV (repeated for 4 total hours)	4
THEA 415	Scenic Design I	3
THEA 416	Scenic Design II	3

THEA 425	Advanced Scenographic Drafting	3
THEA 426	History of Decor (repeated for 6 total hours)	6
THEA 427	Scenic Painting I	3
THEA 438	Traditional Rendering Techniques	3
THEA 458	Digital Rendering Techniques	3
Choose one course:		2-3
THEA 456	Properties Design	
THEA 457	Model Making for the Stage	
THEA 461	Introduction to Media Design	
Choose 3 credit hours:		3
THEA 212	Introduction to Directing	
THEA 223	Introduction to Stage Rigging	
THEA 231	Intro to Lighting Design	
THEA 399	Undergraduate Group Seminar	
THEA 420	Shop Practice	
THEA 428	Scenic Painting II	
THEA 447	Costume Rendering	
Total Minimum Concentration Hours		51

Summary of Credits for ~~for~~ Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre, ~~Theatre~~, concentration in Scenic Design ~~Scenic-Design~~

General Education Requirements		
Core Requirements for All Theatre Majors		23
Scenic Design Concentration Requirements		51
General Non-Theatre Electives		9
Free electives to bring the total hours earned to 120, including a minimum of 40 credits at the 300- or 400-level		
Total Credits for BFA in Theatre, concentration in Scenic Design		120

Program Relationships

Corresponding

Program(s):

Corresponding Program(s)
Theatre, BFA

Program Regulation and Assessment

Plan to Assess and Improve Student Learning

Illinois Administrative Code: 1050.30(b)(1)(D) Provision is made for guidance and counseling of students, evaluations of student performance, continuous monitoring of progress of students toward their degree objectives and appropriate academic record keeping.

Are the learning outcomes for the program listed in the Academic Catalog?

Yes

Student Learning Outcomes

Student Learning Outcomes

- o Demonstrates a mature, effective ability to analyze, interpret, and discuss creative and theoretical works.
- o Demonstrates necessary knowledge of materials, tools, techniques, methodologies, and safe working habits of all essential theatrical production environments.
- o Demonstrates practical application of learned methodologies including the ability to communicate ideas, concepts, and requirements in order to successfully fulfill a collaborative role related to scenic design for a stage production.
- o Demonstrates working knowledge of professional practices across genres of theatre, musical theatre, and opera.
- o Demonstrates necessary skills and knowledge to acquire an entry-level position in the field of scenic design including significant technical mastery, showing the capacity to produce work and solve problems independently.

Assessment

- o Instructors in each curricular area review the progress of undergraduate students majoring in the areas annually. As part of this review, faculty assess the effectiveness of the curriculum to meet the department's mission, the needs of the field, and to maintain rigor.
- o Semester reviews with each studio student.
- o Annual reviews of progression towards graduation (including course grade reviews.)

Did you make any revisions to the learning outcomes you copied and pasted from the current academic catalog?

No

Describe how, when, and where these learning outcomes will be assessed.

Describe here:

Identify faculty expectations for students' achievement of each of the stated student learning outcomes. What score, rating, or level of expertise will signify that students have met each outcome? Provide rating rubrics as necessary.

Explain the process that will be implemented to ensure that assessment results are used to improve student learning.

Program

Description and

Requirements

Attach Documents

Delivery Method

This program is
available:

On Campus - Students are required to be on campus, they may take some online courses.

Enrollment

Describe how this revision or phase down/elimination will impact enrollment and degrees awarded. If this is an elimination/phase down proposal include the plans for the students left in the program.

No impact.

Budget

Are there budgetary
implications for this
revision? No

Will the program or revision require staffing (faculty, advisors, etc.) beyond what is currently available?

No

Additional Budget
Information

Attach File(s)

Financial Resources

How does the unit intend to financially support this proposal?

No changes to current operations. ~~The BFA is a professional training program in theatre, and as such it generally includes a mix of small, hands-on courses and larger courses offering history and theory, as well as quite large courses for non-majors. Most of the courses submitted for new consideration or revisions in this set of course revisions are of the smaller nature. We have worked extensively with the College of Fine and Applied to assure a responsible use of departmental resources, to allow us to maintain the integrity of degree programs and, at the same time, operate sustainably.~~

Will the unit need to seek campus or other external resources?

No

Attach letters of support

Faculty Resources

Please address the impact on faculty resources including any changes in numbers of faculty, class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratios, etc.

No impact.

Library Resources

Describe your proposal's impact on the University Library's resources, collections, and services. If necessary please consult with the appropriate disciplinary specialist within the University Library.

Library collections, resources and services are sufficient to support this concentration revision.

EP Documentation

EP Control Number EP.26.116

Attach Rollback/
Approval Notices

Non-EP Documentation

U Program Review
Comments

Rollback

Documentation and

Attachment

DMI Documentation

Attach Final

Approval Notices

Banner/Codebook

Name

BFA:Theatre:Scenic Design-UIUC

Program Code: 10KR4086BFA

Minor Code	Conc Code	4086	Degree Code	BFA Major Code
0162				

Senate Approval

Date

Senate Conference

Approval Date

BOT Approval Date

IBHE Approval Date

HLC Approval Date

DOE Approval Date n/a

Effective Date:

Program Reviewer

Comments

Melissa Steinkoenig (menewell) (12/15/25 12:43 pm): Gen Ed Table: Good

Key: 682