

# Program Change Request

APPROVED BY SENATE

04/06/2026

EP.26.144\_FINAL

Approved by EP 03/30/2026

Date Submitted: 01/29/26 12:37 pm

Viewing: **10KS0272MFA : Theatre: Acting, MFA**

Last approved: 09/22/25 12:15 pm

Last edit: 04/01/26 8:16 am

Changes proposed by: Nicole Turner

Catalog Pages Using [Theatre: Acting Concentration, MFA](#)  
this Program

Proposal Type:

Concentration (ex. Dietetics)

This proposal is for

a:

Revision

## In Workflow

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

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

## Approval Path

1. 12/03/25 11:31 am  
Brianna Vargas-Gonzalez (bv4):  
Approved for U  
Program Review
2. 12/16/25 1:01 am  
Jeffrey Eric Jenkins  
(jej): Approved for  
1883-THEAT  
Committee Chair
3. 12/16/25 7:35 am  
Valleri Robinson  
(valleri2): Approved  
for 1883-THEAT

Head

4. 12/22/25 10:23 am  
Nicole Turner  
(nicturn): Approved  
for KR Dean
5. 12/22/25 11:15 am  
Tom Teper (tteper):  
Approved for  
University Librarian
6. 01/13/26 9:47 am  
Allison McKinney  
(agrindly): Rollback  
to University  
Librarian for  
Grad\_College
7. 01/13/26 9:48 am  
Allison McKinney  
(agrindly): Rollback  
to Initiator
8. 01/30/26 12:01 pm  
Brianna Vargas-  
Gonzalez (bv4):  
Approved for U  
Program Review
9. 02/05/26 3:02 pm  
Jeffrey Eric Jenkins  
(jej): Approved for  
1883-THEAT  
Committee Chair
10. 02/05/26 3:29 pm  
Valleri Robinson  
(valleri2): Approved  
for 1883-THEAT  
Head
11. 02/11/26 8:27 am  
Nicole Turner  
(nicturn): Approved  
for KR Dean
12. 02/11/26 9:22 am  
Tom Teper (tteper):

- Approved for  
University Librarian
13. 02/24/26 12:55 pm  
Allison McKinney  
(agrindly): Approved  
for Grad\_College
14. 02/24/26 1:09 pm  
Allison McKinney  
(agrindly): Rollback  
to Grad\_College for  
COTE Programs
15. 03/03/26 8:14 am  
Allison McKinney  
(agrindly): Approved  
for Grad\_College
16. 03/03/26 12:08 pm  
Suzanne Lee  
(suzannel):  
Approved for COTE  
Programs
17. 03/04/26 3:19 pm  
Brooke Newell  
(bsnewell):  
Approved for  
Provost

## History

1. Aug 1, 2019 by Deb  
Forgacs (dforgacs)
2. Jan 14, 2021 by Deb  
Forgacs (dforgacs)
3. May 8, 2025 by  
Nicole Turner  
(nicturn)
4. Sep 22, 2025 by  
Nicole Turner  
(nicturn)

## Administration Details

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Official Program Name	Theatre: Acting, MFA	
Diploma Title	Master of Fine Arts in Theatre	
Sponsor College	Fine & Applied Arts	
Sponsor Department	Theatre	
Sponsor Name	<u>Kim McKean</u> <del>Jeffrey Jenkins</del>	
Sponsor Email	<u>@illinois.edu</u> <del>jej@illinois.edu</del>	
College Contact	Nicole Turner	College Contact Email
	nicturn@illinois.edu	
College Budget Officer	<del>Greg Anderson</del>	
College Budget Officer Email	<del>gnanders@illinois.edu</del>	

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.

Does this program have inter-departmental administration?

No

### Effective Catalog Term

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Effective Catalog Term	Fall 2026
Effective Catalog	2026-2027

### Proposal Title

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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 Acting in the Master of Fine Arts in Theatre in the College of Fine and Applied Arts and the Graduate College

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)"

## Program Justification

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

- 1- Increase number of Acting required courses from 48 to 68 (+20)
- 2- Eliminate the category of Departmental approved electives (-20)
- 3- Copy "other requirements" table in POS from MFA Theatre
- 4- Per request of Grad College, providing specific course options which make up the acting and theatre history categories.
- 5- The culminating project is added in the Grad table under 'other requirements'

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 and 2- A Master of Fine Arts in Acting is a professional training degree designed to ensure that all graduates reach a high, consistent level of mastery in core performance competencies. Increasing the number of required courses—and correspondingly reducing the number of electives—formalizes the training that students are already choosing in practice, while strengthening curricular coherence and alignment with professional standards.

In recent years, students have overwhelmingly selected acting- or performance-focused courses when given elective options, and faculty advisors have consistently approved these theatre-focused electives because they directly support the program's training goals. This pattern indicates that the elective structure was, in effect, functioning as additional acting coursework rather than a means of exploring broader academic areas. Additionally, although the curriculum will include more required acting courses, these courses are designed with inherent flexibility to support individualized artistic development. This approach preserves the ability for students to tailor parts of their training to their interests while ensuring that all students engage deeply with the core competencies essential for professional readiness.

3- Previously, this table has been automated over and this provides clarity when looking at CIM-P so it matches the academic catalog.

4- This helps develop the degree audit and allows students to understand what courses they may be register for.

5- Addition of Master's Project. This is not a Thesis, per the Graduate College definition, but helps the Theatre department track the culminating performance project for the MFA acting students.

No change to program learning outcomes or total degree hours.

## Instructional Resources

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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.

Yes

Courses outside of the sponsoring department/interdisciplinary departments:

SCAN 463 - Modern Scandinavian Drama

Please attach any [Approval Letter THEA 483 SCAN 463.pdf](#)  
 letters of support/  
 acknowledgement  
 for any  
 Instructional  
 Resources.  
 Consider faculty,  
 students, and/or  
 other impacted  
 units as  
 appropriate.

## Program Features

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Academic Level      Graduate

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

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Revised programs

## Catalog Page Text - Overview Tab

Catalog Page Overview Text

Statement for  
Programs of Study  
Catalog

<b>Acting</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Theatre History</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Departmental approved electives</b>	<b>20</b>
<b><u>Acting courses may include the following and are often repeated:</u></b>	<b><u>68</u></b>
<u>THEA 571</u>	<u>Embodied Practice</u>
<u>THEA 572</u>	<u>Colloquium in Acting: Voice</u>
<u>THEA 573</u>	<u>Colloquium in Acting: Movement</u>
<u>THEA 574</u>	<u>Colloquium in Acting: Acting</u>
<u>Additional acting course options selected in consultation with advisor</u>	
<b><u>Theatre History course, select one from the following:</u></b>	<b><u>4</u></b>
<u>THEA 462</u>	<u>Advanced Media Design</u>
<u>THEA 467</u>	<u>Contemporary Theatrical Forms</u>
<u>THEA 483</u>	<u>Modern Scandinavian Drama</u>
<u>THEA 560</u>	<u>Seminar in Theatre History</u>
<u>THEA 561</u>	<u>Seminar in Dramatic Literature</u>
<u>THEA 562</u>	<u>Seminar in Theatre Theory</u>
<u>THEA 564</u>	<u>Stud Theatre Hist 20th Century</u>
<u>Additional theatre history course options selected in consultation with advisor</u>	
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>72</b>

## Other Requirements

Other requirements may overlap

A concentration is not required

Acting Master's Project Required

Minimum 500-level Hours Required Overall:

12

Must be in residence six semesters

Students in the MFA Program participate continuously in the production program of the Department of Theatre, which presents six to eight productions annually at Krannert Center for the Performing Arts.

Minimum GPA:

3.0

### Program Relationships

Corresponding

Program(s):

Corresponding Program(s)

Theatre, MFA

## 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

By the end of the program, students will be able to:

Analyze, prepare, and rehearse dramatic material and to collaboratively engage in performance of works for the stage.

Speak clearly and expressively in communication of dramatic material and to develop practices of healthy voice and speech preparation.

Demonstrate acquisition of expressive movement skills, including stage combat techniques, and development of sustainable physical practices of performance.

Understand the expectations of auditioning for and working in professional live and screen performance.

Demonstrate an ability for instruction in acting and performance-related courses, including voice, speech, and movement.

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

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This program is  
available:

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

## Enrollment

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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. This revision reflects current practice and will not impact current students as it is for a future catalog year.

## Budget

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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

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How does the unit intend to financially support this proposal?

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

No

Attach letters of support

Is this program requesting self-supporting status?

No

## Faculty Resources

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

There is no change to faculty teaching schedules or loads. No further impact on faculty resources anticipated.

## 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.

The Library's resources, collections, and services are sufficient to meet the needs of the program outlined in this proposal.

### EP Documentation

EP Control Number    EP.26.144

Attach Rollback/  
Approval Notices

### Non-EP Documentation

U Program Review  
Comments

Rollback  
Documentation and  
Attachment

### DMI Documentation

Attach Final  
Approval Notices

Banner/Codebook  
Name

MFA:Theatre (MFA-Acting) -UIUC

Program Code:	10KS0272MFA			
Minor Code	Conc Code	0272	Degree Code	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

**Allison McKinney (agrindly) (01/13/26 9:46 am):** Please provide the list of courses in the program of study.

**Allison McKinney (agrindly) (01/13/26 9:47 am):** Rollback: See comment

**Allison McKinney (agrindly) (01/13/26 9:48 am):** Rollback: Rolling back from Grad College

**Allison McKinney (agrindly) (02/24/26 1:09 pm):** Rollback: Rolling back to Grad College

Key: 835