Program Description

Degree Awarded: PHD Theatre (Theatre For Youth)

The internationally renowned theatre for youth PhD program at ASU features distinguished faculty, excellent facilities and comprehensive coursework, research guidance and practical experiences in all areas of theatre, educational theatre, community cultural development and theatre for youth. Faculty provide students individualized attention and focused mentorship amid a challenging and supportive atmosphere designed to educate future leaders and researchers in the field. The program's doctoral students complete their course of study equipped to be engaged, thoughtful and innovative leaders in artistry, scholarship, education and research.

Graduates of the theatre for youth program are prepared for careers that include teacher of artistry, directing and education directing; specialist in arts and civic organizations; member of university and college faculty; career in social profit organizations; and careers in arts entrepreneurship, research and publishing programming.

At a Glance

- College/School: Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts
- Location: Tempe campus

Degree Requirements

90 credit hours, a foreign language exam, a written comprehensive exam, an oral comprehensive exam, a prospectus and a dissertation

Required Core (30 credit hours)
Research (12 credit hours)
THE 792 Research (12)

Research Methodology (6 credit hours)

Culminating Experience (12 credit hours)
THE 799 Dissertation (12)

Additional Curriculum Information
When approved by the student's supervisory committee and the Graduate College, this program allows 30 credit hours from a previously awarded master's degree to be used for this degree.

In meeting these requirements, students, with the advice of the supervisory committee, may select theatre courses in areas such as community-based theatre, theatre education, theatre for social change, theatre history, theatre theory and criticism, and tutorial courses.

Students may also take courses outside the School of Film, Dance and Theatre in areas such as aesthetic theory, area studies, children's literature, critical and cultural studies, educational theory and methodology, languages and literatures, arts education, policy research, and democracy studies.

Research methodology coursework is chosen in consultation with the supervisory committee. Where appropriate, the supervisory committee may approve certification of literacy in a foreign language as meeting the research methodology requirement. This approval is granted only in those circumstances wherein fluency in that language is necessary for the dissertation research.

Additional Curricular Requirements:

- ongoing reviews of a student's performance in courses and development of research skills, artistic skills and teaching competencies conducted by the supervisory committee at the end of each semester
- comprehensive examinations composed of written and oral components centering on theatre history, literature and criticism, theatre for youth and theatre education and the research area
- dissertation developed from an approved prospectus, based on original research work of high quality, demonstrating proficiency in the student's special field and adding new knowledge

All activities are selected to help students meet the goals of the program and develop the capability of becoming leaders in the field.

Admission Requirements
Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the School of Film, Dance and Theatre.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in theatre or education from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of a student's first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. GRE exam
4. interview
5. curriculum vitae
6. sample of scholarly writing
7. statement of purpose
8. three letters of recommendation
9. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information
An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency.

The statement of purpose should explain the applicant's research, artistic and educational philosophies and goals as appropriate to the applicant's desired focus in the doctoral program and how study in the ASU theatre for youth program might particularly suit these goals and philosophies.

Three letters of recommendation from professionals familiar with the applicant's work should address, specifically, the applicant's potential for success in a doctoral program.

Students should see the program website for application deadlines.

Contact Information

School of Film, Dance and Theatre | GHALL 232
fdt@asu.edu | 480-965-5337