



ACADEMIC MAP TO BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS IN PRODUCTION + DESIGN

2025-2026



NORTHWESTERN STATE
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA

www.nsula.edu/theatre

START HERE

YEAR 1

SEMESTER 1	Milestones	Grade	Credits	Minimum Grade
THEA 2300 Intro to Theatre FALL ONLY			3	
THEA 2310 Stagecraft I			3	
THEA 2320 Acting I			3	
ENGL 1010 Composition & Rhetoric I			3	
MATH 1020 College Algebra or MATH 1035 Contemporary Math			3	
UNIV 1000 The University Experience			1	

- Requirement – Participate in New Faces
- Requirement – Participate in NSU Christmas Gala
- Attend a Production + Design postmortem for each production

Semester Credits _____

Fall semester portfolio review is a presentation to the whole group of Production + Design students and faculty; first year students are expected to attend and begin gathering their portfolio materials based on their peers' presentations.

SEMESTER 2	Milestones	Grade	Credits	Minimum Grade
THEA 2030 Applied Theatre			1	
THEA 2140 Concepts of Design SPRING ONLY			3	
THEA 3380 Theatre History and Literature II SPRING ONLY			3	
ENGL 1020 Composition & Rhetoric II 3			3	
MATH 1060 Finite Math or MATH 1090 Trigonometry			3	
One Production and Design Requirement/ Elective			3	

- Participate in Louisiana Thespians Festival
- Attend a Production + Design postmortem for each production

Semester Credits _____

Total Credits _____

Spring semester portfolio review has an interview format and includes a cover letter of your interests for the following year. This includes a cover letter of interest for the following year and in the first year a resume with ideally a draft of a portfolio. Your review score must be 3 or higher to remain in the program. Students are encouraged to seek summer work in theatre for experiential learning outside of NSULA, and can take Summer Theatre Workshop for credit.

YEAR 2

SEMESTER 1	Milestones	Grade	Credits	Minimum Grade
THEA 2030 Applied Theatre			1	
THEA 3330 Lighting for the Stage FALL ONLY			3	
THEA 2360 Theatre History and Literature I FALL ONLY			3	
SCI 1010 Basic Concept of Physical Science I			3	
FA 1040 Exploring the Arts <i>Varnado CAPA Majors</i>			3	
One Production and Design Requirement/ Elective			3	

- Requirement – Participate in NSU Christmas Gala
- Attend a Production + Design postmortem for each production

Semester Credits _____

Total Credits _____

Fall semester portfolio review is a presentation to the whole group of Production + Design students and faculty; this is the first semester an up-to-date portfolio is expected.

SEMESTER 2	Milestones	Grade	Credits	Minimum Grade
THEA 2030 Applied Theatre			1	
THEA 4330 Theatre History and Literature III SPRING ONLY			3	
COMM 1010 or 2500 or BUAD 2200 or PHIL 1010			3	
SCI 1020 Basic Concepts of Biological Science I			3	
Two Production and Design Requirements/ Electives			6	

- Participate in Louisiana Thespians Festival
- Attend a Production + Design postmortem for each production

Semester Credits _____

Total Credits _____

Spring semester portfolio review has an interview format and includes a cover letter of your interests for the following year. Your review score must be 3.25 or higher to remain in the program. Students are encouraged to seek summer work in theatre for experiential learning outside of NSULA, and can take Summer Theatre Workshop for credit.

YEAR 3

SEMESTER 1	Milestones	Grade	Credits	Minimum Grade
THEA 2030 Applied Theatre			1	
THEA 4480 Script Analysis			3	
THEA 4540 Portfolio and Career Management FALL ONLY			3	
SCI 2010 or 2020 Basic Concepts of Physical or Biological Science II			3	
HIST 1010/1020/2010 or 2020			3	
One Production and Design Requirements/ Elective			3	

- Requirement – Participate in NSU Christmas Gala
- Attend a Production + Design postmortem for each production

Semester Credits _____

Total Credits _____

Fall semester portfolio review is a presentation to the whole group of Production + Design students and faculty.

SEMESTER 2	Milestones	Grade	Credits	Minimum Grade
THEA 2030 Applied Theatre			1	
ANTH 1510 /2020 or ECON 2000 or GEOG 1010/1020 or PSCI 2010			3	
ENGL 2110 Intro to Literature			3	
Three Production and Design Requirements/ Electives			9	

- Participate in Louisiana Thespians Festival
- Attend a Production + Design postmortem for each production

Semester Credits _____

Total Credits _____

Spring semester portfolio review has an interview format and includes a cover letter of your interests for the following year. Your review score must be 3.5 or higher to remain in the program. Students are encouraged to seek summer work in theatre for experiential learning outside of NSULA, and can take Summer Theatre Workshop for credit.

YEAR 4

SEMESTER 1	Milestones	Grade	Credits	Minimum Grade
THEA 2030 Applied Theatre			1	
PSYC 1010/2050 or EPSY 2020 or SOC 1010			3	
2 Production and Design Requirements/ Electives			6	
Free Elective			3	

This semester is your last Applied Theatre course and it also includes your capstone presentation along with all other seniors.

Semester Credits _____

Total Credits _____

- Requirement – Participate in NSU Christmas Gala
- Attend a Production + Design postmortem for each production

Fall semester portfolio review is a presentation to the whole group of Production + Design students and faculty.

Now is the semester to discuss graduate school for your area of Production + Design with your advisor.

Apply for graduation!

SEMESTER 2	Milestones	Grade	Credits	Minimum Grade
Production and Design Requirement/ Elective			3	
Production and Design Requirement/ Elective			3	
Production and Design Requirement/ Elective			3	
Production and Design Requirement/ Elective			3	

- Participate in Louisiana Thespians Festival
- Attend a Production + Design postmortem for each production

Semester Credits _____

Total Credits **120**

Spring semester portfolio review has an interview format and includes a cover letter for a job you are applying for. Your review score must be a 4 or higher to graduate in the BFA program.

Every semester Theatre and Dance students must take and pass 2 university core classes to progress through the degree. GPA requirements for the degree are a 2.0 within the major and a 2.0 overall at NSU. If on a theatre scholarship, students must maintain a 2.5 GPA.

YOU'VE FINISHED!



GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Total Credits = 120 | Major Requirements = 80 | University Core = 40

Courses taken outside of a student's degree program are not eligible for Title IV federal financial aid (grants and loans). However, elective courses are eligible for Title IV aid if they are required and included in the student's program of study. Once a student has completed all required elective credits, any additional elective courses taken beyond the program's requirements will not be eligible for Title IV funding.



ACADEMIC MAP TO BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS IN PRODUCTION + DESIGN

Production + Design Electives offered every semester:

THEA 3300 SUMMER THEATRE WORKSHOP

THEA 3350 MAKE UP

THEA 4270 SPECIAL PROBLEMS IN PRODUCTION AND DESIGN (This is a specialized course that is tailored to an area of production or design that is not already taught in the curriculum. The content and professor varies each semester as it depends on the skills the current students need)

Odd numbered Fall Semester:

THEA 3140 METAL FABRICATIONS

THEA 3260 PROPS CRAFTS

THEA 4050 COSTUME HISTORY

THEA 4450 SCENIC RENDERING

THEA 4620 COSTUME PATTERNING

Even numbered Spring Semester:

THEA 2370 DRAFTING FOR THEATRE

THEA 3120 STAGE MANAGEMENT

THEA 3240 SCENIC PAINTING

THEA 4430 LIGHT DESIGN

THEA 4590 WIG DESIGN

THEA 4600 TECHNICAL PRODUCTION

THEA 4610 COSTUME RENDERING

Even numbered Fall Semester:

THEA 2330 STAGECRAFT II

THEA 3250 STAGE RIGGING

THEA 3340 COSTUME CONSTRUCTION I

THEA 3390 SOUND REINFORCEMENT

THEA 4320 SURVEY OF PERIOD STYLES

THEA 4420 COSTUME DESIGN

THEA 4580 VECTORWORKS

Odd numbered Spring Semester:

THEA 3120 STAGE MANAGEMENT

THEA 3240 SCENIC PAINTING

THEA 3360 COSTUME CONSTRUCTION II

THEA 4310 SCENE DESIGN

THEA 4550 COSTUME CRAFTS

THEA 4560 SOUND DESIGN

THEA 4570 AUTOCAD