

Archived: September 10, 2019

Art, Design and Performing Arts Programs

Theatre

Location Offered:

Nanaimo

Credential:

Diploma

Options:

Transfer Program

Program Length:

2 Years

The Program

The Theatre department offers a two-year **Theatre Diploma** and a two-year **Technical Theatre Diploma**. To obtain a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Theatre, students will have to attend a university offering a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre. The University of British Columbia, University of Victoria, and almost all Canadian universities will accept VIU's two-year programs as university transfer. Theatre Diploma students share a common first year. After completing the first year, students continue in either the Theatre Diploma or the Technical Theatre Diploma.

The **Theatre** diploma program will expose students to a range of practical elements associated with theatre production, as well as the academic study of theory and theatre history. Students will learn how to translate plays from the written script to the stage; the basics of acting techniques including voice, movement, and characterization; and the elements of set design, stagecraft, sound design, lighting design, and costume design. Students will study dramatic works from early modern European origins to more recent Canadian productions. Students will also learn safe practices around the stage. This program is open to full-time students only. Upon successful completion of program requirements, students will be awarded a Theatre Diploma.

The **Technical Theatre** diploma program emphasizes the technical aspects of theatre to help fill the growing need across Canada for trained theatre technicians. Hands-on experience is fundamental to the program, and students will be learning the skills of technical theatre by working behind the scenes on a wide variety of shows. Students will be able to take theoretical and practical courses that explore topics such as props, costumes, sound, stage management, carpentry, running crew, front-of-house management, production management, technical direction, publicity, theatrical make-up, scene painting, special effects, and lighting. This program is open to full-time students only. Upon successful completion of program requirements, students will be awarded a Technical Theatre Diploma.

During each academic year, the Theatre department presents a season of plays and concerts and hosts professional touring theatre and dance companies, allowing students to work alongside theatre professionals.

Theatre - Program requirements prior to September 2015

Program Outline

Theatre Diploma Option

Program Outline

Year 1	Credits
THEA 105 - (Fundamentals of Acting I)	3
THEA 106 - (Fundamentals of Acting II)	3
THEA 111 - (Intro to Theatre I)	3
THEA 112 - (Theatre History I)	3
THEA 150 - (Theatre Stagecraft I)	3
THEA 151 - (Theatre Stagecraft II)	3
Degree English Requirements	6
Two Electives	6
Total Credits	30

Year 2	Credits
THEA 211 - (Theatre History I)	3
THEA 212 - (Theatre History III)	3
THEA 250 - (Intermediate Stagecraft I) <i>and/or</i> THEA 205 - (Intermediate Work in Acting I)	3 or 6
THEA 251 - (Intermediate Stagecraft II) <i>and/or</i> THEA 206 - (Intermediate Work in Acting II)	3 or 6
Two non-theatre electives	6
Electives (to make up a total of 30 credits)	6 to 12
Total Credits	30

Technical Theatre Diploma Option

Program Outline

Year 1	Credits
THEA 105 - (Fundamentals of Acting I)	3
THEA 106 - (Fundamentals of Acting II)	3
THEA 111 - (Intro to Theatre I)	3
THEA 112 - (Theatre History I)	3
THEA 150 - (Theatre Stagecraft I)	3
THEA 151 - (Theatre Stagecraft II)	3
Degree English Requirement	6
Two Electives	6
Total Credits	30

Year 2	Credits
THEA 250 - (Intermediate Stagecraft I)	3
THEA 251 - (Intermediate Stagecraft II)	3
THEA 275 - (Theatre Safety)	3
One non-theatre elective	3
	12
Other Year 2 Theatre Course Options (18 credits required)	
Select <i>six</i> of the following courses:	
THEA 205 - (Intermediate Work in Acting I)	18
THEA 211 - (Theatre History I)	
THEA 212 - (Theatre History III)	
THEA 290 - (Theatre Production I)	
THEA 291 - (Theatre Production II)	
THEA 292 - (Theatre Production III)	
THEA 293 - (Theatre Practicum I)	
THEA 294 - (Theatre Practicum II)	
THEA 295 - (Theatre Practicum III)	
Total Credits	30

Admission Requirements

- General admission requirements apply.
- Interview with the Theatre department.
- English 12 with minimum grade of "C" or equivalent.

Recommendations for Admission

Most students in the Theatre program have had some exposure to live theatre. An interview will be conducted for all students who wish to take the Theatre Diploma program. There are no auditions or portfolios required, but a keen interest in producing and participating in live theatrical events is expected.

Notes on Admission

- Students intending to transfer to another university should consult a VIU Advisor.
- Students must have a strong desire to work in theatre, since they have to work extremely long hours. The ability to work as a member of a team is also very important.
- Enrolment in this program is limited. Students who meet or exceed the minimum admission requirements may not necessarily be admitted to the program.

Career Opportunities

Graduates have found employment as actors, stage managers, assistant stage managers, lighting technicians, sound technicians, box office managers, front-of-house managers, lighting board operators, scene painters, props persons, costumers, technical directors, and theatre managers.

Start Date and Application Deadline

The program starts in September, and applications are accepted between the first business day in October and March 31.

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