

# Dramatic Arts

The Dramatic Arts program includes theoretical and practical courses in all aspects of theatre. Students take courses to prepare for a transfer major in dramatic arts, for professional training, or to fulfill general education requirements. Performance and technical theatre opportunities are available to both majors and non-majors. Career options include both creative and technical work in the performing arts/entertainment industry, such as live theatre, film, television, and broadcasting; academic research and teaching; and other communications-related fields, such as advertising and public relations.

## Academic and Career Pathway

Creative and Applied Arts

## Contact Information

**Chair:** Tracy Williams  
**Dean:** Jonathan Fohrman  
<https://www.miracosta.edu/academics/degree-and-certificate-programs/creative-and-applied-arts/dramatic-arts/index.html>

**Department:** Theatre and Film  
**Office:** Building OC2700,  
 760.795.6844

## Full-Time Faculty

Eric Bishop  
 Sean Fanning  
 Tracy Williams

## Associate Degrees

### Associate in Arts Degree Dramatic Arts

The Dramatic Arts program offers lower-division preparation for students who plan on transferring to pursue a bachelor's degree in dramatic arts.

Students planning to transfer and/or earn this associate degree may also need to complete additional requirements or electives required by the transfer institution, as many CSUs and UCs have unique admissions and preparation-for-the-major requirements.

Students should meet with a MiraCosta College counselor to identify required courses and to develop a written plan for their targeted university.

### Graduation Requirements

- ▶ Complete a minimum of 60 degree-applicable units of credit (including major and general education courses).
- ▶ Complete all courses required in the major with a "C" or "P" or better.
- ▶ Complete a general education pattern of courses (see Associate Degrees).
- ▶ Obtain a minimum GPA of 2.0.
- ▶ Complete a minimum of 12 units in residence at MiraCosta College.

### Program Student Learning Outcome

Upon completion of this program, the student will be able to demonstrate theatrical techniques, theories and adapt production practices.

### Course Requirements

Required courses:		
DRAM 105	Introduction to Theatre	3
DRAM 107	Introduction to Design for Performance	3
DRAM 123	Script Analysis for Performance and Design	3
DRAM 130	Acting I	3
DRAM 253	Makeup for Theatre, Television, and Film	3
DRAM 256	Stagecraft for Theatre, Television, and Film	3
Select at least 3 units from the following:		3
DRAM 201	Rehearsal and Performance: Dramatic Theatre	
DRAM 202	Rehearsal and Performance: Comedic Theatre	
DRAM 203	Rehearsal and Performance: Classical Theatre	
DRAM 204	Rehearsal and Performance: Musical Theatre	
DRAM 210	Rehearsal and Performance: Technical Theatre	
<b>Total Units</b>		<b>21</b>

### Associate in Arts Degree Theatre Arts for Transfer

Students completing this associate degree will have completed lower-division major preparation requirements for a theatre arts degree, an emphasis or option within a theatre arts degree, or a degree considered similar to theatre arts at a participating California State University (CSU) campus.

Following transfer to a participating CSU campus, students will be required to complete no more than 60 units to obtain a bachelor's degree; however, some CSU campuses accepting this degree may require additional lower-division major preparation. This degree may not be appropriate preparation for students transferring to a non-participating CSU campus or to a university or college that is not part of the CSU system.

Students should consult with a MiraCosta counselor for further information regarding the most efficient pathway to transfer as a theatre arts major and to determine which CSU campuses are participating in this program. Career options for those who attain a bachelor's degree in theatre arts include actor, set designer, stage manager, artist, designer, museum curator, photographer, illustrator, and other related career paths.

### Graduation Requirements

- ▶ Complete a minimum of 60 CSU-transferable semester units.
- ▶ Complete all courses required in the major with a "C" or "P" or better.
- ▶ Complete the CSU-GE (Plan B) or IGETC (Plan C)\* general education pattern. \*Students completing IGETC may be

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awarded the degree, but they must complete a course from Area IC: Oral Communication to meet CSU admission requirements.

- ▶ Obtain a minimum CSU-transferable GPA of 2.0.
- ▶ Complete a minimum of 12 units in residence at MiraCosta College.

### Program Student Learning Outcome

Upon completion of this program, the student will be able to demonstrate theatrical techniques-theories and adapt production practices.

### Course Requirements

Required Core: (9 units)

DRAM 105	Introduction to Theatre *	3
DRAM 130	Acting I *	3
Select a maximum of 3 units from courses below:		3

DRAM 201	Rehearsal and Performance: Dramatic Theatre	
DRAM 202	Rehearsal and Performance: Comedic Theatre	
DRAM 203	Rehearsal and Performance: Classical Theatre	
DRAM 204	Rehearsal and Performance: Musical Theatre	
DRAM 210	Rehearsal and Performance: Technical Theatre	

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DRAM 107	Introduction to Design for Performance	
DRAM 123	Script Analysis for Performance and Design	
DRAM 141	Lighting Design for Theatre, Television, and Film	
DRAM 146	Costume Design for Theatre, Television, and Film	
DRAM 231	Acting II	
DRAM 253	Makeup for Theatre, Television, and Film	
DRAM 256	Stagecraft for Theatre, Television, and Film	

Select a maximum of 3 units from courses below if not used in Required Core above:

DRAM 201	Rehearsal and Performance: Dramatic Theatre	
DRAM 202	Rehearsal and Performance: Comedic Theatre	
DRAM 203	Rehearsal and Performance: Classical Theatre	
DRAM 204	Rehearsal and Performance: Musical Theatre	
DRAM 210	Rehearsal and Performance: Technical Theatre	

**Total Units** 18

\* Course approved for the CSU-GE and/or IGETC general education pattern. To ensure this degree is completed with

no more than 60 units, students should select courses that will also satisfy a general education requirement.

**NOTE:** Students are strongly advised to select courses that meet lower-division major preparation requirements at their transfer university and to complete the History, Constitution, and American Ideals requirement prior to transfer.

### Associate in Arts Degree

#### Design and Technology

Students may earn the above-named associate degree by completing a certificate of achievement and the general education courses required for MiraCosta College's Associate in Arts degree (see Associate Degrees). Students should meet with a MiraCosta counselor to identify required courses and to develop a written educational plan for the specific degree or certificate they wish to earn.

### Program Student Learning Outcome

Upon completion of this program, the student will be able to participate in and effectively observe, analyze, and critique the strengths and weaknesses of dramatic performances, taking into account various aspects of their design and technical production, including but not limited to scenic design, lighting design, overall stagecraft, lighting, makeup, and sound.

### Certificate of Achievement

#### Design and Technology

This occupational certificate program prepares students for professional careers in theatre, film, television, music, and/or dance by teaching skills in scenery, costumes, lighting, sound, and makeup.

### Program Student Learning Outcome

Upon completion of this program, the student will be able to participate in and effectively observe, analyze, and critique the strengths and weaknesses of dramatic performances, taking into account various aspects of their design and technical production, including but not limited to scenic design, lighting design, overall stagecraft, lighting, makeup, and sound.

### Course Requirements

Required courses:		
DRAM 105	Introduction to Theatre	3
DRAM 107	Introduction to Design for Performance	3
DRAM 123	Script Analysis for Performance and Design	3
DRAM 139 or DRAM 253	Stage and Concert Management Makeup for Theatre, Television, and Film	3
DRAM 141	Lighting Design for Theatre, Television, and Film	3
DRAM 146	Costume Design for Theatre, Television, and Film	3
DRAM 210	Rehearsal and Performance: Technical Theatre	3

DRAM 256	Stagecraft for Theatre, Television, and Film	3
<b>Total Units</b>		<b>24</b>

\* To complete the DRAM 210 requirement, multiple sections must be taken in any unit combination to fulfill a total of 3 units.

## Courses Related in Content (CRC)

Active participatory dramatic arts courses that are related in content are grouped together. Students are allowed four enrollments within each CRC group, but each course may be taken only once unless its catalog description indicates it is repeatable. Enrollments include any combination of course completions (with an evaluative or nonevaluative symbol recorded on the student's transcript), withdrawals, and repetition.

### Acting CRC

DRAM 130	Acting I
DRAM 148	Acting for the Camera
DRAM 231	Acting II

### Audition & Interview Prep CRC

DRAM 131	Audition Preparation for the Stage
DRAM 133	Performance and Design Portfolio Practicum

### Actor's Academy CRC

DRAM 126	Shakespearean Acting Lab
DRAM 226	Advanced Performance Lab
DRAM 227	Dramatic Improvisation

### Voice and Movement CRC

DRAM 109	Practicum of Voice and Diction
DRAM 232	Movement for the Stage

## Courses

### DRAM 105: Introduction to Theatre

Units: 3

Prerequisites: None

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Lecture 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer

This course exposes students to fundamental practices and creative processes in dramatic arts, focusing on the relationship of theatre to various cultures throughout history and on the contributions of significant individuals. It introduces elements of the production process, including collaboration, playwriting, acting, directing, design, and criticism, and it explores differing periods, styles, and genres of theatre through reading, discussion, films, and live theatre critique. Students are required to attend college theatre performances. C-ID THTR-111.

### DRAM 107: Introduction to Design for Performance

Units: 3

Prerequisites: None

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Lecture 2 hours, laboratory 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall

This course explores the principles, elements, techniques, and practices of design for performance. Topics include analysis of space, movement, mood, period, style, texture, materials, and color using industry-standard techniques of rendering, model-making, drafting, and presentation. The classroom experience stresses the importance of working collaboratively on projects and understanding critique as part of the design process. Students are required to view theatrical performances. C-ID THTR-172.

### DRAM 109: Practicum of Voice and Diction

Units: 1

Prerequisites: None

Enrollment Limitation: Audition.

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Laboratory 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Summer

This course emphasizes vocal training for actors. It includes the basics of vocal training: projection, articulation, expression, breathing techniques, and relaxation as needed for theatrical productions.

### DRAM 110: Voice and Diction

Units: 3

Prerequisites: None

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Lecture 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

This course introduces students to techniques for improving the quality, flexibility, and effectiveness of the speaking voice. Students examine and practice clear articulation of American English sounds. Topics include vocal expressiveness and variety, physical relaxation, posture, breath control techniques, and the International Phonetic Alphabet. Viewing theatrical productions is required.

### DRAM 123: Script Analysis for Performance and Design

Units: 3

Prerequisites: None

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Lecture 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall or Spring

This course explores the principles, theories, and techniques of play script analysis and script scoring for theatrical production. Students learn how to read and break down a play for textual analysis, script scoring, dramatic structure, imagery, and character development. Students are required to attend live theatrical performances. C-ID THTR-114.

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### **DRAM 126: Shakespearean Acting Lab**

Units: 1

Prerequisites: None

Enrollment Limitation: Audition.

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Laboratory 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Summer

This lab course focuses on the basics of classical acting techniques, including comprehension and delivery of Shakespeare's works. It includes ensemble work, exercises, games, and the examination of universal themes. Students are required to view theatrical productions.

### **DRAM 130: Acting I**

Units: 3

Prerequisites: None

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Lecture 2 hours, laboratory 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

This course focuses on the fundamentals of acting and performance techniques based on Stanislavski's principles. It emphasizes the ability to express thought, emotion, and character through the effective use of voice, movement, and script analysis. Students are required to observe theatrical performances. C-ID THTR-151.

### **DRAM 131: Audition Preparation for the Stage**

Units: 2

Prerequisites: DRAM 130.

Enrollment Limitation: Maximum of four enrollments between DRAM 131 and DRAM 133.

Acceptable for Credit: CSU

Lecture 1 hour, laboratory 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Spring

This course teaches theatre audition techniques: monologue and song presentation; staging; cold-reading techniques; self-directed rehearsal; presentation; self-marketing through cover letters, resumes, and headshots; material selection; audition etiquette and professionalism.

### **DRAM 133: Performance and Design Portfolio Practicum**

Units: 1

Prerequisites: None

Enrollment Limitation: Audition and maximum of four enrollments between DRAM 131 and DRAM 133.

Acceptable for Credit: CSU

Laboratory 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Spring

This course focuses on the study and practical application of theatre techniques in competitive performance and design. Students enter their performance/design practicum project into a competitive field for evaluation and feedback from outside professionals and educators. At the end of this course, acting/design students prepare a performance work/design portfolio to demonstrate skills and maximize their strengths. Students also compare and contrast their work with peers at other educational institutions and tour other college/university theatre programs in conjunction with the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival. Students enter this course by audition/interview or nomination by the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival. (May be repeated three times.)

### **DRAM 134: Introduction to Performance**

Units: 3

Prerequisites: None

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Lecture 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall or Spring

This course explores the theories, principles, techniques, and practices of performance. Topics include ritual, play, performativity, performing, performance process, and global and intercultural performances. The classroom experience requires performance application and includes performances to entertain, create beauty, mark or change identity, make or foster community, heal, teach, or persuade. Students are required to perform and to view performances.

### **DRAM 139: Stage and Concert Management**

Units: 3

Prerequisites: None

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Lecture 2 hours, laboratory 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall

This course introduces the skills and procedures involved in stage managing a theatrical, dance, or music production. Through hands-on experience and observation, students learn to develop the knowledge and skills involved in managing a live performance. They also learn how to properly devise and design scheduling systems to prep, organize, and run rehearsals; design and develop a production book and prompt script; run appropriate dimmer and sound checks; design, organize, and format scenic shifts and their execution; and develop systems for calling lighting and sound cues during live performance. Students are required to view two performances.

**DRAM 141: Lighting Design for Theatre, Television, and Film**

Units: 3

Prerequisites: None

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Lecture 2 hours, laboratory 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Spring

This course introduces students to the technique and practices of theatrical stage lighting and lighting for film and television. It develops skills relative to common applications in these fields. Students engage in both lecture and practice (live or virtually), creating and designing lighting projects in class as well as working on current MiraCosta College Theatre productions. Students evaluate and analyze their skills and creations and critically reflect on their execution. Students are required to view theatrical productions. C-ID THTR-173.

**DRAM 146: Costume Design for Theatre, Television, and Film**

Units: 3

Prerequisites: None

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Lecture 2 hours, laboratory 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Spring

This course gives students the opportunity to study costume history, design, and basic construction techniques as an introduction to costuming for theatre, television, and film. Students learn about fabrics and conventional and non-conventional costume materials. Students are required to view theatrical productions. C-ID THTR-174.

**DRAM 148: Acting for the Camera**

Units: 3

Prerequisites: DRAM 130.

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Lecture 2 hours, laboratory 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall

This course introduces performance for the camera concerning the mediums of film, video, and television. Students examine practical approaches and techniques specifically required for each different medium to provide a comprehensive understanding of the relationship between performance and media.

**DRAM 201: Rehearsal and Performance: Dramatic Theatre**

Units: 1-3

Prerequisites: None

Enrollment Limitation: Audition.

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Laboratory 9 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall or Spring

This course provides students with the opportunity to perform in non-musical, dramatic theatrical productions. Students are instructed in research, textual analysis, and fundamental basic-to-advanced acting skills required to accomplish dramatic acting techniques. All students participate in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival academic theatre competition. The course emphasizes the rehearsal process and culminates in public performances. (May be repeated two times.) C-ID THTR-191.

**DRAM 202: Rehearsal and Performance: Comedic Theatre**

Units: 1-3

Prerequisites: None

Enrollment Limitation: Audition.

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Laboratory 9 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall or Spring

This course provides students with the opportunity to perform in non-musical, comedic theatrical productions. It provides students with comic devices, physicality, timing, and styles work that is required for the performance of comedic texts. All students participate in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival academic theatre competition. The course emphasizes the rehearsal process and culminates in public performances. (May be repeated two times.) C-ID THTR-191.

**DRAM 203: Rehearsal and Performance: Classical Theatre**

Units: 1-3

Prerequisites: None

Enrollment Limitation: Audition.

Acceptable for Credit: CSU

Laboratory 9 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Spring

This course allows students to explore a classical theatrical text and the historical context of a chosen play. Students are instructed in the special vocal and movement skills required to accomplish classical acting techniques. All students participate in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival academic theatre competition. The course emphasizes the rehearsal process for classical acting and culminates in public performance. (May be repeated two times.) C-ID THTR-191.

**DRAM 204: Rehearsal and Performance: Musical Theatre**

Units: 1-3

Prerequisites: None

Enrollment Limitation: Audition.

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Laboratory 9 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Spring

This course provides students with the opportunity to perform in main-stage musical productions. All students participate in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival academic theatre competition. The course emphasizes the rehearsal process and culminates in public performances. (May be repeated two times.) C-ID THTR 191.

**DRAM 210: Rehearsal and Performance: Technical Theatre**

Units: 1-3

Prerequisites: None

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Laboratory 9 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

This course provides students with theatre production experience. All students participate in the Kennedy Center/ American College Theatre Festival academic theatre competition. Production crew positions include stage or house management, construction, scenery, properties, costume, lighting, sound, and running crews. The course emphasizes the rehearsal process and culminates in public performances. Students are required to attend theatrical productions. (May be repeated three times.)

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### **DRAM 222: Introduction to Black Theater**

Units: 3

Prerequisites: None

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Lecture 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall or Spring

This course explores Black theatre from the pre-Civil War era to the present. It is designed to give students of all backgrounds an introductory understanding of this genre. Topics covered include elements of style, design, and criticism. The course also examines issues of politics, race, and gender in historic and contemporary American theatre.

### **DRAM 226: Advanced Performance Lab**

Units: 1

Prerequisites: DRAM 126.

Enrollment Limitation: Audition.

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Laboratory 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Summer

This advanced performance lab course focuses on advanced process and methodology, performance styles, and performance approaches. Students are required to view theatrical performances.

### **DRAM 227: Dramatic Improvisation**

Units: 1

Prerequisites: None

Enrollment Limitation: Audition.

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Laboratory 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Summer

Students explore in-depth personal connections to issues, ideas, and themes through dramatic improvisation. These dramatic improvisations stimulate questions about characterization and provide answers toward defining a character's motivations, actions, and traits within these imaginary circumstances. Process drama develops an actor's creativity, positive choice-making, flexibility, and ability to improvise dialogue, act, react, connect, and disconnect in a real, truthful human experience. This advanced course is offered in conjunction with The Actor's Academy.

### **DRAM 231: Acting II**

Units: 3

Prerequisites: DRAM 130.

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Lecture 2 hours, laboratory 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

This course provides an in-depth application of Stanislavski's principles with an emphasis on characterization, scene study, methodology, and process. Acting studies focus on performance from varied acting philosophies (e.g., Meisner, Michael Chekhov, Hagen), styles, and genres. Students are required to observe theatrical performances. (May be repeated one time.) C-ID THTR-152.

### **DRAM 232: Movement for the Stage**

Units: 2

Prerequisites: None

Enrollment Limitation: Audition.

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Lecture 1 hour, laboratory 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Summer

This course creates an environment in which students explore dynamic movement. It emphasizes not only physical control, strength, flexibility, and creative imagination but also the integration of mind, body, and emotion. (May be repeated one time.) (Materials Fee: \$20.00)

### **DRAM 253: Makeup for Theatre, Television, and Film**

Units: 3

Prerequisites: None

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Lecture 2 hours, laboratory 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall or Spring

This course introduces students to the technique and practices of makeup for theatre, television, and film and develops skills relative to the common applications for stage and film. Students engage in the practice hands-on and create looks ranging from basic corrective makeup to fantasy character creation. Students evaluate and analyze the effectiveness of their makeup, reflect on their skills, produce proper design documentation, and put makeup design and application into practice. (Materials Fee: \$70.00) C-ID THTR-175.

### **DRAM 256: Stagecraft for Theatre, Television, and Film**

Units: 3

Prerequisites: None

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Lecture 2 hours, laboratory 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall or Spring

This course introduces students to the technique and practices of stagecraft for theatre, television, and film, and it develops skills relative to the common applications found backstage. Students engage in both lecture and practice, gaining hands-on experience while demonstrating skills learned in course work. Creating scenic environments for current MiraCosta College Theatre productions, students evaluate and analyze the effectiveness of their creations, critically reflect on their skills, and put them into practice. (Materials Fee: \$25.00) C-ID THTR-171.

### **DRAM 273: Acting, Voice, and Movement Workshop**

Units: 1

Prerequisites: None

Enrollment Limitation: Audition.

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Laboratory 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Summer

This course explores the study of acting techniques, scene study, ensemble performance, and the development of voice and movement skills. This course culminates in a live theatrical performance.

**DRAM 292: Internship Studies**

Units: 0.5-14

Prerequisites: None

Corequisite: Complete 54 hours of work per unit, paid or unpaid.

Enrollment Limitation: Instructor, dept chair, and Career Center approval. Fourteen unit maximum in any combination of work experience education and/or internship studies per semester.

Acceptable for Credit: CSU

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer

This course provides students the opportunity to apply the theories and techniques of their discipline in an internship position in a professional setting under the instruction of a faculty-mentor and site supervisor. It introduces students to aspects of the roles and responsibilities of professionals employed in the field of study. Topics include goal-setting, employability skills development, and examination of the world of work as it relates to the student's career plans. Students must develop new learning objectives and/or work/intern at a new site upon each enrollment.

**DRAM 296: Topics in Dramatic Arts**

Units: 1-3

Prerequisites: None

Acceptable for Credit: CSU

Lecture 1 hour.

Lecture 2 hours.

Lecture 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: To be arranged

This course gives students an opportunity to study topics in Dramatic Arts that are not included in regular course offerings. Each Topics course is announced, described, and given its own title and 296 number designation in the class schedule.

**DRAM 299: Occupational Work Experience Education**

Units: 0.5-14

Prerequisites: None

Corequisite: Complete 54 hours of work per unit, paid or unpaid.

Enrollment Limitation: Career Center approval. Fourteen unit maximum in any combination of work experience education and/or internship studies per semester.

Acceptable for Credit: CSU

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer

This course is intended for students who are employed in a job directly related to their major or career area of interest. It allows such students the opportunity to apply the theories and skills of their discipline to their position and to undertake new responsibilities and learn new skills at work. Topics include goal-setting, employability skills development, and examination of the world of work as it relates to the student's career plans. Students must develop new learning objectives and/or work/intern at a new site upon each enrollment.