

Theater and Performance Studies

The master's program in Theater and Performance Studies at

Washington University in St. Louis is one of the strongest programs of its kind. Students are offered rigorous scholarly training, opportunities to meet and work with visiting scholars and artists, and support in developing their own independent research projects, all within a collaborative, collegial environment that prizes critical thinking and creative practice.

Our students enroll in small, intensive seminars in theater history and performance theory as well as studio courses in directing, playwriting and theater for social change. There are ample opportunities for interdisciplinary study, and we have strong relationships with affiliate faculty in allied departments and programs, including Film and Media Studies; English; Music; Comparative Literature; African and African-American Studies; and Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.

Our faculty has been recognized with numerous accolades for both their artistic and scholarly work, and the small size of each admitted class allows for individual attention and one-on-one mentorship. We have placed our graduates in top PhD programs in the field, including programs at Brown, Stanford, Northwestern, University of California San Diego, and University of Minnesota. Other graduates have pursued careers in the arts, social justice work and education. We invite students who have studied theater and performance as undergraduates as well as students who are following new paths in their scholarship to learn more about our program.

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