

DEPAUL  
UNIVERSITY

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## **Course Catalog**

**The Theatre School Graduate Studies**

**Winter/Spring 2010-2011**

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# General Information

The Theatre School - Graduate Studies ▢ General Information

## Catalog Version

### **GRADUATE UPDATE: OCTOBER 15, 2010**

Please use the menu items to the left for current catalog navigation. Access archived catalogs by choosing the link to the right.

The Theatre School - Graduate Studies ▢ General Information ▢ About

## About

In addition to the DePaul University Graduate Student Handbook, the Theatre School Graduate Student Handbook includes rules and regulations for its graduate programs. Additional academic information and regulations applicable to our graduate programs appears in the specific graduate section.

Upon admission to a graduate program, a student is to follow the catalog requirements in effect at the time of entrance. A student who is readmitted or who changes his or her program or enrollment status is subject to the terms of the catalog in effect at the time of readmission or status change.

As a graduate student you assume the responsibility to know and meet both the general and particular regulations, procedures, policies, and deadlines set forth in this catalog and handbook.

The Theatre School offers programs leading to the Master of Fine Arts degree in the areas of acting, arts leadership and directing.

### **FOUNDED AS THE GOODMAN SCHOOL OF DRAMA IN 1925**

The Theatre School is a member of the League of Chicago Theatres, Illinois Arts Alliance, ASSITEJ/USA, American Alliance for Theatre and Education (AATE), USITT, and the Illinois Alliance for Arts Education.

When The Theatre School was founded in 1925 at The Art Institute of Chicago, it was called the Goodman School of Drama. By all measurements the school is stronger now than it has ever been. Although our name has changed, the essential life and purpose of the school remains the same. Our basic principles and standards are exactly what they have been for over 80 years. The Theatre School is a conservatory, a strong part of a vital urban University, and we operate with professional concentrations on the development of artists for the theatre and related professions. Further information about The Theatre School is available via the internet at The School's web site, located at <http://theatreschool.depaul.edu> .

### **GRADUATE STUDY IN THE THEATRE SCHOOL**

The MFA Programs are designed for the student who has had considerable experience at the undergraduate level, the student seeking additional training as a consequence of prior professional work, or the student whose life experience and professional potential meet the qualifications for advanced training.

The goals of the training are accomplished by an intense and eclectic process that combines classroom work with a variety of production experiences that:

Help the student find a way of working that is effective and unique to his or her talent.

Aid the student in integrating his or her individual work into the collaborative demands of production experiences.

Equip the student with the skills and released imagination necessary for the highly competitive theatre professions.

Catalog Version

# Administration

The Theatre School - Graduate Studies ▢ Administration

## Administration

ANNA ABLES, M.F.A.

*Director of Marketing and Public Relations*

Southern Utah University

JASON BECK, B.F.A.

*Director of Admissions*

The Theatre School , DePaul

JOHN BRIDGES, M.A.

*Director of Administration and*

*Assistant Dean*

Western Illinois University

DEAN CORRIN, M.F.A.

*Associate Dean and Chair of Theatre Studies*

Ohio University

TESSA CRAIB-COX, B.A.

*Director of Development*

The Courtauld Institute at the University of London

JOHN CULBERT, M.F.A.

*Dean*

New York University

MITSU GEE, M.A.

Executive Assistant to the Dean

Boston University

ANASTASIA GONZALEZ

*Budget Manager*

JOSHUA MANIGLIA, M.S.

*Technical Operations Manager*

DePaul University

AMANDA PAULES, M.A.

*Academic Assistant to the Associate Dean*

DePaul University

LESLIE SHOOK, M.A.

*Theatre Manager*

University of Illinois

ANDREA TICHY, B.F.A.

*Manager of PR & Special Events*

The Theatre School, DePaul University

MELISSA TROPP, B.A.

*Admissions Assistant*

Illinois State University

DEXTER ZOLLICOFFER, M.F.A.

*Diversity Student Mentor*

The Theatre School , DePaul

# Facilities

The Theatre School - Graduate Studies ▢ Facilities

## Facilities

The Theatre School buildings are located at 2130 and 2135 North Kenmore Avenue on DePauls Lincoln Park Campus. In addition to housing most Theatre School classes, the buildings provide rehearsal rooms, design studios, shop facilities, script library, sound design studio, CAD lab, computer lab, and faculty and staff offices. The buildings are minutes from downtown Chicago by elevated train, bus or car.

DePauls historic Merle Reskin Theatre, built in 1910 and formerly called the Blackstone Theatre, was purchased from the Shubert Organization in 1988 and renamed for a major donor in 1992. It provides The Theatre School with a professional-standard, state-of-the-art theatre facility to match the professional standards of the schools training and productions.

The public productions of The Theatre School Showcase and Chicago Play works are fully realized at the Merle Reskin Theatre. Students begin their training as part of the backstage and house crew, allowing them hands-on experience in all components of the theatre profession.

The theatre is also shared with several not-for-profit arts organizations in Chicago and an occasional feature film company, exposing Theatre School students to a broader view of the entertainment industry. The DePaul Merle Reskin Theatre is located in the South Loop in the heart of the city. The Theatre School transports students via bus between the school and the theatre for performances.

For the past several seasons the school has been producing the new director's series and several workshop productions in an 80 seat studio theatre at the Athenaeum Theatre building, one of Chicagos main off-Loop theatre facilities..

The Theatre School is situated in the center of Chicagos world renowned theatre community. Neighboring theatre and performing arts companies include the Steppenwolf Theatre, Victory Gardens Theater, Royal George Theatre, Apollo Theatre Center, TimeLine Theatre and the Theatre Building.

# Faculty and Staff

The Theatre School - Graduate Studies ▢ Faculty and Staff

## **Faculty and Staff**

# Programs of Study

The Theatre School - Graduate Studies ▢ Programs of Study

## **Programs of Study**

The Theatre School offers programs leading to the Master of Fine Arts degree in the areas of acting, arts leadership and directing. The minimum quarter hour requirements vary from program to program. The acting and directing programs require a three-year course of study. The arts leadership program requires a two-year course of study and a two-year fellowship employment placement at Chicago Shakespeare Theater.

# Admission

The Theatre School - Graduate Studies ▢ Admission

## **Admission**

The first charter of DePaul University included a statement on nondiscrimination and the policy has been enforced vigorously for 100 years. Students, faculty and the public are entitled to equal treatment regardless of race, creed or color. It is the policy of The Theatre School to make admission decisions without regard to the race, color, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, national origin or handicap of the candidate. Admission to the Master of Fine Arts degree programs is based on evidence of ability to be successful in graduate study. Specific requirements include:

Completion of an undergraduate degree (as evidenced by official transcripts).

Completion of graduate application materials.

Three letters of recommendation.

Demonstration of special competence in the major area through an audition or interview.

### **APPLICATION DEADLINE AND ENTRY TERMS**

Applications are only accepted for entry into the fall quarter of each academic year and are generally accepted from September through January for entry the following fall. Detailed information is available at [http://theatreschool.depaul.edu/graduate\\_admissions.php](http://theatreschool.depaul.edu/graduate_admissions.php) .

# Auditions for Candidates in Acting and Directing

The Theatre School - Graduate Studies ▢ Auditions for Candidates in Acting and Directing

## **Auditions for Candidates in Acting and Directing**

### **ACTING**

Our auditions place special emphasis on the applicants potential for future growth. We believe that imagination, personal initiative, self-discipline, stamina, seriousness of commitment to the acting profession and trainability are fundamental.

By trainability, we mean that we attempt to judge the applicants potential for growth. We believe that this potential can be assessed by evaluating how the student reveals inner resources through the work. We look for the students ability to focus personal energies in a relaxed manner which will enhance communication of the conflict the character faces in the context of the play. Students who get trapped in characterization or style tend to demonstrate their level of virtuosity rather than tapping their deeper, inner resources.

MFA Acting applicants should prepare two (2) monologues one contemporary and one classical, a maximum of four minutes total. The classical monologue must be Shakespearean, or from the Restoration, Jacobian or Elizabethan periods. You are urged to select material for which you are temperamentally suited; preferably something in which you might conceivably be cast now or in the near future. Avoid material which causes you to disguise yourself or put on a character. The pieces selected should be from plays. Recital of poetry or cuttings from short stories are not acceptable. Concentration and a sincere interest in your pieces are important. During your audition, keep your attention on what you are doing rather than on the effect you are having on the audition committee.

The audition begins with group physical and vocal work. Wear comfortable clothes appropriate for physical activity (examples: sweats, tee-shirts, shorts, leotards). You may be asked to remove your shoes and socks. If you wish, you may bring a change of clothing to change into after the warm up, though this is not required. After the group session, each person presents his or her monologues privately with our committee. After the monologues, you are assigned a scene partner from among the other auditionees and you and your partner will be given a six-line open scene to work on with our faculty. Once you have completed your scene, you have completed the audition and are done for the day. There are no callbacks.

### **DIRECTING**

In addition to the audition process outlined above, directing students interview with faculty in the directing program and submit a series of written statements including a directorial analysis of a play previously assigned by the program head. Please contact The Theatre Schools Admissions Office for exact written requirements.

# Interviews for Candidates in Arts Leadership

The Theatre School - Graduate Studies ▢ Interviews for Candidates in Arts Leadership

## **Interviews for Candidates in Arts Leadership**

In addition to the application materials, arts leadership applicants submit a series of written statements including a personal statement. Please contact The Theatre Schools Admissions Office for exact written requirements.

Arts Leadership applicants are evaluated by an admissions committee and semi-finalists are contacted for phone interviews. Finalists are selected for an in-person interview with personnel from The Theatre School and Chicago Shakespeare Theater. The in-person interview will take place in Chicago at applicant's expense. Significant consideration regarding the admissions decision will be placed on the in person interview.

# Procedures for Admission

The Theatre School - Graduate Studies ▢ Procedures for Admission

## Procedures for Admission

Applicants for admission should complete the graduate application either online at [http://www.depaul.edu/admission/apply\\_online.asp](http://www.depaul.edu/admission/apply_online.asp) or obtain a hard copy application by writing, calling or e-mailing the Director of Admissions, The Theatre School, 2135 N. Kenmore Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60614- 4111, (773) 325-7999. Outside Illinois, you may call toll free: 1-800-4DEPAUL, extension 57999. E-mail is: [theatreadmissions@depaul.edu](mailto:theatreadmissions@depaul.edu) . In addition to the completed application, a photograph, resume, three letters of recommendation, and official transcripts of undergraduate credit should be submitted to the above address. An audition or interview may be scheduled by contacting the admissions office.

There is an application fee, which you can pay online as part of the online application or send a check or money order payable to DePaul University. Consult the application instructions for specific information about amount of the fee. If you are paying by check, send the fee to The Theatre School, Office of Admissions, 2135 N. Kenmore, Chicago, Illinois 60614-4111. Applications submitted without an application fee will not be processed. The fee is nonrefundable.

DePaul University requires official transcripts from all universities, colleges, and junior colleges you have attended. Please request that transcripts be sent directly to the address provided on the online application Web site or on the paper application form. We recommend that you request transcripts in sufficient time to meet the programs deadline.

### ADMISSION DECISIONS

Admissions decisions are made and communicated after all applicants have auditioned or interviewed. The Theatre School does not operate an early action, early acceptance or rolling admissions process. Decisions are communicated in writing and are mailed mid-March with an April 15 response deadline. Decisions cannot be communicated over the phone or by email. Only applicants who have completed all admissions requirements will be considered for admission.

### SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIAL AID

Every graduate student admitted to The Theatre School is automatically awarded a Graduate Talent Scholarship. Incoming scholarships are awarded in the admissions decision letter.

Financial Aid. There are two types of need-based financial aid available to admitted graduate students loans and work study. To be considered for a need-based financial aid package, applicants must submit a valid Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This is the only application required for need-based financial aid and is not require for scholarship consideration.

The FAFSA becomes available on January 1 of the year in which you will enter college and can either be submitted through a hard copy generally available from college financial aid offices or online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) . To have your FAFSA results reported to The Theatre School, enter DePaul University's FAFSA code, 001671, in the college section.

We suggest you complete the FAFSA by February 15. Because financial aid packages are packaged on a first-come, first-served basis, submitting your FAFSA by this date will insure you receive full consideration for need-based financial aid. Financial aid packages are mailed separately from the admissions decision letter and are only mailed to students after they have been admitted to The Theatre School.

## **International Student Admission**

Students who require a student visa (I-20) in order to study at DePaul must meet all admission requirements and demonstrate adequate financial support. Applicants educated in a country in which the native language is not officially recognized as English must also submit proof of English proficiency. Theatre School programs require a minimum TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) score of 80 (Internet-based test; no section lower than 17), 213 (computer-based test) or 550 (paper-based test) is required for all applicants. The Theatre School also accepts an IELTS score of 6.5 or higher in place of the TOEFL. The letter of admission and I-20 are issued only after admission. International students are encouraged to complete their applications at least one month prior to any published program deadline, or no later than three months before the start of the term, whichever date comes first.

# Residence Requirements for the Master of Fine Arts Degree

The Theatre School - Graduate Studies ▢ Residence Requirements for the Master of Fine Arts Degree

## **Residence Requirements for the Master of Fine Arts Degree**

All courses for the Master of Fine Arts degree must be taken at DePaul University. Graduate credit for courses completed at other institutions may not be applied toward the degree, though in some exceptional cases they may be used as a foundation for advanced placement in the design areas only.

Candidates for acting and directing must complete nine quarters of a three year course of study. Each course of study is sequential and begins in the Autumn quarter only. While it is possible for a student to apply for a leave of absence for one year between two given years of study (i.e., between the second and third year, first and second year), it is never possible to skip one quarter within a single year.

Candidates for arts leadership must complete six quarters of a two year course of study and complete a two year fellowship employment placement at Chicago Shakespeare Theater. The fellowship is full-time, salaried with benefits.

All requirements for the degree must be completed within eight calendar years from the time a student is admitted to the degree program. For special students removing deficiencies, this period will begin when all deficiencies are removed and admission to the MFA degree program has been formally granted.

# Terminal Requirements for the Master of Fine Arts Degree

The Theatre School - Graduate Studies ▢ Terminal Requirements for the Master of Fine Arts Degree

## **Terminal Requirements for the Master of Fine Arts Degree**

In addition to completing the graduate requirements of the major program, each student must complete two or three terminal requirements:

1. All graduate students must complete the three-quarter Graduate Seminar sequence with a grade of B- or better in each quarter.
2. For actors, three analytical/reflective papers, each a minimum of 10 pages in length, that in total comprise the graduate thesis.
3. For directors, a graduate thesis project.

# Theatre School Graduate Student Handbook

The Theatre School - Graduate Studies ▢ Theatre School Graduate Student Handbook

## Introduction

In addition to the DePaul University Graduate Student Handbook , The Theatre School Graduate Student Handbook includes requirements, rules and regulations for its graduate programs.

Upon admission to a graduate program, a student is to follow the catalog requirements in effect at the time of entrance. A student who is readmitted or who changes his or her program or enrollment status is subject to the terms of the catalog in effect at the time of readmission or status change.

As a graduate student you assume the responsibility to know and meet both the general and particular regulations, procedures, policies, and deadlines set forth in this catalog and handbook. This catalog does not constitute a contract between the student and the University. Every effort has been made to provide accurate and firm information. The University reserves the right to revise the content of its catalogs and schedules, and to change policies, programs, requirements, rules, regulations, procedures, calendars and schedule of tuition and fees; to establish and modify admission and registration criteria; to cancel or change courses or programs and their content and prerequisites; to limit and restrict enrollment; to cancel, divide or change time or location or staffing of classes; or to make any other necessary changes.

The Theatre School - Graduate Studies ▢ Theatre School Graduate Student Handbook ▢ Registration & Enrollment

## Registration & Enrollment

No one is permitted to attend a class for which he or she has not been properly registered. Credit is accumulated on the basis of quarter hours. The normal class extends over a ten-week period.

Students enrolled for eight or more quarter hours of credit are considered full-time. Those enrolled in four to 7 hours of credit are considered half-time. Those registered for less than 4 quarter hours of credit are considered less than half-time. Normally, students in Theatre School programs are required to be enrolled as full-time students.

The Theatre School - Graduate Studies ▢ Theatre School Graduate Student Handbook ▢ Probation

## Probation

### ACADEMIC PROBATION

A student is subject to probation as soon as his/her graduate GPA falls below 2.500. The student remains on probation until the end of the subsequent quarter, at which time another evaluation is made. If, at that time, the student has failed to raise his/her GPA to the required level of 2.500 the student may be dismissed for poor scholarship, and prohibited from registering for additional course work. If the student has raised his/her GPA to the required

level of 2.500, the student will be removed from academic probation.

#### **DISCIPLINARY PROBATION**

The Theatre Schools Disciplinary Probation Policy is detailed in The Theatre School Student Handbook ( [http://theatreschool.depaul.edu/graduate\\_conservatory.php](http://theatreschool.depaul.edu/graduate_conservatory.php) ).

#### **PROFESSIONAL PROBATION**

The Theatre Schools Professional Probation Policy is detailed in The Theatre School Student Handbook ( [http://theatreschool.depaul.edu/graduate\\_conservatory.php](http://theatreschool.depaul.edu/graduate_conservatory.php) ).

The Theatre School - Graduate Studies □ Theatre School Graduate Student Handbook □ Invitation to Return & Evaluation Policies

### **Invitation to Return & Evaluation Policies**

A grade of D+ or D is unacceptable for graduate credit. If earned in a required course, the course must be repeated.

A student must earn a grade of B- or higher to receive graduate credit for any upper level undergraduate course (300 or above) that has been accepted for graduate credit.

Please consult The Theater School Student Handbook ( [http://theatreschool.depaul.edu/graduate\\_conservatory.php](http://theatreschool.depaul.edu/graduate_conservatory.php) ) for details on the following:

- MFA Acting Program Capacities & Invitations To Return
- MFA I Grading Procedures For The Acting Program
- MFA Directing Program Evaluation And Continuance Policies
- MFA Arte Leadership Evaluation And Continuance Policies
- Invitations To Return For All Programs
- Invitation To Return Appeal Process

The Theatre School - Graduate Studies □ Theatre School Graduate Student Handbook □ Readmission

### **Readmission**

A student who was previously enrolled in a graduate program in The Theatre School but has not been in attendance since the end of a leave of absence, but not more than four calendar years, must file a Readmission Application. Normally, this application requires that the student take part in the annual interview and audition process and meet the annual application deadlines. Detailed information is available at [http://theatreschool.depaul.edu/graduate\\_admissions.php](http://theatreschool.depaul.edu/graduate_admissions.php) . (If more than four years have elapsed since the student been in attendance, a new application is required.)

Official copies of transcripts recording scholastic work taken while not enrolled at DePaul University must be submitted. As a policy, students are held to the degree requirements that are in force at the time of readmission.

The Theatre School - Graduate Studies □ Theatre School Graduate Student Handbook □ Transfer Credit

### **Transfer Credit**

Normally graduate programs at The Theatre School do not accept credit transferred from another institution. Exceptions can only be granted by the specific departmental chair or program director.

The Theatre School - Graduate Studies □ Theatre School Graduate Student Handbook □ Undergraduate Courses

## **Undergraduate Courses**

Courses numbered 300 through 399 are advanced undergraduate courses. If listed in this Catalog, they may be accepted for graduate credit within the limitations stipulated by the specific departmental chair or program director.

The Theatre School - Graduate Studies □ Theatre School Graduate Student Handbook □ Graduation Requirements

## **Graduation Requirements**

You must have successfully completed all of the general and specific degree requirements as listed in departmental or program sections of the catalog under which you were admitted. Current requirements for all Theatre School graduate programs are detailed at: <http://sr.depaul.edu/catalog/catalogfiles/Current/The%20Theatre%20School%20Graduate%20Studies/pg14.html> Completed degree requirements can include the submitting of the dissertation or thesis or the research paper, examination scores, and, if necessary, grade changes. Students need to achieve a minimum grade point average of 2.500 to graduate.

The Theatre School - Graduate Studies □ Theatre School Graduate Student Handbook □ Graduation With Distinction

## **Graduation With Distinction**

Distinction is conferred upon a student who has maintained a 3.75 cumulative grade point average in the degree program, and passes with distinction the final oral, written examination or masters thesis or project where applicable.

The Theatre School - Graduate Studies □ Theatre School Graduate Student Handbook □ Additional Policies

## **Additional Policies**

The Theatre School Student Handbook ( [http://theatreschool.depaul.edu/graduate\\_conservatory.php](http://theatreschool.depaul.edu/graduate_conservatory.php) ) details additional policies, including (but not limited to) policies related the productions, production assignments, casting, and rehearsal procedures.

### **LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

Students who find it necessary to interrupt their attendance at The Theatre School may apply for a leave of absence. For details about this policy, please consult The Theater School Student Handbook ( [http://theatreschool.depaul.edu/graduate\\_conservatory.php](http://theatreschool.depaul.edu/graduate_conservatory.php) ).

Students applying for a leave should also complete the DePaul University Leave of Absence application on Campus Connect.

# Major Field Requirements

The Theatre School - Graduate Studies ▢ Major Field Requirements

## **Major Field Requirements**

# Current Courses

The Theatre School - Graduate Studies ▢ Current Courses

## **Current Courses**

Please visit Campus Connection at <https://campusconnect.depaul.edu/> for current course information. If you do not have a password for Campus Connection you may log on as a guest. Once you are on Campus Connection please select Course Descriptions followed by the department.