

Performing Arts - Theatre Design & Technology Major Overview:

The Performing Arts - Theatre Design & Technology major focuses on the technical and creative aspects of theatre production, including set design, lighting, sound, costumes, and stage management. Students gain hands-on experience in creating and executing the visual and technical components that bring a theatrical performance to life. The program covers a range of topics such as technical theatre skills, design theory, and production management. Graduates are prepared to work behind the scenes in theatre, film, and television production, handling everything from set construction to sound engineering and lighting design.

Typical Industry Sectors:

1. Theatre and Performing Arts
2. Film and Television Production
3. Event Management and Live Entertainment
4. Architectural Design for Theatre Spaces
5. Arts Education (Private Studios, Schools)

10 Sample Entry-Level Job Titles:

1. Stage Manager
2. Set Designer
3. Lighting Technician
4. Sound Technician
5. Costume Designer Assistant
6. Props Master
7. Production Assistant (Theatre or Film)
8. Technical Director (Theatre)
9. Audio Engineer (Live Events)
10. Theatre Carpenter (Set Construction)

5 Hard Skills:

1. Set, Lighting, and Sound Design
2. Technical Theatre and Stage Management
3. CAD Software for Design (AutoCAD, SketchUp)
4. Knowledge of Stage Construction and Rigging
5. Audio-Visual Equipment Setup and Troubleshooting

5 Soft Skills:

1. Problem-solving
2. Teamwork and Collaboration
3. Creativity

4. Attention to Detail
5. Time Management

Additional Training or Certifications:

In addition to a degree in Theatre Design & Technology, students often gain specialized skills through internships or apprenticeships with professional theatre companies or production studios. Certifications in areas like rigging, sound design, or lighting technology (e.g., from the National Association of Theatre Technicians or similar organizations) can help boost employability. Technical positions often require familiarity with industry-standard software like AutoCAD, Vectorworks, or specialized lighting and sound equipment. Continuing education and workshops in new technologies and techniques are also beneficial in this rapidly evolving field.

Student and National Organizations:

1. [United States Institute for Theatre Technology \(USITT\)](#)
2. [Stage Managers' Association \(SMA\)](#)
3. [The Costume Society of America \(CSA\)](#)
4. [American Society of Theatre Consultants \(ASTC\)](#)
5. [National Association of Schools of Theatre \(NAST\)](#)