



# THEATRE

Theatre major • Theatre minor

**Develop your understanding of and appreciation for theatre as an art form and cultural staple as you learn to write, act in, direct, design and produce theatrical performances, all while honing core skills like critical thinking, communication and collaboration. Continue your education off-campus as you leverage Franklin College's vast web of connections within the theatre and film industries to secure internships in the thriving Indianapolis arts community or abroad.**

## THE CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE

### Customizable learning and small class sizes

The Franklin College theatre curriculum is designed to provide majors with a breadth of foundational knowledge as well as opportunities to further explore specific areas of interest. Courses cover a range of topics including playwriting, acting, directing, literature, film, stagecraft and more, preparing majors to understand the scope of the industry and the intricacies of coordinating and executing productions both on stage and behind the scenes. Students then refine their educational experience by selecting electives and research topics that align with their career goals. All this learning takes place in five- to 15-student classes, empowering close, often lifelong relationships between students and faculty.

## OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

### Production participation in year one

The department faculty believe plays are less about theatre and more about people, characters and human experiences. They encourage every student to seek out a collection of experiences while at the college, and support majors by helping them coordinate study away trips or connecting them with internship opportunities.

**100%**

of our students  
complete an internship  
or undergraduate  
research.

[www.FranklinCollege.edu](http://www.FranklinCollege.edu)

101 BRANIGIN BLVD. • FRANKLIN, INDIANA 46131

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COLLEGE 

**THE THEATRE PRODUCES FOUR SHOWS PER YEAR, WHICH INCLUDE A MIX OF CLASSICAL AND CONTEMPORARY PERFORMANCES THAT ARE SELECTED BASED ON THE INTERESTS OF CURRENT THEATRE MAJORS. EVERY STUDENT HAS THE CHANCE TO DIRECT, PRODUCE, ACT IN, DESIGN AND CONTRIBUTE TO A PERFORMANCE AS EARLY AS FRESHMAN YEAR.**

The college's proximity to Indianapolis means students are able to easily become involved in the regional arts scene. Students have interned locally at the Indianapolis Opera, Indiana Repertory Theatre and Phoenix Theatre, while students seeking experiences in other parts of the world have interned at the Disney College Program and Stratford Shakespeare Festival. Finally, the department produces four shows per year, which include a mix of classical and contemporary performances that are selected based on the interests of current theatre majors. Every student has the chance to direct, produce, act in, design and contribute to a performance as early as freshman year.

#### **POST-GRADUATION**

##### **Applying a theatre major artistically and commercially**

Some theatre majors continue their education after graduation, pursuing advanced degrees in theatre, scenic design, teaching, acting and psychology. Theatre majors who pursue full-time work after graduation are equipped to apply their skills both artistically and commercially, participating in professional theatre or producing work for companies in the creative and media industries. Graduates have gone on to work in:

- Theatre: acting, producing, directing, designing and more
- Education: teaching, higher education
- Business: logistics, small business
- Arts organizations: museums, nonprofits

**Scholarships** – The department offers renewable annual scholarships for students who major in theatre or participate in theatrical productions.

- **Theatre awards** (\$2,000 – \$5,000/year renewable): Competitive awards for both theatre majors and non-majors
- **Performance awards** (\$500 – \$1,000/year): Available to students who participate in one or more theatre productions per semester

For questions regarding portfolio requirements or to schedule an interview, contact Theatre Department Chair, Gordon Strain, M.F.A., at 317.738.8259 or [gstrain@FranklinCollege.edu](mailto:gstrain@FranklinCollege.edu). The deadline to interview for scholarships is March 10.

## **DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW**

- **Major and minor options:** Major or minor in theatre, or easily pair theatre with another discipline like English, creative writing, art, history or nonprofit leadership for an even more versatile set of skills.
- **Networking with theatre professionals:** The Richard A. Harrison Endowment for Theatre allows the theatre department to host a guest director and guest designer every year, giving students the chance to work alongside and build relationships with professional theatre artists.
- **Department contact information:** Read more about the program at [www.FranklinCollege.edu/theatre](http://www.FranklinCollege.edu/theatre) or contact the Theatre Department Chair Gordon Strain, M.F.A., directly at 317.738.8259 or [gstrain@FranklinCollege.edu](mailto:gstrain@FranklinCollege.edu).