

Drama

Undergraduate Degree Programs

General B.A., 3- or 4-Year, Drama
Honours B.A., Drama
Honours B.A., Drama, Arts and Business Regular
Honours B.A., Drama, Arts and Business Co-op
Joint Honours with Drama
Minor in Drama

Our Drama program is centred in the liberal arts and offers students the option of choosing from a range of practical and academic classes to meet their interests and develop their talents. Following a two-year foundational program, students have the option of specializing in one or a combination of the following areas of study: performance (acting/directing), technical theatre (stage management, theatre technology), design (costume, set, and lighting), dramatic literature, performance studies/dramaturgy/theory, film, and theatre and the digital media.

The Department has outstanding facilities. The Theatre of the Arts, with its semi-circular thrust stage, holds an audience of 500 and hosts most of the Department's major productions. The fully equipped black box studio theatre seats 60 and provides an intimate setting for smaller scale productions, experimental projects, and student-initiated work. The bi-annual UpStart Festival of new plays is just one example of the Department's strong commitment to promoting independent and original work and fostering relationships with the local theatre community. For large-scale productions the Department also has access to the 750-seat Humanities Theatre with its large proscenium stage.

No audition is required to take first-year acting classes; however, admission to our intermediate and senior acting classes is by audition only. This keeps the program competitive at the advanced level without precluding anyone from discovering over a full term if s/he will benefit from acting training. Students accepted into any of the acting classes will experience the skills, discipline, and commitment necessary to be an accomplished practitioner in this art form and will discover whether they wish to pursue a professional career in acting. The performance standard in all departmental productions is very high. Students who participate in these productions will usually do so for credit and may have to meet particular prerequisites.

Productions at uWaterloo

In recent years UW Drama has mounted several major productions, including: *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, *Tartuffe*, *As You Like It*, *The Tempest*, *Julius Caesar*, *Twelfth Night*, *Marat/Sade*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Mad Forest*, *Alice*

Courses in the Major

Theatre Studio

Audition Technique
Design for the Theatre
Directing
Intermediate and Senior Acting
Introduction to Performance
Introduction to Technical Production
Introduction to the Theatre
Lighting Design for the Theatre

plus courses in Stage Management, Costume Design, Costume History, Scenic Painting, Stage Combat, Voice Technique, Playwriting

Dramatic Theory & History

Acting Styles
Dramaturgy
Postmodern Theory and Theatre
Theatre and the New Media
Theatre Criticism
Theatre History
Theatre Management
Theories of the Theatre
Undergraduate Thesis

Dramatic Literature Courses

20th Century Drama
American Drama
Canadian Drama
Film Noir
German Drama
Modern British Film
Musical Theatre and Musical Film
Plays on Film
Playwright in Performance
Political Theatre
Russian Drama
Shakespeare
Shakespeare in Performance
The New Hollywood

Special Studies in Theatre Production

Course credit is granted for work in a major production as an actor or lead technician.

(Experiments) in Wonderland, Mimetic Flesh, Our Country's Good, Our Town, Differ/end: The Caledonia Project, Upstart Women '09, The Government Inspector, Masks on Meds, and Arcadia.

Technical Theatre

Students interested in technical theatre use all three theatres in their course work and in their work on major department productions. They have many opportunities to take on positions of responsibility in these productions, ranging from Stage Manager to Lighting Designer, Costume Designer, and Set Designer (under close supervision of theatre professionals). The Department strongly believes in providing extensive hands-on training in *combination with rigorous critical reflection*. Our record for placing technical students in the professional theatre after graduation is second to none.

Dramatic Literature/Performance Studies

The study of dramatic literature, dramaturgy, performance studies, and performance theory constitute a key part of our training, as does the study of non-traditional approaches to theatre-making such as site-specific theatre and digital art, where artists in theatre, music and video explore innovative forms of expression through various digital media. The provision of considerable research funding for work in the latter two areas of theatre has afforded our students exceptional learning opportunities in emerging fields of performance practice which are rare to find in Canada.

Exchanges

The Department also organizes international exchanges with theatre training institutions in the United States and Europe. In 2009, fifteen students travelled to Rome and Cosenza, Italy in exchange with actors from the Teatro dell' Acquario, and in 2006, seventeen of our students spent ten days at the *Theaterakademie Vorpommern* (Germany).

Co-operative Programs in Arts

Honours Drama students may pursue co-operative education through:

Arts and Business Co-op - a direct entry program through which students complete their honours major and core Arts and Business courses in areas such as accounting, economics, languages, history, political science, business management, and leadership training. Five paid work terms alternate with academic terms on a four-month rotation. All students spend eight months on campus during their first year.

There are four optional specializations available for Arts and Business Co-op students:

- Digital Arts Communication
- Global Engagement
- Human Resources Management
- International Trade

Careers

Below is a sample listing of positions held by graduates who majored in Drama:

Actor, *Stratford and Shaw Festivals*
Administrator, *Maggie Bassett Studio*
Alumni Officer, *Fanshawe College*
Assistant Director, *Keyano College Theatre*
Career Advisor, *Wilfrid Laurier University*
Client Service Officer, *H.R. Development Canada*
Development Officer, *University of Waterloo*
Director of Administration, *The Citadel Theatre*
Director of Education, *St. Francis De Sailles Church*
Financial Planner, *Investor's Group Inc.*
Floor Director, *CBC*
Freelance Theatre Technician
Policy Planner, *Regional Municipality of Waterloo*
Recruiter, *O.P.P. Orillia*
Sales Representative, *Wyant & Co. Ltd.*
Stage Manager, *Stage Polaris*
Supervisor, *Workers Compensation Board*
Teacher, *Waterloo Region District School Board*
Technical Director, *Theatre Passe Muraille*
Writer/Director, *Waterwood Productions*

For more information about Drama, please visit:

www.drama.uwaterloo.ca

For admission information, questions about your application, or to arrange a campus visit please call:

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