

Information for Current UT Students Applying to The Department of Theatre and Dance (Internal Transfer)

Students are admitted to the Department of Theatre and Dance in fall semesters only. Currently enrolled UT undergraduate students who are interested in changing their major to or adding a simultaneous major in Theatre or Dance must apply directly to the Department.

Applying: Applications to the Department of Theatre and Dance are available January 15 - March 1 each academic year. Paper applications may be picked up from the main office in the Winship Building (WIN 1.142) or students may download an application from the web at the following link:

http://www.finearts.utexas.edu/tad/admissions/undergraduate_admissions/internal_transfer_admissions.cfm

Applications must be submitted to the main office (WIN 1.142) no later than 5 PM on the March 1 deadline. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

Auditions: Only the BFA in Dance requires an audition. Students who wish to pursue the BFA Dance degree must participate in an audition that usually occurs one year prior to admission (October and November, respectively). BFA Dance audition dates and other audition details are available at the following link:

http://www.finearts.utexas.edu/tad/degree_programs/undergraduate/bfa_dance/index.cfm

Guidelines: The Department of Theatre and Dance requires internal transfer applicants to submit a statement of intent, a resume, and a letter of recommendation along with the Application for Admission.

A minimum UT GPA of 3.0 is recommended for serious consideration of your application. Applicants may not have earned more than 60 hours of college credit in residence (at UT) to be considered for admission to the department, unless applying as a simultaneous major. Additionally, simultaneous major applicants MUST have a minimum of 30 credit hours in residence by the end of the summer to be considered for admission.

Decisions: Students will be notified in an email via a SAN (Secure Academic Note) of their application results, generally 4-5 weeks after the March 1 application deadline. **Please do not contact the department about the status of your application.**

Students accepted into the program must participate in academic advising in April and a mandatory departmental orientation in August in order for the major change to become official. Applicants accepted to the department will be given specific information about the major changing process, academic advising and registration procedures in the acceptance email.

Degrees: Degree Guidelines and 4-Year Plans for all three degrees may be found at:

<http://www.utexas.edu/finearts/students/degree-guidelines-4-year-plans>

Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Theatre and Dance

(website: http://www.finearts.utexas.edu/tad/degree_programs/undergraduate/ba_theatre_and_dance/index.cfm)

A flexible degree that allows students to explore multiple disciplines within the department or to focus on any of the following: Acting, Directing, Dance, Theatre History/Criticism/Dramaturgy, Playwriting, Costume, Scenic, or Lighting Design & Technology, Stage Management or Creative Drama. This degree is also appropriate for students who have an interest outside the department, such as a simultaneous major in another college or an academic or pre-professional program such as pre-med.

Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Dance

(website: http://www.finearts.utexas.edu/tad/degree_programs/undergraduate/bfa_dance/index.cfm)

A rigorous, pre-professional degree that focuses on ballet and contemporary technique, performance, choreography and education.

Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Theatre Studies

(website: http://www.finearts.utexas.edu/tad/degree_programs/undergraduate/bfa_theatre_studies/index.cfm)

Prepares students to teach theatre in grades K-12 in Texas public schools. Students pursuing teacher certification through the B.F.A. in Theatre Studies meet with both advisors in the College of Fine Arts as well as with advisors in the College of Education. Field observation and practical classroom teaching are required of all students in the program.

Course Descriptions: Descriptions for Theatre and Dance courses may be found in the 2008-2010 Undergraduate Catalog located at:

<http://registrar.utexas.edu/catalogs/ug08-10/ch08/ug08.cr08b.mus-td.html#department-of-theatre-and-dance>

Internal Transfer Frequently Asked Questions

What is a “Statement of Intent” and what information should I include in my statement?

The “Statement of Intent” is a personalized essay that explains your interest in applying to the Department of Theatre and Dance, and that provides any relevant information not included in your resume. Your “Statement of Intent” should address both your academic and your professional goals with regard to theatre and/or dance. A prompt is provided on the application.

Where can I get help with writing my “Statement of Intent” and/or my resume?

The Sanger Learning & Career Center (located in Jester) and the Undergraduate Writing Center (located in the Flawn Academic Center) are available to assist all UT students, regardless of major, with writing resumes and essays.

Where should my letter of recommendation come from?

Applicants should obtain a letter of recommendation from Department of Theatre and Dance faculty with whom you’ve worked if at all possible, or theatre professionals in the field with whom you’ve worked. If you have no theatre experience or if all else fails, a letter of recommendation from any college professor with whom you’ve worked closely will suffice.

Which UT Theatre and Dance classes can I take as a non-major that will count towards a TD degree?

In preparing to apply to the Department of Theatre and Dance it is recommended that you visit the Undergraduate Advising Office during non-peak times in WIN 1.118 for information on recommended courses relevant to your focus area.

Registration priority is given to Theatre and Dance majors for all restricted Theatre and Dance courses. However, during the first four class days of any fall or spring semester, the Undergraduate Advisor may assist you with registration for restricted Theatre and Dance courses. Some courses will require instructor consent. Possible courses include:

T D 314P - Production Laboratory (Run Crew)

T D 314C - Design for Performance

TD 315 - Playwriting I

T D 302T, 312T, or 352T - Dance Topics

T D 306 - Intro to Improvisational Drama

T D 317C - Theatre History through 18th Century

T D 317D - Theatre History since 18th Century

T D 354T - Design/Technology Topics

T D 357T - Theatre History/Criticism Topics

What are my chances of being accepted to the Department of Theatre and Dance if I apply?

Because admission to the Department of Theatre and Dance is competitive and selective, there is no way to predict your chances of being accepted. It depends on a number of variables including the number of available seats, the number of applicants and the strength of the applicant pool. You can improve your chances of being admitted, however, by getting your application in on time, including all required application materials and earning good grades in your classes.

I do not have a 3.0 UT GPA, but can I still apply to the Department of Theatre and Dance?

You may still apply for transfer to the Department of Theatre and Dance if you do not have a 3.0, but be aware that preference will be given to those applicants who have a UT GPA of 3.0 or higher.

I have more than 60 hours in residence... may I still apply to the Department of Theatre and Dance?

You may still apply for transfer to the Department of Theatre and Dance if you have more than 60 hours in residence, but it is unlikely that you will be admitted to the department (unless you are applying as a simultaneous major). Preference is given to students who meet the application criteria and who are able to complete an undergraduate degree in a four-year period.

If I am not accepted to the Department as a major can I minor in Theatre and Dance?

While some colleges at UT will allow you to declare a minor in Theatre and/or Dance, the Department itself will not recognize any official minor. It is therefore the students’ responsibility to identify courses available to them as non-majors that will fulfill the requirements of their own college. Non-majors who have questions about how to satisfy a minor should meet with their own academic advisor in the college in which they are currently enrolled.

May I meet with the Undergraduate Advisor in Theatre and Dance to discuss my application?

Students are expected to research and review all available print and online application and degree program information PRIOR to requesting an individual meeting with the Theatre and Dance Advisor. The Undergraduate Advisor is available to meet with students, except during peak periods such as the first 12 class days and registration-advising periods in the fall and spring semesters. Please note that an individual meeting with the Undergraduate Academic Advisor will not improve your chances of being admitted to the Department of Theatre and Dance as all admissions decisions are made by the Faculty Admissions Review Committee in the Department of Theatre and Dance.

Theatre
& Dance
College of Fine Arts

Undergraduate Advising Office
Department of Theatre and Dance
WIN 1.118 • 512-232-5308
Tad_undergradinfo@austin.utexas.edu

