



University of California, Santa Barbara  
Program Learning Outcomes

**B.A. in Theater**

***Students graduating with a B.A. in Theater should be able to:***

- Communicate insightfully about how theater can be used as a means of understanding self, humanity and societies in order to become a better world citizen.
- Demonstrate knowledge of theater history, performance and dramatic literature.
- Analyze the workings of a play and apply that analysis to specific disciplines in the theater, i.e. acting, directing, design.
- Develop a persuasive argument for whether a given artistic process is effective or not.
- Strive for artistic excellence in performance and production.

***In addition, students graduating with a concentration in Design should be able to:***

- Analyze dramatic text and choreography as a theatrical designer, and to translate that analysis clearly, critically and creatively to the collaborative and design processes.
- Tell the story of the play or dance piece visually via researching, sketching, drawing, drafting, rendering, model building, etc., as a costume designer, lighting designer, or scenic designer, using the elements and principles of design.
- Communicate verbally and visually (i.e. to speak, read, write, draft, draw, render, build a scale model) with directors, choreographers, and other design collaborators. Work clearly, analytically, critically and creatively as a theatrical designer, in an open, creative, innovative, and collaborative way.
- Use fabrics and other surfaces to reflect and/or absorb light, to take dye or paint, to move and be manipulated, etc.

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**Program Learning Outcomes, continued**

***In addition, students graduating with a concentration in Directing should be able to:***

- Analyze dramatic text, and translate the analysis to the stage.
- Tell the story of a play visually in terms of its tensions, shape and imagery.
- Work with actors to develop and shape their performances.
- Create/foster/encourage an atmosphere of discipline, joy and exploration.

***In addition, students graduating with a concentration in Theater Studies should be able to:***

- Describe and explain multiple traditions of performance in a global context.
- Provide and incorporate creative and critical feedback, both in direct interactions with colleagues and in effective writing.
- Describe how diverse theater histories contribute to the understanding of performance cultures today.

***In addition, students graduating with a concentration in Playwriting should be able to:***

- Describe the cultural history, literature and practice of the many arts of playwriting and writing for performance.
- Skillfully criticize one's own work and another's in an insightful and constructive way.
- Write for performance both independently and in a collaborative theatrical context.

***In addition, students graduating with a concentration in Theater and Community should be able to:***

- Describe the power theater can have to serve, transform, enlighten and entertain different populations within a community.
- Explain historical role of the theater artist as storyteller whose mission it is to preserve and pass on stories.
- Discuss how the practical application of theater can be a means to give voice to underserved populations within a community.