
New Student FAQ's

Information and Resources for Theatre students can be found at:

<https://www.millikin.edu/college-fine-arts/school-theatre-dance>

READ YOUR MILLIKIN EMAIL—There will be many important messages and announcements sent.

What is Theatre Practicum-TH 101?

Students gain a broad base of experience working behind the scenes during three semesters in the program. These experiences help develop a sense of collaboration and volunteerism, and often, a second marketable skill in publicity, theatre management, properties construction, scenic and costume construction, lighting, etc... Each semester a student signs up for either a preparation or running crew for a main stage show. All Theatre students (except for Design/Production majors) complete 3 semesters.

What are the Mainstage and Studio seasons for next year?

MAINSTAGE: FALL 2024

Passage by Christopher Chen

Directed by Denise Myers

October 17 – 20

Zombie Prom book and lyrics by John Dempsey Music by Dana P. Rowe

Directed and Choreographed by Sean Morrissey Music Directed by Kevin Long

November 14 - 17

Solstice: A Concert of Dance

Directed by Angie Miller

December 12 - 14

MAINSTAGE: SPRING 2024

Clybourne Park- by Bruce Norris

Directed by TBA

January 7 – February 2

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat - Music by Andrew Lloyd Weber, Book & Lyrics by

Tim Rice

Directed by Kevin Long

Choreographed by Angie Miller

Music Directed by Beth Creighton

April 11 - 13

What is the Pipe Dreams Studio Theatre season?

FALL 2024

The Grown-Ups by Skyler Fox and Simon Henriques

October 11-19

The Nightmare Story by Pigpen Theatre Company
November 8 - 16

SPRING 2025

The Verge by Susan Glaspell
April 25 – May 3

Do Acting majors and BA students need to sing at the general auditions?

Freshmen and Sophomore BFA Acting majors are required to sing at auditions; Juniors and Seniors may petition out. Any BA student may choose not to sing, but if so, that student will not be considered for singing roles in the musical. While you may not be an accomplished singer, you can show that you can act a song and that you take every opportunity seriously to demonstrate your abilities. There are often character roles in musicals that need strong actors rather than strong singers.

Do Musical Theatre majors have to sing in a choir?

No, there is no choir requirement. You may choose to audition for a choir.

How are Voice lessons for Musical Theatre majors scheduled?

Voice lessons are actually scheduled individually between each student and their voice professor at the beginning of each semester. Your voice professor will email you to schedule a time. If you have not heard from your voice teacher by the time Welcome Week begins, please let us know so we can help you make inquiries. You should begin your lessons the first week of class.

What kinds of Dance shoes are recommended and where can I get them?

See the Dance Shoe document at: <https://millikin.edu/academics/cas/theatre-dance/resources/current-students/school-forms>

Is reading a syllabus really important?

Absolutely! Syllabi will give you valuable information about classes that often is not discussed in class. Assignments and their deadlines, exams, quizzes, attendance and lateness policies, classroom etiquette and expectations, laptop and cellphone policies, and dress codes (if there are any) are among the things listed in a course syllabus. All classes are different, all teachers have their own methods and policies, and students are held accountable to the information in the syllabus (**such as when your assignments are due**).

What is an academic advisor?

Academic advisors are faculty members who serve as guides/mentors to students to ensure a successful journey through the college experience. While a primary function of an advisor is to help students schedule classes and keep them on track to graduate on time, other functions of the advisor may include: adding a minor, helping you change your major, discussing career plans, discussing challenges you may be having with courses, rehearsals, living arrangements, social issues, etc. Advisors are there to help you navigate the complexities of the college experience. There are times when advisors may not have all the answers you are seeking, in which case, they may refer you to a variety of experts on campus who can help you.

Who is my advisor?

You will find out who your academic advisor is during Welcome Week. We highly recommend scheduling a meeting with your advisor early in the semester to introduce yourself and to get acquainted with them. It is not unusual for several semesters to pass before you take a class taught by your advisor. In rare cases, some students may never take a class taught by their advisor.

How do I schedule a meeting with my advisor?

All faculty are required to hold office hours every week. These times are set aside for students to schedule meetings, drop in to discuss issues, get signatures for forms you may need to submit, etc... Every advisor has their own methods, but it's always best to email them to schedule a meeting.

What if my advisor's office hours are during my classes?

Email your advisor to identify an alternate time to meet.

How should I address my professors?

In the School of Theatre and Dance we are all on a first name basis. Theatre is a collaborative art form that tends to dismiss formal hierarchies in favor of a more casual environment. Everyone is equally important to the artistic process in their own way. However, many other faculty members in other departments and schools across campus expect a much more formal greeting (Dr, Professor, Ms. Mrs. Mr. etc..). Teachers will often tell you how they wish to be greeted but if they do not, it's helpful to ask so as to avoid awkward encounters or the appearance of disrespect. When in doubt, however, a simple "Hello, Professor X," is always appropriate.

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