Theater

Overview

As a theater major at Connecticut College, you are immersed in the art, craft, and theory of theater – acting, directing, design, technical theater, playwriting, dramaturgy, and dramatic literature. We have three theater spaces on campus, and the creative process of making theater is happening in at least one of them at any given moment. The liberal arts offer limitless ways for you to explore connections with other disciplines that will enrich your theater studies. You develop a strong working relationship with your professors. They direct and critique your performances, and are available for ongoing consultation and discussion. At Connecticut College, theater is an investigation that inspires you intellectually and creatively, and the working relationships you build can last well beyond your time on campus.

Performances and Productions

You can participate in our main stage productions as well as in independent productions sponsored by the department or by student groups. Works recently staged include “Cloud Nine;” “Detroit;” “As You Like It;” “Four Dead in Ohio: Antigone at Kent State,” an ensemble-adaptation created by the students; and “Rodgers and Hammerstein’s Carousel,” a collaboration with the departments of music and dance. As a senior, you may choose to work with a faculty mentor on a one-semester capstone project or a two-semester honors study in writing, performing, directing or design. The project represents the culmination of your college study of theater and may serve as a starting point for future work.

Special Opportunities

You have many opportunities to intern at regional or New York theaters, study abroad and collaborate with guest artists in acting, directing, design, playwriting, and dramaturgy. Students have completed summer internships at the nearby Eugene O’Neill Theater Center as well as the Pearl Theatre, the Signature Theatre, The Public Theater, and the New York Theater Workshop, all in New York City. In your junior year, you can study at theater institutes in the U.S. or abroad. Recently, students have gone to Moscow, Italy and Ireland.
Faculty

Virginia (Ginny) Anderson, Assistant Professor of Theater  
B.A. Carleton College; M.A., Stanford University; M.A., Goldsmiths College, University of London; Ph.D., Tufts University  
Theater history; LGBT theater; women's theater; children's theater; the AIDS Epidemic in theater and film

Kenneth Prestininzi, Associate Professor of Theater  
B.S., Northwestern University; M.F.A., University of Iowa  
Playwriting; creative ensemble; performance studies; theater history and literature

David Jaffe, Associate Professor of Theater; Chair of Theater Department  
B.A., Connecticut College; National Theater Institute, Eugene O’Neill Theater Center; Actors Theater of Louisville Apprentice Company; M.F.A., Yale University  
Actor training; collectively created performance; theatrical adaptation; the works of Anton Chekhov

Sabrina Notarfrancisco, Assistant Professor of Theater  
B.A., University of Central Florida; M.A., Southwest Missouri State University; M.F.A., University of Connecticut  
Costume design; costume history; costume construction

Stephen Luber, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Theater; Associate Director of the Curriculum and Student Research, Ammerman Center for Arts and Technology  
M.A., B.F.A., New York University; Ph.D., City University of New York  
Multimedia performance; Avant-garde and experimental performance; performance art; history of scenography

Selected Courses

Acting I: Preparation; Acting II: Play Analysis; Playwriting Workshop; Directing One: Coaching the Actor; American Drama; The Solo Performance Event; The AIDS Epidemic in Theater and Film; Theories Of Performance; Theater and Culture: Rise from Ritual; Advanced Acting: Shakespeare; Advanced Acting: The Realists; Musical Theater in American Culture

About Connecticut College

Connecticut College educates students to put the liberal arts into action as citizens in a global society. A leader in the liberal arts since 1911, the College is home to nationally ranked programs for internships, community action, arts and technology, environmental studies and international studies. Our beautiful 750-acre arboretum campus is located in the historic New England seaport community of New London, Conn.

WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A MAJOR IN THEATER?

President/Executive Director, Rodgers & Hammerstein Organization  
Creative Director, Epic Entertainment  
Executive Director, Flock Theatre  
Broadway Press Agent, The Publicity Office  
Director, Going to Tahiti Productions  
Education Director, Rodgers & Hammerstein Organization  
Director of Standards and Practices, Nickelodeon  
Drama Teacher, John F. Kennedy Memorial Middle School  
Director of Global Marketing, Akamai Technologies  
Assistant Professor of Theatre & Artistic Director, Salve Regina College  
Development Coordinator, Garde Arts Center  
Filmmaker, CM Pictures  
Marketing Assistant, Columbia Records  
Acting Teacher, Palm Beach City School District

EXAMPLES OF STUDENT RESEARCH IN THEATER

Terilyn Eisenhauer ’15  
Acting in “Gruesome Playground Injuries,” a Senior Capstone Project

Andrew Marco ’15  
“Fourth World,” an original musical composition, a Senior Capstone Project

Leila Teitelman ’15  
“of the beast;” an original play, part of an Honors Study in Theater

Madison Winey ’15  
Directing “Gruesome Playground Injuries,” a Senior Capstone Project

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.CONNCOLL.EDU/ACADEMICS/