

Dramatic Arts

What does a dramatic arts major study?

Majors in dramatic arts choose among degrees in acting, design and technology, or physical theatre. Each intensive four-year training program emphasizes professional theatre training and is designed to cultivate practitioners for the theatre and entertainment industry. Students are encouraged to develop a practical knowledge and competence that includes sensitivity to technique, artistry, and style, as well as an insight into the role of the theatre arts. This highly focused and demanding training is enhanced by appropriate courses in the liberal arts. At the conclusion of the program, students are expected to exhibit not only technical and artistic competence, but also a broad knowledge of theatre, sensitivity to artistic style, and an insight into the role of theatre in the life of humankind.

Why study dramatic arts at Coastal Carolina University?

- Instructors are also working professional artists with credits ranging from Broadway to numerous regional theatres throughout the country. Professors have experience in the theatre, film, and television industries.
- The department has an aggressive production schedule that includes five main stage productions (typically two musicals) each academic year. In addition, students produce at least two productions each year, and faculty members direct showcase productions for the Musical Theatre Company, Children's Theatre Company, and Dance Company.
- Coastal Carolina University offers three state of the art theatres including the Edwards Theatre (flexible black box), the 79th Avenue Theatre (147-seat modified thrust), and Wheelwright Auditorium (720-seat proscenium).
- The University also possesses one of the largest and best equipped university scenic, costume and paint studios. More than 3,500 square feet of space allows the department to build and paint in a professional style studio situation.
- Students can take advantage of a close association with Atlantic Stage, a local professional theatre company. The association casts students in meaningful roles and hires students as interns, assistant stage managers, electricians, carpenters and stage hands.

What are some career options for dramatic arts majors?

- Performer
- Actor
- Playwright
- Ticket sales
- Theatre technician
- Costume designer
- Scenery designer
- Director/producer

What kind of courses do dramatic arts majors take?

Acting; Movement for the Actor; Voice and Diction; Vocal Production for the Actor; Dramatic Literature; Theory and Criticism; Directing; Stage Auditions; Basic and Advanced Design; Scenic Painting; Stage Properties Design and Construction; Stagecraft; and classes in costume, scenery and lighting.

Whom can I contact for more information?

- Kenneth J. Martin, M.F. A., chair of the department, 843-349-6559 or kmartin@coastal.edu
- Kay Hungerford, administrative assistant, 843-349-6635 or khungerf@coastal.edu
- You can also find more information at www.coastal.edu/theatre.