BFA in Dramatic Arts
The New School for Drama

BFA in Dramatic Arts
Educational Values and Learning Objectives

Creativity and Courage
Creativity allows us to imagine innovative artistic responses to circumstances and ideas—and use different techniques to solve problems. Courage gives us space to take intellectual and creative risks, accepting failure as part of the creative process.

Communication
Effective communications are rooted in the ability to listen actively and express oneself clearly and with intention in spoken, written, non-verbal, visual, and performative domains.

Critical Thinking and Reflection
Critical thinking and reflection enable us to interpret and evaluate information from multiple perspectives—and to analyze, judge, define, question, organize, and prioritize information.

Civic Engagement and Global Perspective
Being a citizen-student means collaborating with diverse individuals, organizations, and communities inside and outside of the university setting, respecting your own and others’ personal and cultural histories.

Integrative and Interdisciplinary Profiles
The increasing complexities of modern culture—and the challenges of non-linear career trajectories—require that we be able to think, research, and communicate across disciplines.

Collaborative Process and Teamwork
Collaboration and teamwork foster both positive interdependence and individual accountability. An effective collaborator combines all the qualities, skills, and actions described above.
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BFA in Dramatic Arts Program Learning Objectives

Students should be able to demonstrate competency in the following by graduation:

1. Students will demonstrate an increased conceptual understanding and the application of skills related to the dramatic arts through their study and practice of theater technique, specific training, practice based learning and performance.

2. Students will develop a more informed knowledge of human culture through the integrated study of the dramatic arts, humanities and social sciences by demonstrating the ability to compare and contrast different cultures, points of view, and social systems through the analysis of historical and contemporary approaches to the dramatic arts, aesthetics, orality, and performance.

3. Students will show an increase in creative thinking, analysis and organizational competence developed through collaborative experiences, theoretical examination of the arts, performative practice, written, visual and oral communication, working with new media platforms, action research and reflective learning.

4. Students will be able to identify and analyze global issues and ethical dilemmas encountered in society through the acquisition and practice of qualitative and quantitative research methods skills developed though civic engagement projects, action research and field-work.

BFA in Dramatic Arts Learning Outcomes

While the emphasis of this program is on creative and performative practice, New School for Drama has adopted the following outcomes with the intention of preparing all of our students to be responsible citizens of the 21st century with the capacity to succeed in a range of educational and career endeavors.

- Written and Oral Communication
- Inquiry, Analytical and Creative Thinking
- Research Methods, Qualitative and Quantitative Methods
- Information and Media Literacy
- Collaborative Practices
- Integration of Learning, Synthesis and Reflective Learning
- Civic Responsibility and Engagement
- Ethical Reasoning
- Intercultural Knowledge and Actions
- Propensity for Lifelong Learning
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BFA in Dramatic Arts Performance Criteria for Coursework

Students in the BFA in Dramatic Arts are expected to build competency in both Liberal Education (LE) and Dramatic Arts Theory and Technique (DA) through requisite and elective coursework across their four-year program experience.

LE: Liberal Education Core Competencies

• (LE1) The ability to think, speak, and write clearly and effectively, and to communicate with precision, cogency, and rhetorical force.
• (LE2) Experience in and an understanding of the historical, qualitative and quantitative techniques needed for investigating the workings and developments of modern society.
• (LE3) An ability to address culture and history from a variety of perspectives.
• (LE4) Understanding of, and experience in thinking about, moral and ethical problems.
• (LE5) The ability to respect, understand, and evaluate work in a variety of disciplines.
• (LE6) The capacity to explain and defend views effectively and rationally.
• (LE7) Understanding of and experience in one or more art forms other than theatre.
• (LE8) Connects and extends knowledge to civic engagement and to active participation in field-work opportunities.
• (LE9) Demonstrates independent experience and team work of civic action with reflective learning and analysis about accomplishments.
• (LE10) Demonstrates an ability and commitment to work actively within community contexts and structures to achieve a civic aim.
• (LE11) Demonstrate self-directedness as it relates to recognizing the need for further learning and taking action in accomplishing learning and setting appropriate learning goals and tasks.
• (LE12) Demonstrate an understanding of self as learner and the learning process through reflective learning and self-assessment for knowledge and skill deficiencies.

DA: Dramatic Arts Theory and Technique Competencies

• (DA1) The ability to think conceptually and critically about text, performance, and production.
• (DA2) An understanding of playwriting and production processes, aesthetic properties of style, and the way these shape and are shaped by artistic and cultural forces.
• (DA3) An acquaintance with a wide selection of theatre repertory including the principal eras, genres, and cultural sources.
• (DA4) The ability to develop and defend informed judgments about theatre.
• (DA5) An understanding of procedures and approaches for realizing a variety of theatrical styles.
• (DA6) Ability in area of performance and production appropriate to individual needs and interests.
• (DA7) Intermediate to advanced competency in one or more specializations in theater creation, performance, scholarship.