Theatre is a concentration under the B.S. in speech communication. This concentration provides students with coursework and hands-on experiences both on stage and behind the scenes.

DEGREE/CONCENTRATION

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (B.S.)
SPEECH COMMUNICATION – THEATRE

The Program – The Communication and Theatre department prides itself on the “creative campus” atmosphere we offer. The theatre concentration adds to this mission in countless ways as a wholly inclusive artistic and intellectual community, providing a solid foundation in theatre through academic study and hands-on experiential learning. University Theatre produces three main-stage productions per year, giving students a broad range of experiences across multiple aspects of theatre as they participate in bringing a script to life on the stage. Two student-run organizations provide additional opportunities for students to expand their skills.

The Curriculum – Students receive rigorous creative and academic preparation and training in theatre fundamentals to achieve a versatile background in theatre. Performance and production work courses like Script Analysis, Acting I and II, Directing, Stagecraft, Theatre Practicum and various special topics courses not only build foundational knowledge, but prepare students for success as they move into the professional world.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AND INTERNSHIPS

Internships in theatre connect students with professional companies across the region to allow students to apply skills and knowledge acquired on campus. Previous students have interned with the Fulton Theatre, Prima Theatre, EPAC, Gretna Theatre, and Open Stage Harrisburg. Graduates have gone on to successful careers as performers, stage managers and directors, among others.

COURSEWORK

The curriculum includes coursework in:

- Acting I and II
- Stagecraft
- Directing
- Theatre Appreciation
- Theatre Management
- Communication Research
- Script Analysis
- Theatre History
- Lighting and Sound
- History of Stage Design
- London Theatre Tour
- Theories of Communication
- Critical-Cultural Studies
CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

- **Citamard** – Students can be involved in theatre at Millersville through the student theatre organization called Citamard (that’s “dramatic” spelled backward), which organizes activities to expand performance opportunities through one-act plays, staged readings and playwriting opportunities, among others.

- **The Snapper** – Millersville University’s student-run weekly newspaper reports for the student body as the campus’s independent watchdog and champion of student rights.

- **Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA)** – A preprofessional national organization which expands students’ knowledge of the public relations field through guest speakers, events, conferences and networking.

- **WIXQ** – Millersville University’s college radio station, broadcasting at 91.7 on the Lancaster FM band and WIXQ.com on the internet.

- **National Electronic Media Association (NEMA)** – A preprofessional organization designed to aid aspiring students in the electronic media field. Students in NEMA network with professional broadcasters and participate in district, regional and national conferences and meetings.

- **All Campus Musical Organization (ACMO)** – This student-run musical theatre group provides a great opportunity for theatre enthusiasts to participate in theatre throughout college in all aspects (performance, directing, stage managing, set design, etc.). The ACMO has been entertaining audiences at Millersville for over 40 years.

FACULTY

Millersville’s Department of Communication and Theatre faculty includes award-winning educators, documentary filmmakers and published scholars who also have a wide variety of real-world experience in their disciplines.

FACILITIES

- **Dutcher Hall** – Dutcher Hall is home to Rafters Theatre, a 100-seat “black box” flexible theatre, and a 50-seat studio theatre. University Theatre produces main stage shows annually, rotating to represent all major historical periods: Shakespeare, American classics, contemporary plays and musicals. More advanced students will have the opportunity to direct or design for major productions or as a special project. Guest directors and designers regularly offer their talents in the production of plays.

- **Winter Visual and Performing Arts Center** – This building includes the Clair Performance Hall, Biemesderfer Concert Hall, Murley Recital Hall, the Eckart Art Gallery, the Steinman Foundation Recording Suite, the Isaacson Dance Studio, a state-of-the-art Yamaha Clavinova piano lab and a fully equipped scene shop. This on-campus center is a creative hub for students, faculty and the surrounding community in music, art and theatre. Local, regional, national and international artists connect with students in residencies, master classes and workshops.

- **Costume Shop** – A collection that includes over 10,000 was a gift to the University from Mrs. Jean Loeb of Lancaster, a veteran costumer of local productions. The Loeb Costume Collection is largely derived from the inventory of Wass & Son costumers of Philadelphia. Today, the collection has grown to over 25,000 costumes through additional acquisitions, constructions and donations.

- **Bassler Hall** – Includes a fully equipped television studio, a smaller studio for individual student and faculty projects, digital video- and audio-editing suites, two computer labs with current media-editing software, and up-to-date cameras, lights, sound equipment, and on-location production gear.

CONTACT

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