

THEATER AND DANCE DEPARTMENT HONORS GUIDELINES

Honors

The Theater and Dance Department will award honors on the basis of the Honors Committee's evaluation. After the oral defense, the Honors Committee will recommend conferral or non-conferral of Honors to the Theater and Dance Department. The Department faculty and staff, upon receipt of the Committee's recommendation and with satisfaction that the proper procedures were followed in the advising and examination processes, will officially confer Honors to the student at graduation. All departmental readers must recommend honors for a candidate to be successful. Students are entitled to copies of the readers' comments.

Credits and grades

The student will enroll and receive credit for THDA641, Honors Independent (1 credit) and THDA490, Senior Seminar (4 credits) in the fall, and THDA642, Honors Independent (1 credit) and THDA80, Performance Practice (2 credits) in the spring. The Honors Advisor is responsible for assigning a grade for THDA641 and THDA642, whether or not the student is recommended for Honors.

Advisor and Readers

Three readers—the Honors advisor and two other members of THDA—will evaluate the candidate's research and scholarly component throughout the year, and the complete project in late spring. The Theater and Dance Department will appoint a candidate's advisor and readers. The Honors advisor must be a Theater and Dance Department faculty member.

The Creative Component

As detailed above, the Theater and Dance Department will produce the creative component of seniors pursuing Honors in design, directing, performance (acting, directing), playwriting, stage management, and technologies of performance.

The Essay

A 20-page essays are developed in relationship to a major's creative project. This is not a journal of the candidate's creative work, but rather research that supports and deepens their knowledge of the subject of their artistic investigation. The essay includes research into the works of other artists. When referencing the creative portion of the candidate's Honors Project, the essay should present clearly documented evidence of how the performance choices were informed by research. Please use either Chicago Manual Style or Modern Language Association (MLA).

Oral Defense for Honors

In the oral exam, candidates are expected to address questions and comments related to their Honors Project.

Candidates should prepare a four-page opening statement in which they introduce the thesis of their project and reflect on what they have learned in the research process. The opening statement will be followed by questions from the Honors committee and, if pertinent, by attendants in the audience.