

# THEATRE

Whether you have been involved in theatre all your life or want to explore something new, the theatre major allows students to get involved in any aspect of a production: playwriting, acting, scene and lighting, or design and set construction. You will collaborate with your peers and professors to channel your creativity into high-quality performances. You will build the skills necessary to turn your passion for theatre into a career.

## STUDENT EXPERIENCE

### Learn and Do More at RWU

With a focus on experiential learning at RWU, theatre majors can:

- Spend a semester in London working with renowned actors, designers, playwrights, directors, and critics, and exploring some of the greatest plays, museums, galleries, and historical sites in the world.
- Get involved - Beginning in your first year, you will have the opportunity to be part of the annual Freshman Play. Additionally, the program produces a musical, a classical play, a modern play, and a contemporary play each year.



- + Do you love to be onstage or backstage in a production?
- + Are you looking to be part of a close-knit performing arts community with talented peers and faculty?
- + Are you curious about theatre, but not sure where to start?

## CAREER OUTLOOK

What careers do RWU theatre alumni have now?

- Technical Director
- Professional Actor, Singer, and Songwriter
- Drama Teacher
- Lighting Technician
- Props Artisan
- Designer
- Producer of a Tony Award-winning musical

## ALUMNI HIGHLIGHT

“The London study abroad program was just incredible. We would see a show, a musical, a dance piece almost every night and then meet the next morning to talk about it.”

Charlie Stone '07  
Producer of Tony Award-winning musical, “The Band’s Visit”

## Facilities

Theatre classes and productions take place in The Performing Arts Center, affectionately known to students as “The Barn”. This flexible black box space becomes a second home to students in the performing arts department, allowing you to form a close-knit community.

## Extracurricular Activities

- Theatre majors and non-theatre majors alike can join Stage Company, a club run out of “The Barn”, that produces several full-length and one-act plays, along with other performance types.
- Each academic year, the program sponsors trips to see three or four professional productions by companies like Trinity Repertory, The Gamm Theatre, Wilbury Theatre Group, and American Repertory Theatre.

## Faculty

Your professors are experienced artists and performers from across the country and around the world. They develop personal, meaningful relationships with students, helping them find their individual style, develop their craft, and design a career path. Visiting guest artists offer additional styles, forms, and viewpoints through residencies and repertory work.

## CURRICULUM

### Structure

As a theatre major at RWU, the stage is your laboratory, allowing you to demonstrate, reinforce, and master the skills you learn in the classroom. All theatre students take courses in Acting, Stagecraft, Design, Musical Theatre, Theatre History, Stage Management, and Directing. You will also choose three courses in Dramatic Literature, History, and Theory, such as British Theatre and Performing Arts or Asian Drama and Dance. You may use your remaining electives to concentrate on the Acting or Design track and/or a second major or minor.

### Final Projects

- Senior theatre majors have the option to complete senior acting, design, or directing projects. These are full productions that take place in the spring semester and give them extensive experience and set them apart from the competition for jobs upon graduation.
- In preparation to enter the acting or directing world, you will complete a professional interview before graduating. Actors present a professional audition, while directors and designers offer conceptual plans for a hypothetical production, both receiving constructive criticism from the theatre faculty.

**OVER 80% OF  
RWU STUDENTS  
GRADUATE WITH  
MORE THAN JUST  
A SINGLE MAJOR**

RWU students have paired **theatre** with:

- Marketing
- Graphic Design
- Secondary Education
- Public Relations
- Arts Management

