

THEATRE & DRAMA STUDIES (HBA)

Department of English & Drama

Theatre & Drama Studies, offered jointly with Sheridan Institute, involves the study of plays, actors, theatres, designers and audiences from the classical Greek stage to the most modern experimental performance. We give students the opportunity to earn a two-year (equivalent) conservatory diploma in professional actor training from Sheridan within a Specialist degree in performance history and theory and dramatic literature from UTM. This high-powered combined program prepares students for a career on the stage or behind the scenes in professional theatre world or for drama teaching at the high school or university level.

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR TIME AT UTM!

We want to help you maximize your university experience, so we've pulled together information and suggestions to get you started, although there are many more! As you review the chart on the inside pages, note that many of the suggestions need not be restricted to the year they are mentioned. In fact, activities such as joining an academic society, engaging with faculty and seeking opportunities to gain experience should occur in each year of your study at UTM. Read through the chart and create your own plan using **My Program Plan** found at www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans

Program of Study (POSt)

- Specialist Program ERSPE1880 Theatre and Drama Studies (Arts)

Check out...

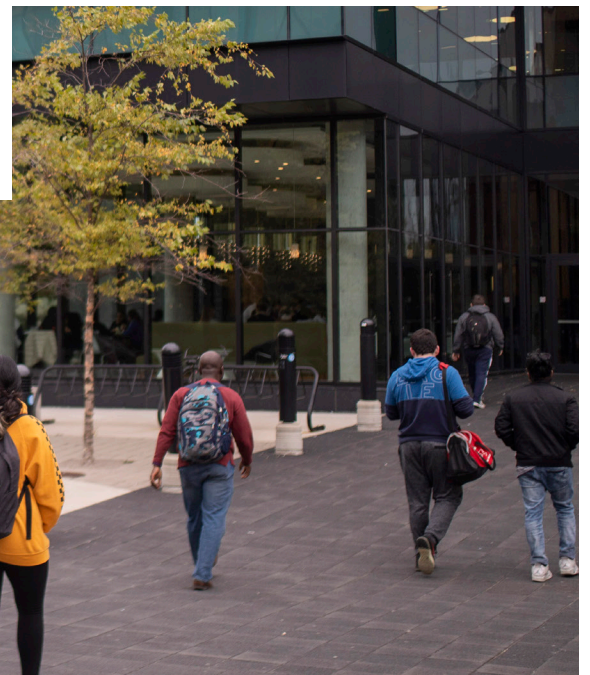
What is the role of the audience in the theatre? Explore interdisciplinary approaches to Indigenous storytelling in experimental film, new media, and digital arts and performance in DRE305H5S. Want to work with a renowned Canadian playwright on their next play? Take DRE360H5S to learn developmental dramaturgy and how to workshop new scripts.

What can I do with my degree?

The career you choose will depend on your experience and interests. Visit the Career Centre to explore your career options.

Careers for graduates: Agent; Publicist; Theatrical press agent; Vocal coach; Drama therapist; Dance teacher; Actor; Stage manager; Set designer; Costume designer; Critic; Playwright; Production assistant; Camera operator; TV/Radio host; Voice-over artist; AV technician.

Workplaces: Agencies; Theatre; Television/Radio; Communications and broadcasting; Cultural organizations; Self-employment.



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SPECIALIST Program Plan

HOW TO USE THIS PROGRAM PLAN

Read through each year. Investigate what appeals to you here and in any other Program Plans that apply to you.

Visit www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans to create your own plan using [My Program Plan](#). Update your plan yearly.



	1 ST YEAR	2 ND YEAR
PLAN YOUR ACADEMICS*	<p>Enrol in courses DRE/ENG121H5, DRE/ENG122H5; DRS121H5 and DRS122H5.</p> <p>Choose a program of study (Subject POST) once you complete 4.0 credits. Use the Degree Explorer and the Academic Calendar to plan your degree.</p> <p>Develop foundational academic skills and strategies by enrolling in a utmONE course. Build community and gain academic support through LAUNCH. Join a RGASC Peer Facilitated Study Group.</p>	<p>Enrol in courses DRE200H5, DRE222H5; DRS221H5 and DRS222H5.</p> <p>Consider applying for Research Opportunity Program (ROP) courses DRE299Y and DRE399Y. Visit the EEU website for ROP Course Prerequisites. Attend the RGASC's Program for Accessing Research Training (PART) to enhance your research skills.</p>
BUILD SKILLS	<p>Use the Co-Curricular Record (CCR). Search for opportunities beyond the classroom, and keep track of your accomplishments.</p> <p>Attend the Get Hired Fair through the Career Centre (CC) to learn about on- and off-campus opportunities.</p> <p>Attend the Experiential Education Fair.</p>	<p>Use the Career & Co-Curricular Learning Network (CLNx) to find postings for on- and off-campus work and volunteer opportunities.</p> <p>Work on-campus through the Work-Study program. View position descriptions on the CLNx.</p>
BUILD A NETWORK	<p>Networking simply means talking to people and developing relationships with them. Start by joining the English & Drama Student Society (EDSS). Follow them @utm.edss. Check out the UTM Musical Theatre Club and the UTM Drama Club.</p> <p>Visit the UTM Library Reference Desk.</p>	<p>Do you have a professor you would like to connect with? Ask them a question during office hours. Discuss an assignment. Go over lecture material. Don't be shy! Learn Tips On How to Approach a Professor available through the Experiential Education Unit (EEU).</p>
BUILD A GLOBAL MINDSET	<p>Engage with the many programs offered by the International Education Centre (IEC), whether you are an international or domestic student. Consider joining the Canada Eh? day trips or English Language Conversation Circles to deepen your global mindset.</p> <p>First-year international students can also take advantage of THRIVE-IN, a one-day conference dedicated to helping you start your UTM journey successfully.</p>	<p>Participate in International Education Week and engage in programs like Global and Intercultural Fluency Training Series (GIFTS) to build on your leadership and communication skills in global citizenship.</p> <p>Learn about and prepare for a future UTM Abroad Experience through the IEC to strengthen and enhance your intercultural skill set, and learn about other cultures while sharing your own!</p>
PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE	<p>Where should you start your career journey? The Career Centre's model can help! Get started today by visiting My Career Centre to begin exploring on your own.</p> <p>Stop by the Hello desk in the Student Services Hub. Our Career Centre team is ready to support you.</p> <p>Attend the Program Selection & Career Options workshop offered by the Office of the Registrar and the CC.</p>	<p>Learn how your academics and career goals work together in a Career Counselling appointment.</p> <p>Explore careers through the CC's Job Shadow Program or In the Field.</p> <p>Considering further education? Attend the CC's Graduate & Professional Schools Fair. Research application requirements, prepare for admission tests (LSAT, GMAT) and research funding options (OGS, SSHRC).</p>

*Consult the Academic Calendar for greater detail on course requirements, program notes and degree requirements.

3 RD YEAR	4 TH OR FINAL YEAR
<p>Enrol in courses DRS321H5, DRS322H5, DRS325H5 and DRS325H5. Attain 1.0 further DRE credit at the 300/400 level.</p> <p>Throughout your undergraduate degree:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> use the Degree Explorer to ensure you complete your degree and program requirements. see the Office of the Registrar and the English & Drama Undergraduate Advisor. 	<p>Enrol in courses DRS421H5, DRS422H5, DRS425H5 and DRS426H5. Attain 1.0 further DRE credits at the 300/400 of which 0.5 must be at the 400 level. Also attain an additional 2.0 credits in drama-related courses. View the Academic Calendar Notes section for course options.</p> <p>Log on to ACORN and request graduation.</p>
<p>Develop your skills as a playwright! Enrol in DRE362H5 for the opportunity to gain practical experience writing for the stage. Curious about careers in a Canadian repertory theatre? Enrol in DRE380H5 to study the Shaw Festival on-site in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Interact with actors, directors, designers, and administrators.</p>	<p>Become a part of a local theatre such as Meadowvale Theatre and the Company Theatre. Speak to the English & Drama Undergraduate Advisor for advice.</p> <p>Sign up for DRE392H5 and create your own research, writing, and/or performance project with a faculty member.</p>
<p>Establish a professional presence on social media (e.g., LinkedIn).</p> <p>Take part in a production with your classmates in the Beck Festival of Original Student Theatre. Why not attend the UTM Film Festival? For details, follow the event @UTMFilmFest.</p>	<p>Join a professional association. Check out the Next Generation Showcase, Playwrights Guild of Canada and the Canadian Institute for Theatre Technology.</p> <p>Go to a conference such as the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres Conference.</p>
<p>Expanding your intercultural awareness and developing intercultural skills will help you in your academics, personal growth and are highly sought out by employers.</p> <p>Earn credits overseas! Apply to study for a summer term, or year at one of 170+ universities. Speak to the IEC for details about Course Based Exchange, funding and travel safety. Attend Global Learning Week to learn about the various opportunities available to you!</p>	<p>Engage in programs like ISTEP and THRIVE-OUT to support your transition out of the University!</p>
<p>Attend CC workshops to learn the basics of creating a resume and cover letter, preparing for an interview, and creating a strong LinkedIn profile. To register, visit the UTM Events page on CLNx. You would also find exciting networking opportunities to connect with employers, industry professionals and alumni.</p> <p>Are you ready to take the next step in preparing for further education? Get started by checking out the Pursue Learning section of My Career Centre and attending a drop-in session with a Career Counsellor for best practices for grad school preparation.</p>	<p>Attend the CC workshop Now That I'm Graduating What's Next to learn how to develop your job search plan.</p> <p>Ready for employment? Schedule an Employment Strategist Appointment to review your documents and practice your skills. If you are still unsure about the next steps in your career journey, schedule a Career Counsellor Appointment to gain support exploring career options and establishing a career plan.</p>

Revised on: 3/10/2025

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Skills developed in Theatre & Drama Studies

To be competitive in the job market, it is essential that you can explain your skills to an employer. Visit the Career Centre to learn how to articulate and market the following skills:

Technical: knowledge of performance history, theory, and dramatic literature; knowledge of set production, props, wardrobe, lighting, and sound design; and understanding of dramaturgy and producing.

Communication & teamwork: speak and perform effectively in front of large audiences; work cooperatively with others; and write clearly and fluently.

Creativity & problem-solving: demonstrate artistic expression; identify problems and use creative and critical processes to solve them; and knowledge of production and stage management practices.

Get involved

Check out the 100+ student organizations on campus. Here are a few:

- English & Drama Student Society (EDSS)
- UTM Musical Theatre Club
- UTM Drama Club
- UTM Student Union (UTMSU)
- UTM Athletics Council (UTMAC)

For a listing of clubs on campus visit

Student Groups and Societies Directory

Services that support you

- **Accessibility Services (AS)**
- **Career Centre (CC)**
- **Centre for Student Engagement (CSE)**
- **Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Office (EDIO)**
- **Experiential Education Unit (EEU)**
- **Health & Counselling Centre (HCC)**
- **International Education Centre (IEC)**
- **Office of the Registrar (OR)**
- **Recreation, Athletics and Wellness Centre (RAWC)**
- **Robert Gillespie Academic Skills Centre (RGASC)**
- **UTM Library, Hazel McCallion Academic Learning Centre (HMALC)**

Department of English & Drama

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www.utm.utoronto.ca/english-drama

FUTURE STUDENTS

Admission to UTM

All program areas require an Ontario Secondary School Diploma, or equivalent, with six Grade 12 U/M courses, or equivalent, including English. The admission average is calculated with English plus the next best five courses. The approximate average required for admission is low- to mid-80s. An audition is also required for admission consideration. More information is available at utm.utoronto.ca/viewbook.

NOTE: During the application process, applicants will select the Theatre & Drama admissions category but will not officially be admitted to a formal program of study (Specialist, Major, and/or Minor) until after first year.

Sneak Peek

Begin your acting career on the right foot. In DRS121H5 you'll receive Vocal, Physical, Textual, and Improvisational training. What is the relationship between a performance and its associated written text? Discover the techniques of dramaturgical analysis in DRE222H5.

Our students work on two to three productions per year in the Erindale Studio Theatre. In first and second year, production duties consist of backstage as well as technical and front-of-house work. In third year, students advance to supporting roles, and further prove their abilities through the Devised project. In fourth year, responsibilities progress to mostly featured roles, and a dramaturgical study of the plays.

Student Recruitment & Admissions

Innovation Complex, Room 1270
University of Toronto Mississauga
3359 Mississauga Rd
Mississauga ON Canada L5L 1C6

905-828-5400
www.utm.utoronto.ca/future-students

