Students in the Fine & Performing Arts Concentration Theater Option Associate in Arts, Liberal Arts and Sciences degree program are prepared to transfer to a college, university or conservatory. Students are introduced to the interdisciplinary nature of the theater, in conjunction with a well rounded liberal arts and science curriculum. Onstage and offstage skills are acquired in the classroom and applied in MCC Theater Department productions. This program qualifies for MassTransfer, which guarantees credit transfer to Massachusetts state colleges and the University of Massachusetts.

EXPLORING YOUR OPTIONS WITH ACADEMIC ADVISING

Throughout each semester, meet with your advisor so that he/she can guide you through a self-exploration process that will help you identify your academic and career interests.

Beginning of Semester:

___ Schedule an appointment to meet with your academic advisor during the first few weeks to discuss future plans and how a Fine & Performing Arts Concentration Theater Option Associate in Arts, Liberal Arts and Sciences degree can help you achieve your goals.

___ Explore your personal interests by completing Focus2, an online career assessment tool: https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/careerservices/focus2.aspx

Mid-Semester:

___ Schedule an appointment with academic advisor review your academic progress, Focus2 results and create an academic plan in Degree Works.

Before Semester Ends:

___ Schedule an appointment to discuss and register for the classes you will take the following semester. (early November for spring, early April for fall and summer).

___ Visit the Academic Career & Transfer Center or call 1-800-818-3434 to schedule an appointment.

FINE & PERFORMING ARTS CONCENTRATION THEATER OPTION ASSOCIATE PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Graduates of the program are prepared to:

■ Understand and implement the various artistic and technical aspects required for performance;

■ Analyze and understand creative work;

■ Demonstrate knowledge of the performing arts in societal and cultural contexts;

■ Use the critical vocabulary to evaluate performance;

■ Engage in the collaborative and cooperative process of theater.
IS THE FINE & PERFORMING ARTS CONCENTRATION THEATER OPTION THE RIGHT FIT FOR ME?

Answer the following questions to determine whether you have the skills and abilities to thrive in the theatre major. Circle yes or no for each question.

A. Are you able to listen to others? Yes or No
B. Do you enjoy working in a competitive environment? Yes or No
C. Can you easily understand written material? Yes or No
D. Do you enjoy taking on new challenges? Yes or No
E. If you were faced with a problem that seemed impossible to solve, would you try to solve it anyway? Yes or No
F. Are you sensitive to others reactions and feelings? Yes or No
G. Do you enjoy collaborating as part of a team? Yes or No
H. Are you able to maintain your composure in stressful situations? Yes or No
I. Can others count on you to always be where you’re supposed to be and on time? Yes or No
J. Are you comfortable with regular contact with others? Yes or No
K. Do you react reasonably to change? Yes or No
L. Are you able to articulate your opinions and feelings orally? Yes or No
M. Do you consider yourself to be creative? Yes or No
N. Are you willing to set challenging goals for yourself and work hard at achieving those goals? Yes or No

If you answered yes to most of these questions then keep reading!

THE CAREER PATH

A college degree will not guarantee you a position in the world of theatre, but it is the best way to prepare yourself and to increase your chances in the job market. There is intense competition and finding a way to set yourself above the rest is crucial to your success. A degree in theatre can help provide you with that.

A student concentrating in theatre will emerge from the experience more knowledgeable, confident, sensitive, and aware of the benefits of cooperating and sharing with others. Study in the theatre arts offers exposure to creative dramatic expression, primarily in front of live audiences. It involves study of all types of artistic performance in theaters, in educational institutions, on TV, in movies, and outdoors. All major aspects of performance preparation are studied. Major areas of specialization include: acting, directing, theatre history and criticism, playwriting, design, theatre technology, and theatre education.
THE CAREER PATH (CONTINUED)

Example of Careers: Actor, Director, Comedian, Theatre Educator, Technical Director, Producer, Casting Agent, Stage Manager, Costume Designer, Set Designer, Lighting Designer, Playwright, Drama Therapist, Dramaturg (a professional position within a theatre or opera company that deals mainly with research and development of plays or operas), Company Manager, Voice-over Artist, Arts Administrator, Children’s Theatre, and Theatre Critic.

Some employers of Theatre Majors: Community organizations, educational/cultural institutions, fundraising firms, television/radio/film, production companies, colleges, universities, schools, theatres, touring companies, arts councils, libraries, performing arts organizations, amusement and theme parks, cruise lines, film companies, and entertainment law firms.

Career Planning Activities:
___ Work with career advisor to create resume, cover letter and help improve your interview skills
___ Identify internship and volunteer opportunities in your desired field
___ Attend career workshops and job fairs

THE TRANSFER PATH

The Fine & Performing Arts Concentration Theater Option prepares students for work in the field or transfer to specialized bachelor's degree programs or nonacademic programs. Graduates are also fully prepared to audition or interview in the highly competitive, professional marketplace, as well as in community theatre. Some students, who are already employed in the field, enter the program to build a resume with MCC Theatre Department productions. If transferring, students should check the requirements of the transfer institution and meet with career and academic/transfer counselors at MCC for specific program planning.

Transfer Planning Activities:
___ Work with an advisor to discuss MassTransfer, Articulations and transfer agreements.
___ Visit your selected campuses in person. Every college looks good online or in a glossy photo, but you can get a better feel when you visit.
___ Meet with a transfer counselor to identify transfer scholarships.
___ Research admissions requirements and deadlines at four-year colleges and universities.