Student Success Map

B.A. in Theatre Arts
Music and Theatre Department

Essentials for Every Semester

- Mandatory major advising is required prior to registration each semester.
- For general course selection, consult Advisers in SSC 220.
- Meet deadlines to register, pay fees, and apply for financial aid.
- Check your DPR. Are you on-track to meet requirements?
- Complete a sufficient number of units each term (15–16 units) to graduate in four years. Some programs require more.
- Check your Student Center prior to registration for registration holds and updating your personal info.
- Check your Student Center in the first two weeks of classes to confirm your class schedule and that all adds and drops have been processed as you expected.
- Check your Student Center after each semester for grades and academic standing. If your GPA drops below a 2.0, consult an Advisor.

FRESHMAN

Learn where to find and how to use campus resources such as the Student Learning Center, Health Center, Academic Advising, Wellness Center, Writing Center, and your faculty advisor.

Visit each of your instructors during their office hours. Make a point to get to know your professors.

Obtain your Major Academic Plan (MAP). It will enable you and your advisor to plan for the course selection/rotation schedule. Start planning how to navigate your four years, especially if you are a double major.

If you need preparatory math and/or English courses, complete them in your first year.

See if you can qualify to work for School of the Arts and other work study possibilities.

Visit the Student Activities Office and get involved with a club or organization, such as Ink Blot Arts or Momentum Dance Collective. Check out the Freshman Leadership Opportunity (FLO). Look into joining the honors program.

Read the Book in Common (BIC) and participate in BIC activities.

SOPHOMORE

Know how to use your Degree Progress Report (DPR) in your Student Center. Go to Academic Advising for help with GE and your major advisor for program-specific issues.

Complete your GE Foundation courses and major foundation courses (THEA 150, 160, 170, and 250). Explore GE Pathways. Consider completing an interdisciplinary minor within your GE. Consult an advisor for help.

Consider an internship to explore your major and build professional skills. Internships provide you with valuable work experience prior to graduation. Consider spending your summer in a session or two with award-winning artists of CSU Summer Arts—applications are available in the spring semester.

Increase your involvement within the department; audition, run a show, assistant design or stage management. Staying active is a key component of success.

Explore Study Abroad opportunities. Attend an info meeting they offer every semester. Consider National Student Exchange. London, Paris, and Italy have all been popular destinations.

JUNIOR

Apply for graduation one year in advance of your expected graduation date.

Begin your Upper Division GE Pathway courses.

Complete the Writing Proficiency course (THEA 553) in the fall semester.

Consider if you will be declaring a minor, and if so, get paperwork in progress.

Attend one of the regional or national conventions which support theatre arts, for example: Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF) or the United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT). Conferences are typically held in spring.

Consider asking to TA for a class.

Talk with faculty about taking on larger projects such as designing or assistant directing on productions.

Review your involvement, leadership, and cultural resumes. Have you participated in on- or off-campus activities such as clubs, community service, recreational opportunities, musical, dramatic or cultural performances, lectures or forums?

Hopefully you are studying abroad here!

Application for summer internships with regional and summer theatre companies to build your work experience and connections.

Start researching places for employment in the performing arts and consider visiting cities to see what New York City, Los Angeles, and other popular theatre towns have to offer.

Consider employment or internship with international companies or cruise lines—see the world while performing!

Take GRE or other appropriate exams. Apply for graduate/professional school.

Plan to attend the University Resident Theatre Auditions in spring for graduate school.

SENIOR

Confirm graduation progress with an evaluator, your major advisor, and the advisors in SSC 220.

Finish all major requirements, minor requirements, and any extraneous courses.

Network with recent graduates, other alumni, advisory boards, and other potential employers as you plan your next steps into the theatrical community.

Consider employment or internship with international companies or cruise lines—see the world while performing!

Take GRE or other appropriate exams. Apply for graduate/professional school.

Plan to attend the University Resident Theatre Auditions in spring for graduate school.

Graduation and Beyond

Entertainment Industry

- Event Planning and Management
- Cruise Lines
- Theme Parks
- Film and Television Acting, Technology, and Production
- Writing for Television and Film
- Interactive Media Design and Production

Theatre Industry

- Performance
- Technical Production and Design
- Arts Administration and Management

Think Globally

Get Good Advice

Take the Right Classes

Apply What You Learn

Connect with Peers

Prepare for Life After Graduation