

# **ACTING**

## **THESIS OBJECTIVES:**

- To deepen and specify a personal approach to creating theater.
- To apply practiced techniques and creative research to the process and production.
- To cultivate a professional, collaborative, and creative process.
- To analyze text and identify its structural components in order to make informed and creative choices.
- To contribute to a safe and brave learning space.
- To develop a professional approach to the production process.
- To reflect on the process and production experience and describe an artistic approach through the creation of a portfolio with post-graduate connections.
- (or) To reflect on the process and production experience and describe an artistic approach through academic writing.

## **PART I. STATEMENT OF INTENT & PROPOSAL**

**Statement of Intent:** Prior to being invited by the department, students must submit their written statement of intent and proposal, including the preferred semester of their capstone work, **by February 1<sup>st</sup> of their Junior year.**

**Submit a 3-5 page proposal** stating as clearly as possible (note: all preliminary work must be satisfactorily completed and submitted to your **Advisor before the end of the previous semester.** Failure to do so may result in losing your acting slot and completing a written thesis instead):

1. **Statement of Purpose:** What are your acting goals (your ongoing development as a theater artist), and how can this creative project serve them? What areas do you hope to continue to develop and why?
2. **Propose a play or character** that you'd like to act in/prepare with a rationale as to why this would be positive for your development. You might include past roles/productions/theater training experiences that have led you to this place. Make your case.
3. **Tools/Techniques:** What are the tools/techniques you'll be employing/deepening throughout your process and how do you foresee your approach to your rehearsal/creative time (reflect on your previous two productions and class explorations)?
4. **Double Majors:** Inform us if you're a double major and any pertinent information regarding what semester you hope to complete it, other thesis requirements, etc.

**PART II. THEATER PROJECT:** During Fall and/or Winter of Senior Year you will complete a project in acting, designing, directing or playwriting; the parameters of which are developed in conversation with your adviser. This is the core content and experience of the thesis.

- Discussion of venue, format, and timeline of the project will be decided in collaboration with the advisor and the department by **April 1<sup>st</sup> of your Junior year.**

### **PART III. WEBSITE/PORTFOLIO OPTIONS**

The portfolio will comprise, *as appropriate*, most or all of the following:

- **Artist Statement (one page): Some possible points:**
  - What matters to you as a theater artist?
  - What were your artistic goals with your creative project?
  - Your overall vision.
  - What you expect from your audience and how they will react.
  - How your current work relates to your previous work.
  - Sources and inspiration for your images.
  - Theater artists you have been influenced by or how your work relates to other artists' work. Other influences.
  - How a certain technique is important to the work.
  - Your philosophy of art making or of the work's origin.
- **Dramaturgy:**
  - research placing the project in historical and theoretical context
  - script analysis
  - character analysis
  - process analysis
- **Methodology & Creative Process Reflection.** Discuss how you pursued your goals and honestly self-evaluate your creative process. For example:
  - What did you do in the rehearsal process to create your project?
  - How did you prepare for rehearsal and how did this relate to your artistic goals?
  - Critical evaluation of your theatre process, including collaborative aspects of the creative process and your product.
  - Outcome of your piece in terms of performance objectives and audience response (if applicable).
  - What would you do differently in any area if you could do it over again, and why?
- **Bates Journey & Beyond:** How would you describe your artistic journey here at Bates in how you approach your respective area and how this might impact your future.
- **Appendices.** Supporting materials contributing to an understanding of your creative project. For example (links to):
  - **Visual Research**
  - **Innovative practice samples (script analysis, other techniques, etc)**
  - **Poster**
  - **Program**
  - **Photographs & Video Clips**
  - **Samples of rehearsal/performance journals**
  - **Scored Script Analysis Sample**-scan two scenes/portions from the theater piece and score using the appropriate tools such as -objective, obstacles, tactics, beats, notes, blocking, design considerations, applied methodology.

**The website/portfolio (and its format) should be as creative, varied and inspired as the creative project.**