

PLAYWRITING

THESIS OBJECTIVES:

- To research, write, and develop a full length play through several drafts
- To organize, attend, and learn from a professional reading of the final draft.
- To demonstrate knowledge of the following playwriting elements:
 - Plot
 - Story
 - Dialogue
 - Action
 - Setting
 - Theme
 - Conflict
- To demonstrate knowledge of the objective/obstacle relationship.
- To incorporate director and actor feedback into the writing process.
- To develop and reflect upon the creative process involved in creating the final draft.
- To demonstrate knowledge of script analysis.
- To demonstrate and articulate the role of the playwright in theater.

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 1st of their Junior year.**

Submit a 3-5 page proposal stating as clearly as possible:

1. **Statement of Purpose:** What are your playwriting goals (your ongoing development as a theater artist), and how can this creative project serve them?
2. **Propose three possible play ideas** in order of preference that you'd like to explore.
3. **Tools/Techniques:** What are the tools/techniques you'll be employing throughout your process and how do you foresee your approach to your rehearsal/creative time (reflect on your 360 experience)?
4. **Projected Timeline:** Outline a timeline for your theater project including research, dramaturgy, stages of the development process (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 directing slot and completing a written thesis instead.)
5. **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 March 1st of your Junior year.

PART III. WEBITE/PORTFOLIO OPTIONS

PLAYWRITING Students:

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

- **Statement of Purpose.** What were your artistic goals with your creative project, and how did this capstone serve them?
- **Dramaturgy:**
 - research placing the project in historical and theoretical context
 - script development analysis
 - character development analysis
 - process analysis
 - A copy of each draft to show the progression of the project.
- **Methodology & Creative Process Reflection.** Discuss how you pursued your goals and honestly self-evaluate your creative process. For example:
 - How did your project change from draft to draft?
 - How did you use your research to prepare for writing your project?
 - What was learned from each reading of the project during the creative process?
- **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:
 - **Visual Research**
 - **Previous Drafts (at least two)**
 - **Program for final reading**
 - **Submission Preparation**-Choose at least three organizations, contests, or festivals towards which you will submit your project.