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## THEATRE (Ph.D.)

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*Executive Officer:* Professor Jean Graham-Jones

The Graduate Center

365 Fifth Avenue

New York, NY 10016

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URL: <http://web.gc.cuny.edu/Theatre/>

### **FACULTY (AS OF JULY 2009)**

Mirella J. Affron ■ William Francis Boddy ■ Jane Palatini Bowers ■ Jonathan Buchsbaum ■ Marvin A. Carlson ■ Morris Dickstein ■ Mira L. Felner ■ Daniel C. Gerould ■ David A. Gerstner ■ Jean Graham-Jones ■ Alison M. Griffiths ■ Heather Hendershot ■ Jonathan Kalb ■ Stuart Liebman ■ Ivone Margulies ■ Paula J. Massood ■ Judith Milhous ■ Claudia D. Orenstein ■ Joyce Rheuban ■ James M. Saslow ■ David Savran ■ Elisabeth Weis ■ Maurya Wickstrom ■ David P. Willinger ■ James F. Wilson

*For the most up-to-date faculty listings and specializations, see the program's Web site.*

### **THE PROGRAM**

The Ph.D. Program in Theatre at the Graduate Center is designed to develop scholars with a broad theoretical background and demonstrated research ability in dramatic theory and criticism, dramatic structure, and history of theatre and performance. Advanced work is offered in theatre and performance of the Americas, Europe, Asia, and the Arab world. Although the program's emphasis is on primary research, an attempt is made, whenever possible, to bridge the gap between theatre as an area of knowledge and as a performing art and to form an alliance of understanding between the scholar and the practitioner.

The program's faculty, consisting of distinguished scholars as well as critics of the professional theatre, is very much concerned with the professional opportunities and careers available to its students. Students are encouraged to take full advantage of the resources of the Graduate Center as well as to explore avenues of interdisciplinary cooperation.

Doctoral courses include seminars in movements (such as romanticism, realism, or the avant-garde), themes (such as theatre and science or metatheatre), genres (such as melodrama, musical theatre, or opera), theory (such as gender, postcolonial, reception, or sociology of culture), comparative drama (such as medieval, Middle Eastern, or Golden Age Spanish/colonial Latin American), theatre history and production (such as eighteenth-century British drama and theatre, history of scenic design, or studies in the current season), and film (such as African American film, holocaust film, or the cyborg and technologies of imagination).

Advanced doctoral seminars may also be taken at New York University and Columbia University through the Interuniversity Doctoral Consortium.

Directed independent study and externships in theatre for credit are also available.

***Resources for Training and Research***

New York City, with its professional theatre specialists, institutions, and productions, its library and museum facilities, its archives and private collections, is an unusually rich resource. Students have easy access to such special research facilities as the theatre, film, music, and dance collections of Lincoln Center, the facilities of the Players' Club, the International Theatre Institute Archives, the numerous art galleries and museums, the central research facilities of the New York Public Library, and the many other cultural activities that New York City has to offer.

In addition to these general resources, the Martin E. Segal Theatre Center, located at the Graduate Center, embraces disciplinary and interdisciplinary projects in theatre, dance, and film and serves as the research and communications center of the Ph.D Program in Theatre. The Segal Center incorporates and replaces the Center for Advanced Study in Theatre Arts (CASTA).

***En-route M.A.***

Upon completing 45 credits with an average grade of B, passing the First Examination, and satisfactorily completing a major research paper, the student may apply for an M.A. degree. The degree is awarded formally by one of the participating senior CUNY colleges.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION**

In addition to meeting the general University requirements stated earlier in this bulletin, the applicant must present an appropriate undergraduate background, as judged by the Admissions Committee. Each student admitted to the program will be expected to present 21 hours in the following: 12 hours of course work in dramatic literature, criticism, or history of the theatre; 9 hours of course work in directing, acting, and design. Actual production experience may be considered an equivalent for the latter 9 hours. If students are deficient in any area, or areas, they will be asked to remove such deficiencies.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY**

In addition to the general University requirements stated earlier in this bulletin, the student must complete the following requirements.

*Course of Study* A minimum of 60 credits of approved course work is required for a Ph.D. in theatre. The student must follow a course of study approved by his or her mentor. This program will include a concentration in the history of the theatre, in dramatic structure, and in dramatic theory and criticism, with appropriate supporting courses from corollary fields. The following courses or their equivalents are required of all students before the First Examination: Theatre Research (to be completed during the first semester of study), Contextual and Intertextual Studies in the Drama, History of Theatrical Theory. All students who pass the First Examination are required to take Advanced Theatre Research: Methodology and Current Debates. A minimum of five advanced doctoral courses are required for the degree.

With the approval of their mentor, students may take a maximum of 12 credits in appropriate disciplines cognate to their areas of specialization (e.g., in history, English, philosophy,

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political science). No more than 9 credits in production courses may be credited toward the doctorate.

*First Examination* The First Examination, a written and oral qualifying examination covering general knowledge of the field, is to be taken after students have completed 30 credits of graduate work and must be passed by the time they have completed 45 credits.

Foreign Language Students must demonstrate a reading knowledge of two appropriate foreign languages through one of the procedures described in the program's student handbook. They are not required to retake examinations in languages that they have passed for the M.A. degree.

*Second Examination* The Second Examination may be taken only after students have completed all other requirements except the dissertation. This examination will test in depth the student's knowledge of three areas of advanced study.

*Dissertation* Under the supervision of a faculty member, the student will complete a dissertation. The completed dissertation must be approved by the faculty director and two other faculty members appointed by the Executive Officer in consultation with the sponsor. Candidates must defend their dissertations before an examining committee consisting of members of the doctoral faculty in theatre, and other examiners as appropriate.

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## Courses

Unless otherwise stated, all courses are *30 hours plus conferences, 3 credits*.

### ***Dramatic Theory and Criticism***

THEA 70100 Theatre Research

THEA 70300 Contextual and Intertextual Studies in the Drama

THEA 70600 History of Theatrical Theory

THEA 71400 Aesthetics of the Film

THEA 71500 History of Cinema I: 1895 to 1930

THEA 71600 History of Cinema II: 1930 to the Present

THEA 80200 Seminar in Dramatic Genre

*May be repeated for credit when subject changes*

THEA 80300 Seminar in Theatre Theory and Criticism

*May be repeated for credit when subject changes*

THEA 81400 Studies in the Current Season

THEA 81500 Seminar in Film Studies

*May be repeated for credit when subject changes*

THEA 81600 Seminar in Film Theory: Theories of the Cinema

*3 hours, 3 credits*

THEA 82000 Special Topics in Theatre and Popular Entertainment

### ***Theatre History and Production***

THEA 85200\* Seminar in Theatre History and Production

*May be repeated for credit when subject changes*

- THEA 85300 Seminar in a National Theatre  
*May be repeated for credit when subject changes*
- THEA 85400 Seminar in Comparative Drama  
*May be repeated for credit when subject changes*
- THEA 85500\* Visual Elements of the Theatre
- THEA 85700 Seminar in Contemporary Performance Theory and Technique  
*May be repeated for credit when subject changes*
- THEA 86000\* Theatre in Society  
*May be repeated for credit when subject changes*
- THEA 86100\* History of the American Theatre

**General Courses**

- THEA 72500\* Studies in Theatre  
*Hours vary, 3 credits*  
*May be repeated for credit when subject changes*
- THEA 80400 Advanced Theatre Research: Methodology and Current Debates  
*Prerequisite: Successful completion of the First Examination*
- THEA 82500 Directed Independent Study  
*3 credits*  
*May be repeated for credit for different topics*
- THEA 83000 Externship in Theatre  
*Hours vary, 3 to 6 credits*
- THEA 90000 Dissertation Supervision  
*1 credit*

\*offered infrequently