Get ready for a high-performance career.

SFA’s pre-professional Bachelor of Fine Arts degree concentration in acting and directing provides intensive preparation for professional performance work. Admission is competitive, by audition (normally at the end of the sophomore year). Students who emphasize acting typically take at least 12 courses specifically in performance before embarking on an internship at a major professional theatre or a sequence of intensive study at leading European conservatories. Highly motivated students focusing on directing take a pair of courses in their sub-discipline. They may then direct a short play, a fully produced one-act play with multiple ticketed performances for the paying public and sometimes even a full-length play. Then they head out on an internship or a year of study abroad. All are urged to participate in our extensive production programs as actors, assistant directors and more. No SFA student ever competes with a graduate student in theatre for an opportunity to act or direct, and new students (including freshmen) are encouraged to audition from day one.

Audition for over 20 shows a year:
- 12 to 16 student-directed studio-scale 10-minute plays each year
- Six to eight student-directed black-box one-act and full-length plays each year
- Six or more faculty- or professionally directed shows each year

Key courses available include:
- Beginning and Intermediate Acting
- Advanced Acting (period styles)
- Acting for the Camera
- Theatre Speech (voice and diction)
- Advanced Theatre Speech (verse)
- Dialects
- Stage Movement I and II
- Stage Makeup
- Auditions
- Introduction to Play Directing
- Advanced Directing
- Play Analysis
- Advanced Play Analysis
- Repertory Theatre (summer only)
- Theatre Projects (acting or directing)
- Practicum (year-long internship)
- Theatre Cooperative (study abroad)
- Independent Studies

theatre.sfasu.edu
Students who concentrate on acting and directing at SFA find constant opportunities for enrichment of their education and training. Recent guest professionals have included Emmy Award-winning actors Margo Martindale and Anthony Zerbe (pictured above), Tony Award-nominated musical theatre actor (Something Rotten!) and playwright (Almost, Maine) John Cariani, renowned screen actor Julian Sands (The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo), acclaimed actor/coach Richard Robichaux (Boyhood and The Book of Love), Hollywood casting director Gabrielle Berberich and director/writer Ted Swindley (Always, Patsy Cline).

Other recent guest professionals have given workshops on musical theatre improvisation, Balinese mask work, voice acting and more. A two-time Daytime Emmy Award-nominated actor, an award-winning film actor, and a critically acclaimed Off-Broadway and regional theatre director are on our faculty.

**Production opportunities** of all kinds are practically boundless at SFA. Beyond the Mainstage Series that includes major musicals, Shakespeare, contemporary comedy and modern drama, there is our SummerStage Festival with its children’s theatre and light fare and the Festival of New American Plays in which SFA students work directly with world-famous playwrights on their newest creations. In recent years we’ve added a broadcast (and podcast) radio drama to our repertoire. Most of our smaller-cast plays are student-directed. All theatre majors work behind the scenes in a variety of ways and are encouraged to audition for everything. Other departments of the university offer chances to act in student films, work on dance and opera, learn the ropes as “talent” in radio and television and even simulate trauma victims in disaster scenarios. SFA’s comedy-improvisation club, Improv Strikes Back, performs on campus and in local venues.

Students in SFA’s acting and directing concentration are strongly connected to American professional theatre and the international scene. Every year students from abroad travel to Texas to study with our acclaimed faculty and work on our productions. Nearly all B.F.A. students complete a practicum lasting a full academic year. Recent graduates have interned with major professional companies such as Dallas Children’s Theater, Arizona Theatre Company in Tucson, Porchlight Music Theatre in Chicago, Abingdon Theatre Company in NYC or Houston’s Tony Award-winning Alley Theatre. Alternatively, it may consist of study at London’s leading international drama school, Rose Bruford College. RBC’s European Theatre Arts program places these students for part of the spring semester at top conservatories such as Spain’s Institut del Teatre or Estonia’s national performing arts school. Scholarship support is available for this life-changing study abroad experience.

**SFA’S THEATRE FACULTY** includes deeply experienced professional actors and directors as well as award-winning teachers. Every SFA theatre graduate has an excellent broad education in all aspects of theatre and a strong liberal arts core. Our alumni include successful actors and directors on stages and screens large and small. And our current students are the friendliest, hardest working, most talented and most mutually supportive bunch you’ll encounter anywhere. Find us at facebook.com/SFATheatre and they will tell you themselves what it’s like to go to school here.