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 up to 30 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
- Eight or nine 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. In 2011-12, students performed alongside award-winning classical actor David Studwell in productions of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (staged by internationally acclaimed guest director Chuck Hudson) and Chekhov's *Three Sisters*. They also participated in a casting/agent workshop with award-winning actor/coach Richard Robichaux (who recently appeared in the movie *Bernie*). In 2010-11, each BFA acting major got a private individual masterclass with Emmy Award-winner, film veteran and theatre legend Anthony Zerbe (pictured above lecturing a group of SFA students). In 2009-10, guest teachers included Arkansas Repertory Theatre producing artistic director Robert Hupp on career development. Other recent guest professionals have given workshops on musical theatre, Balinese mask work, voice acting and more.

Production opportunities of all kinds are practically boundless at SFA. Beyond the Mainstage series that includes major musicals, Shakespeare, modern comedy and drama, there is Summer Rep with its children's theatre and light fare, our musical comedy troupe, The Fredonia Players, 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 BFA students complete a practicum lasting a full academic year. This may be an internship with a major professional company such as Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Dallas Children's Theater 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. Extraordinary 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 [www.facebook.com/SFATheatre](http://www.facebook.com/SFATheatre) and they will tell you themselves what it's like to go to school here.