What can I do with a Major in…

**Major:** Theatre Arts

**O*net Outlook Link to Career Titles**

- Art, Drama, and Music Teachers, Postsecondary
- Recreational Therapists
- Self-Enrichment Education Teachers
- Directors- Stage, Motion Pictures, Television, and Radio
- Communications Teachers, Postsecondary
- Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Vocational Education
- Actors
- Creative Writers
- Agents and Business Managers of Artists, Performers, and Athletes
- Historians
- Reporters and Correspondents
- Recreation Workers
- Cartoonists
- Singers
- Poets and Lyricists
- Film and Video Editors
- Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education
- Adult Literacy, Remedial Education, and GED Teachers and Instructors
- Art Directors
- Painters and Illustrators
- English Language and Literature Teachers, Postsecondary
- Sound Engineering Technicians
- Managers, All Other
- Audio and Video Equipment Technicians
- Grips and Set-Up Workers, Motion Picture Sets, Studios, and Stages
- Government Service Executives
- Education Administrators, Elementary and Secondary School
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Vocational Education

Special Education Teachers, Preschool, Kindergarten, and Elementary School

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities Learned with this Degree:

**Knowledge:**
Fine Arts
English language
Communications and media
Computers, electronics, telecommunications
Administration and management
Design
Construction and building

**Skills:**
Imagination & creativity
Oral communications
Interpersonal skills
Interpretive skills
Presentation skills
Reading, writing and editing
Operation and control
Troubleshooting
Problem solving
Time management
Repairing
Management of resources

**Abilities:**
Adaptability
Attention to detail
Visualization
Arm-hand steadiness

**Links:**
Job Search Websites:
Playbill.com
Backstage: The Actors Resource
Theatre Jobs
Showbiz Jobs
PropPeople.com

Associations:
American Association of Community Theatre
League of American Theatres and Producers
University Players
Digital Librarian: Performing Arts
Lighting & Electronics, Inc.
Backstage World
International Organization of Scenographers, Theatre Architects, and Technicians
Description of Coursework:

As a theatre arts major, you will take courses in costuming, history, stagecraft, stage lighting, stage management and theatrical makeup. You will also gain practical experience in many of these areas through laboratory work. You will learn how to use body and voice in performing and how to prepare plays for performance. You will study actors, plays and playwrights from Africa, Asia and the Middle East, as well as those from Europe and North America. Students have the opportunity to perform and direct throughout their four years of study. They work with faculty, guest and student directors and choreographers.

Students may pursue a bachelor of arts with a major in theatre arts, a bachelor of fine arts with a major in theatre and a concentration in either acting or design/technology or a bachelor of fine arts in musical theatre with concentrations in acting, dance or singing.

UNT’s theatre arts faculty includes outstanding teachers as well as outstanding performers and researchers. One faculty member has served as costume designer for the Houston Grand Opera and the Long Beach Opera, among others, and received a Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award. Another faculty member has studied with internationally renowned theatre philosopher Jerzy Grotowski in Poland, and another has worked as an adjudicator and critic for the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. Several grants have been awarded to another faculty member to provide theatre for youth outreach programs.

In addition to a faculty dedicated to students’ success, the department offers student organizations that will enhance undergraduate studies. UNT has chapters of Alpha Psi Omega, a national honors fraternity for theatre, and the University Players, a service organization. They sponsor educational workshops and bring guest speakers to campus.

A number of scholarships are available to students majoring in theatre arts. They are awarded competitively on individual criteria of academic excellence and professionalism, as designated by the scholarship donors. http://www.unt.edu/pais/insert/udram.htm

General information on Careers in the Major:

A UNT degree with a major in theatre arts will prepare you for a career on the stage as either an actor or a director. It can also lead you to a place behind the scenes as a stage manager or a lighting, costume, makeup, scenery or sound designer or technician. You can also participate in productions as a wardrobe technician or a member of the stage crew. Other areas of study include theatre history and dramaturgy.

As a professional working in any facet of theatre, you will be prepared with a UNT degree for work in regional theatre companies and commercial productions, or for work in television or films. A theatre arts degree can also prepare you to teach theatre at the elementary, secondary or university level, although you will need to earn a graduate degree in theatre arts if you plan to teach at a college or university.

You can combine your degree with studies in journalism and become a theatre arts critic or writer, or you could work in entertainment public relations. Or combine a degree in theatre arts with a law degree, and you may work as an entertainment lawyer and negotiate contracts for the stars.
UNT’s theatre arts alumni include actors Peter Weller, known for his role in Robocop, and Thomas Haden Church, who played Lowell Mather on NBC-TV’s Wings. Numerous others have found successful careers on the stage and in the entertainment industry.

UNT’s Office of Career Services can help you prepare to pursue your career. The office has information about jobs and employers. It assists with resume and letter writing, job search strategies and interview preparation. [http://careercenter.unt.edu/](http://careercenter.unt.edu/)

[http://www.unt.edu/pais/insert/udram.htm](http://www.unt.edu/pais/insert/udram.htm)