MFA Technical Production
AT FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

The Master of Fine Arts in Technical Production

Technical Production Opportunities

Possible FSU Production Assignments
First Year
• Assistant Technical Director
• Technical Director for a Lab or Studio show
Second Year
• One or two Technical Production assignments: Lab, Studio or Mainstage production
Third Year
• Creative thesis, Various outside internship possibilities

Theatre Facilities
Fallon Theatre
Large proscenium stage with 490 seats and full stage turntable
Lab Theatre
Small, intimate flexible stage with 150 seats
Studio Theatre
Smaller proscenium stage with 190 seats
Annex Theatre
Proscenium stage / rehearsal space

Assistantship (20 hours per week)
Assistantship includes a tuition waiver for nine hours for each semester plus a stipend of approximately $12,000 for the year. Students must acquire in-state resident status by the end of their first year.

Teaching
While at FSU, students may be given the opportunity to teach undergraduate courses.

Semester Review
MFA Qualifying Exam
Each semester faculty review student’s progress regarding their performance on productions, class work, portfolio development and resume.

Productions and Practicum Work
One unique feature of the study at FSU is the practicum program. Practicum acknowledges the legitimacy of unique artistic production-oriented work not normally equated with classroom course work. The practicum program allows students and their advisers to plan and execute an individualized track to meet the students’ particular needs, interests and career goals.

Internships
Various internships available (recently, Asolo Conservatory, David Hearn/Flying by Foy, Opera New Jersey, Chicago Shakespeare Theatre).

Thesis Defense
Creative thesis is completed in the third year. Typically a Mainstage Technical Production, but may be other large project. Portfolio review: All work done while in graduate school—class work, special projects, and technical production work supporting students’ “arc of development” over 3 year residency to justify the award of Master of Fine Arts in Technical Theatre.

The School of Theatre at Florida State
For additional information about the program, the faculty, and how to apply, please visit: http://theatre.fsu.edu/graduate.
Select Classes

Structural Design for the Stage I & II
Structures I, II - Strength of materials and engineering techniques using non-calculus math

Technical Production I & II
Explores the production process from script choice to load out.

Electricity and Electronics
Introduction to electricity and electronics primarily used in the entertainment industry for lighting, sound, automation, and show control.

Physics for the Stage
An introduction to the physics of moving scenery for the design of stage machinery.

Advanced Technical Drafting
An in depth study of AutoCAD 2013 to increase proficiency as well as communication through technical drawings.

Stage Rigging
An analysis of safe rigging practices, equipment, and loading constraints for permanent and temporary theatrical rigging.

Leadership and Management
Study of management techniques and the elements of effective leadership.

Selected electives, Directed Independent Study, and Selected Topics also available, according to individual student needs.

Equipment and Facilities

Scene Shop
Newly renovated 35,000 Sq. ft. well-equipped carpentry and metalworking Scenic Studio. All standard tools plus cold cut metal saw, Hossfeld bender, ShopBot CNC router, Bridgeport Vertical Milling machine.

Electromechanical Laboratory
An automation and show control classroom equipped to support motion and show control training. Equipment includes: Oscilloscopes, Function generators, Hydraulic Power Units, Full pneumatic capabilities, Show Control and Projection gear, Programming and control software (such as Automation Studio and DirectSoft), Direct Logic PLCs (Programmable Logic Controllers), and AC/DC motors.

Motion Control Equipment
Hudson Scenic Studios Digital Winch Units, Goddard Design Analog VDC Winch Units, Numerous AC and DC winches, Wide range of hydraulic and pneumatic equipment, and the Fallon Theatre stage has built-in full stage revolve (dia.30').

Projection Equipment
Three Sanyo 6400 lumen projectors, 2000:1 contrast, ethernet control, Four WATCHOUT Computers – Dual Core, GeForce 8800, Video Capture, 500GB, DVI-Ethernet extensions, and KVM Switch and Extender (ethernet) for flexibility during technical rehearsals.

Application and Admission
Prospective students must schedule an interview with Robert Coleman. Interviews can be held at the School of Theatre in Tallahassee by appointment. Robert Coleman will also be available for interviews at URTA Chicago, and the USITT Conference in Fort Worth. A campus visit is very strongly encouraged.

For admissions procedures contact the Office of Academic and Student Services at 850.644.7234.

Faculty and Staff

Robert H. Coleman
Program Director, MFA Technical Production Program

Jim Lile
Assistant Professor of MFA Technical Production

Joshua Wickham
Production Manager

Colin Campbell
Scenic Studio Manager

Jason Strom
Scenic Charge/Paint Shop Manager

Zachery Cramer
Sound Designer

Ombra Sandifer
Director of Production

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Technical Production at Florida State
See our shop and works in progress on Facebook - Search FSU Technical Production.
Find us on Flickr at www.flickr.com/photos/sottechnicalproduction/sets