Theatre Studies

The Theatre Studies Programme trains students in the critical understanding and practice of theatre, in the context of the conjunctions of Western and Asian theatres in Singapore. After foundational training in the core histories, forms, methods and issues that have shaped contemporary theatre practices, the curriculum develops the scope of theatre studies by addressing performance in other mediums - such as film - and cultural practices that can be studied as performances, such as social rituals and popular television. In your foundational module, you will be introduced to the theoretical underpinnings of theatre, including its history, dramaturgy and contemporary theories of performance. This is complemented by practical work in voice, acting and collaborative presentations. Subsequently, students select modules from three main strands: Timeframes, Cultural Practices, and Perspectives on Performance. The modules offered in these strands include Introduction to Asian Theatre, Major Playwrights, Voice Studies and Production, As If: Actors and Acting, Performance and Popular Culture, and Cultural Performance in Asia. The programme emphasises the integration of theory and practice throughout its curriculum and features a Professional Theatre Internship module which offers on-the-job attachment for students who wish to undertake professional immersion. Graduates in Theatre Studies are well-trained for a variety of arts and media careers, from creative practice and arts management, to event planning and journalism. The transferable skills developed in critical thinking, clear communication and creative problem-solving also mean that graduates are also well-placed to enter a wide range of professions extending from teaching and research to entrepreneurship, marketing, and the diplomatic service.

Entry Requirements

Students who wish to read Theatre Studies should have obtained at least one of the following: Exempted from or passed the NUS Qualifying English Test, or exempted from further CELC Remedial English modules.

Subject Requirements

Single Major [BA (Hons)]

To major in TS, students need to:

1. Pass TS1101E. This will be counted towards the Faculty Core or UE requirements.
2. Pass at least 84 MCs of TS modules or TS-recognised modules which include the following:

   (1) TS3103 Theatre Lab
   (2) A maximum of 8 MCs of TS-recognised modules
   (3) A minimum of 8 MCs from each of the following strands
(i) Timeframes
(ii) Cultural Practices
(iii) Perspectives on Performance (including TS3103)
(4) A minimum of 64 MCs at Level-3000 or higher (including TS3103), with
   (i) a minimum of 40 MCs at Level-4000 or higher
   (ii) a minimum of 35 MCs of TS modules at Level-4000 or higher
   (iii) a maximum of 1 Level-5000 TS module (subject to department’s approval).

Note 1: The following TS-recognised modules may be read to fulfil TS Major requirements:

- EL4222 Stylistics and Drama
- EN2203 Introduction to Film Studies
- EN2271 Introduction to Playwriting
- EN2272 Introduction to Writing Prose Fiction
- EN2273 Introduction to Creative Writing
- EN2274 Introduction to Screenwriting
- EN3226 Shakespeare
- EN3242 History of Film
- EN3248 Reading the Horror Film
- EN3271 Advanced Playwriting
- EN3272 Creative Writing
- EN4242 Modern Critical Theory
- EN4244 Topics in Cultural Studies
- EN4245 Narrative, Narration, Auteur
- EN4271 Research Workshop
- SE2224 Unmasked! An Introduction to Traditional Dance in SEA
- GES1029 Singapore Film: Performance of Identity

Students majoring in TS will be exempted from the prerequisites for these TS-recognised modules. To read the TS-recognised Level-4000 modules, students must fulfil the general prerequisites of Level-4000 modules. (See Note 6)

Note 2: To declare an Honours track, students must have completed at least 110 MCs including 44 MCs of major requirements and have a minimum CAP of 3.20.

Note 3: The Honours Thesis (15 MCs) is optional. To qualify for the Honours Thesis, students must have met the pre-requisites for the Honours Thesis. In order to obtain Honours (Highest Distinction), students must read and pass the Honours Thesis and obtain a CAP of 4.50 or higher.

Note 4: Students who do not attempt the Honours Thesis will read Level-4000 modules to fulfil the Honours Requirements.

Note 5: Students may also read a Level-4000 Independent Studies Module (5 MCs). This Level-4000 ISM carries a prerequisite of 100 MCs completed, including 44 MCs in the Major, with a minimum CAP of
3.20. It precludes the Honours Thesis.

**Note 6:** All Level-4000 modules carry a general prerequisite of having completed 80 MCs, including 28 MCs in the Major, with a minimum CAP of 3.20 OR being on the Honours Track (some Level-4000 modules may have different prerequisites).

**Single Major (BA)**

To major in TS, students need to:

1. Pass TS1101E. This will be counted towards the Faculty Core or UE requirements.
2. Pass at least 44 MCs of TS modules or TS-recognised modules which include the following:
   
   - (1) TS3103 Theatre Lab
   - (2) A maximum of 8 MCs of TS-recognised modules
   - (3) A minimum of 8 MCs from each of the following strands
     - (i) Timeframes
     - (ii) Cultural Practices
     - (iii) Perspectives on Performance (including TS3103)
   - (4) A minimum of 24 MCs at level 3000 or higher (including TS3103)

**Note 1:** The following TS-recognised modules may be read to fulfil TS Major requirements:

- EL4222 Stylistics and Drama
- EN2203 Introduction to Film Studies
- EN2271 Introduction to Playwriting
- EN2272 Introduction to Writing Prose Fiction
- EN2273 Introduction to Creative Writing
- EN2274 Introduction to Screenwriting
- EN3226 Shakespeare
- EN3242 History of Film
- EN3248 Reading the Horror Film
- EN3271 Advanced Playwriting
- EN3272 Creative Writing
- EN4242 Modern Critical Theory
- EN4244 Topics in Cultural Studies
- EN4245 Narrative, Narration, Auteur
- EN4271 Research Workshop
- SE2224 Unmasked! An Introduction to Traditional Dance in SEA
- GES1029 Singapore Film: Performance of Identity

Students majoring in TS will be exempted from the prerequisites for these TS-recognised modules. To read the TS-recognised Level-4000 modules, students must fulfil the general prerequisites of Level-4000 modules** (See Note 2).**
Second Major

To major in TS, students need to:

1. Pass TS1101E. This will be counted towards the Faculty Core or UE requirements.
2. Pass at least 44 MCs of TS modules or TS-recognised modules which include the following:
   
   (1) TS3103 Theatre Lab
   (2) A maximum of 8 MCs of TS-recognised modules
   (3) A minimum of 8 MCs from each of the following strands
      (i) Timeframes
      (ii) Cultural Practices
      (iii) Perspectives on Performance (including TS3103)
   (4) A minimum of 24 MCs at level 3000 or higher (including TS3103)

Note 1: The following TS-recognised modules may be read to fulfil TS Major requirements:

- EL4222 Stylistics and Drama
- EN2203 Introduction to Film Studies
- EN2271 Introduction to Playwriting
- EN2272 Introduction to Writing Prose Fiction
- EN2273 Introduction to Creative Writing
- EN2274 Introduction to Screenwriting
- EN3226 Shakespeare
- EN3242 History of Film
- EN3248 Reading the Horror Film
- EN3271 Advanced Playwriting
- EN3272 Creative Writing
- EN4242 Modern Critical Theory
- EN4244 Topics in Cultural Studies
- EN4245 Narrative, Narration, Auteur
- EN4271 Research Workshop
- SE2224 Unmasked! An Introduction to Traditional Dance in SEA
- GES1029 Singapore Film: Performance of Identity

Students majoring in TS will be exempted from the prerequisites for these TS-recognised modules. To read the TS-recognised Level-4000 modules, students must fulfil the general prerequisites of Level-4000 modules. (See Note 2).

Note 2: All Level-4000 modules carry a general prerequisite of having completed 80 MCs, including 28
MCs in the Major, with a minimum CAP of 3.20 OR being on the Honours Track (some Level-4000 modules may have different prerequisites).

**Minor**

Pass at least 24 MCs of TS modules (excluding TS3103 and TS3245)\(^{\text{See Note 1}}\), which include the following:

1. TS1101E Introduction to Theatre and Performance
2. a minimum of 4 MCs from each of the following strands:
   i. Timeframes
   ii. Cultural Practices
   iii. Perspectives on Performance
3. a minimum of 4 MCs at Level-3000 or higher.

**Note 1:** TS3103 Theatre Lab and TS3245 Professional Theatre Internship cannot be read by TS minor students as they can only be read by TS major students.

**Note 2:** A maximum of 8 MCs from the minor can be used to satisfy the requirements of a major or another minor.

Please refer to the guidelines/requirements pertaining to the Minor programmes at the FASS Student Portal and the Registrar's Office (Minor programmes) website.

For the latest updates, please visit the Department website at: [http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg/ell](http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg/ell)