



VCU

Libraries

Guidelines for Theatre

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1. Purpose.

Collections in Theatre support teaching, research, and practice consistent with the curriculum at a Doctoral University: Highest Research Activity, under Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education with bachelor's and master's degree programs in the field.

The department offers four undergraduate and two graduate degrees in a variety of areas. The curriculum provides the experience necessary for a professional career and consists of critical and practical studies.

The program offers a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre which combines a central emphasis on theatrical studies with a strong liberal arts component. Three Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees are offered through the department in the areas of Performance, Design/Technology, and Stage Management. Master of Fine Arts degrees are offered in the areas of Theatre Pedagogy and Design/Technology.

2. General Collection Guidelines.

A. Language.

English is the preferred language unless images and illustrations are the primary value of the resource.



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B. Chronology.

No specific limitations. Historical studies of the theatre and its various areas are actively collected.

C. Geography.

No restrictions.

D. Publication Date.

Collection efforts center on current imprints, but there are no limitations on the date of publication.

E. Treatment of Subject.

Except where appropriate for Theatre Education, juvenilia is excluded. Upper-level textbooks are acquired on a highly selective basis. Manuals covering technical elements are actively collected due to the undergraduate and graduate focus on design and technical aspects of the theatre.

F. Types of Materials and Formats.

Monographic literature, reference materials, and pertinent serial titles are acquired. Where images and illustrations represent the primary value of the resource, a physical copy is preferred. Dramatic works by playwrights of note are actively collected. Dramatic presentations are actively collected, including selected duplicate copies to provide comparative versions.

Electronic and online resources to support the Department of Theatre are actively sought and evaluated for the collection. Streaming media programs are actively sought and evaluated for content relevant to the arts. The development of streaming platforms and the negotiations of copyright is closely monitored. To assure uninterrupted access, DVD is the currently preferred format for core titles and remains the only available option for many titles. Legacy formats are retained for unique and important content and where a particular medium is preferred.

3. Area Resources.

VCU is a member of the Richmond Area Film/Video Cooperative, which provides access to area members' film and video holdings.

4. Subjects and Collecting Levels.

Resources for Theatre are collected at a research level (4).