

## Admission Requirements

To be considered for admission into Stage Management Program, you must make sure you are aware of all of the deadlines and that you meet the minimum requirements for entry.

- [Graduate College Deadlines and Requirements](#)
- [International Student Admission Requirements](#)

You must complete the following steps to be considered for the MFA in Stage Management:

1. Start an application file. If you are applying through URТА, file directly through URТА. If applying independently, create your application file for the University of Iowa.
2. Submit the following documents. URТА applicants should e-mail the head of stage management these documents. Independent applicants should upload documents to their UI application file.
  - Cover letter/letter of interest
  - Resume
  - Official transcript clearly indicating a final GPA of 3.0 or higher. The GRE exam is not required
  - Three letters of recommendation about your skills in stage management
  - Statement of purpose, including your reasons for pursuing graduate study in stage management and your professional goals after completing the MFA in Stage Management at Iowa
  - Two writing samples (4-10 pages each, either previous academic or professional work). If you are invited to interview, we will request samples of your stage management paperwork (promptbook or selected organizational and cuing documents).

For URТА candidates, the due date for the Common Packet is set by URТА.

For independent candidates, all documents must be received no later than Jan.15th.

3. Participate in a personal interview with the Head of Stage Management or other program faculty by February 1st. Interviews may be scheduled as campus visits at the University of Iowa or via video conferencing. We will conduct interviews for URТА candidates in New York City. We seek the best overall candidates; we do not weight in-person interviews more than video conferences so as to not disadvantage students who are unable to interview in-person due to cost or show commitments.

Prior to your application, we are available for informational interviews. Whenever possible, we do recommend that prospective students visit Iowa City to see the campus and discuss the stage management program with our current students and us. Please contact Abbie Katz if you would like to have an informational meeting prior to the application interview or if you would like to meet with our current students.

All MFA stage managers receive a tuition scholarship from the Graduate College, which offsets the amount of the current tuition. General fees are not included in this scholarship. Additionally, all MFA stage managers hold paid teaching or research assistantships. Departmental scholarships also may be awarded, with the amounts varying on an annual basis.

## Plan of Study

Your studies will include production assignments, classroom instruction, and weekly individual meetings with the Head of Stage Management. Just as there is no one way to stage manage a production, each stage manager enters the program with different training, experiences, and career goals. Your Plan of Study will be reviewed each semester and tailored to your individual needs: (a minimum of 69 semester hours total)

### **Stage Management Requirements**

6 Stage Management Seminars (2 meetings per week with rotating topics: communication and conflict resolution techniques, new technology for stage managers, and organizational tools and applications)	12 sh
Projects in Theatre (individual mentor support for your stage management assignments each semester)	8 sh
SM Special Topics: AEA/LORT Contract	3 sh
SM Special Topics: From Tech through Closing	3 sh
SM Special Topics: Opera and Dance Stage Management	3 sh
Production Management for Stage Managers	3 sh
Arts Leadership Seminar	3 sh
Thesis (Options: major production or research project)	3 sh
<u>Individualized Path</u> : 3-course focus on a particular aspect of stage management (SM/Design, Arts Management, Teaching & Education, Dance/Opera, SM Research/History, Entertainment Industry, and self-designed paths)	9 sh

### **Theatre Arts Requirements**

Orientation to Graduate Studies	1 sh
Directing (can be waived if Directing course completed as undergraduate)	3 sh
Acting for Non-Graduate Actors	3 sh
2 Courses in Design/Technical Production/Art (we encourage your growth as an artist)	6 sh
3 Courses in Theatrical Analysis/History	9 sh

The Stage Management faculty support students taking additional electives, particularly if students enter the program with limited experience in areas such as Musical Theatre.

### **Production Requirements**

Each year, stage managers are involved in over 25 theatrical productions, most of which are new works. Stage management faculty help select each season, based on the needs of our students. In addition, our graduate students regularly stage manage dance and opera productions.