

**DEGREE/PROGRAM CHANGE
FORM C
Form Number: C1504**

Fields marked with * are required

Name of Initiator: Sarah Lentz **Email:** slentz@unm.edu **Phone Number:** 505 277-2737 **Date:** 10-24-2014

Associated Forms exist? Initiator's Title
Faculty Contact Administrative Contact
Department Admin Email
Branch Admin Phone

Proposed effective term

Semester Year

Course Information

Select Appropriate Program
Name of New or Existing Program
Select Category Degree Type
Select Action

Exact Title and Requirements as they should appear in the catalog. If there is a change, upload current and proposed requirements.

See current catalog for format within the respective college (upload a doc/pdf file)

[Form C MFA Dram Writ-current.docx](#)

Does this change affect other departmental program/branch campuses? If yes, indicate below.

Reason(s) for Request (enter text below or upload a doc/pdf file)

[Form C MFA Dram Writ-changes.docx](#)

Upload a document that includes justification for the program, impact on long-range planning, detailed budget analysis and faculty workload implications. (upload a doc/pdf file)

[Form C Dramatic Writing.docx](#)

Are you proposing a new undergraduate degree or new undergraduate certificate? If yes, upload the following documents.

Upload a two-page Executive Summary authorized by Associate Provost. (upload a doc/pdf file)

Upload memo from Associate Provost authorizing go-ahead to full proposal. (upload a doc/pdf file)

CURRENT CATALOG

M.F.A. in Dramatic Writing

For the student preparing to enter the profession of writing for the stage and media the department offers the M.F.A. in Dramatic Writing. The focus of the program is the creation of new work for the stage, the media and the classroom.

Required Courses

Graduate Core:

THEA 500	Introduction to Graduate Studies	3
THEA 503	Performance Theory	3
THEA 506	Critical Issues in the Performing Arts	3
THEA 512	Topics Seminar in Theatre	3
	Subtotal:	12

Writing Core:

THEA 555	Dramatic Writing I	8
THEA 556	Dramatic Writing II	8
THEA 557	The Writer's Stage	8
THEA 558	Screenwriting	6
THEA 559	Topics in Dramatic Writing	6
	Subtotal:	36

Elective Courses		6
THEA 699	M.F.A. Dissertation	6

Minimum hours required for degree: 60 hours

Qualifying Review

After completing 20 hours of graduate credit the student will submit all writing completed since entering the program. A committee of review with 3–5 members will be appointed by the Department's graduate committee. This committee will be composed of individuals with expertise in writing both in and outside the department. To continue in the second year of the M.F.A. program, all students must receive a pass on the promise of their writing. Students will be notified before the start of the Fall semester. The review will be the occasion for a comprehensive review of the student's work to that point and a frank evaluation of his or her promise in the profession. Three options are open to the M.F.A. Graduate Committee at this point: 1) continuation in the M.F.A. program; 2) dismissal from the graduate program; or 3) the committee may request the work be resubmitted after addressing a specific set of concerns. Resubmissions must be completed and rereviewed before the beginning of the Fall semester. Students may have a maximum of two tries to pass this review.

Advancement to Candidacy and Comprehensive Examination

After successfully completing 30 hours of graduate work, including completion of one full cycle of the writing core: 555, 556 and 557, all students will take a comprehensive examination at the end of their fourth semester of study. This examination will cover the areas of knowledge explored in the required core courses. Once the Comprehensive Examination is passed the student will submit the Application for Candidacy to the Office of Graduate Studies. If approved the Dean of Graduate Studies will formally advance the student to Candidacy.

Requirements for Graduation

The Master of Fine Arts degree requires a minimum of 60 hours of work, no more than 24 of which can be transferred from other programs—either from within the University of New Mexico or elsewhere. In addition, the candidate must have:

1. completed no fewer than 42 graduate hours in residency at the University of New Mexico;
2. completed 12 hours of a "core" curriculum, plus the remainder of the recommended sequence withing the program and passed a Comprehensive Examination on the "core" curriculum;
3. completed a minimum of six complete scripts to the satisfaction of the M.F.A. Committee;
4. have at least three scripts produced in a forum suitable to the M.F.A. Committee. These might include: Concert Readings; The Writer's Stage; Experimental Theatre Series; University Theatre season productions (at the University of New Mexico or elsewhere); Professional Productions.

M.F.A. Dissertation

The M.F.A. Dissertation is the major work, full length play or screenplay written in the final year of the candidate's program. It is written in the course of the final year's work in 555 and 556. The Dissertation work must be presented in 557 Writer's Stage in the final semester in a public presentation which can take the form of a staged concert reading or, given questions of merit and availability of facilities, a more comprehensive presentation.

The play or screenplay must be accompanied by an essay that addresses such topics as the creative process which lies behind the work's development, the research done for the Dissertation work, and presents an analysis of the issues and meaning embodied in the Dissertation work.

In addition to the Dissertation work the successful M.F.A. candidate must complete the following works to graduate: four scripts (two full length plays, one full length screenplay, one short screen or stage piece).

REQUESTED CHANGES

M.F.A. in Dramatic Writing

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Required Courses

Graduate Core:

THEA 500	Introduction to Graduate Studies	3
THEA 503	Performance Theory	3
THEA 506	Critical Issues in the Performing Arts	3
THEA 512	Topics Seminar in Theatre	3 (Remove)
	Subtotal:	9 (lower hours to 9)

Writing Core:

THEA 555	Dramatic Writing I	8
THEA 556	Dramatic Writing II	8
THEA 557	The Writer's Stage	8
THEA 558	Screenwriting	6
THEA 559	Topics in Dramatic Writing	6
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Elective Courses

THEA 699	M.F.A. Dissertation	6
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Minimum hours required for degree: 60 hours

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Advancement to Candidacy and Comprehensive Examination

After successfully completing 30 hours of graduate work, including completion of one full cycle of the writing core: 555, 556 and 557, all students will take a comprehensive examination at the end of their fourth semester of study. This examination will cover the areas of knowledge explored in the required core courses. Once the Comprehensive Examination is passed the student will submit the Application for Candidacy to the Office of Graduate Studies. If approved the Dean of Graduate Studies will formally advance the student to Candidacy.

Requirements for Graduation

The Master of Fine Arts degree requires a minimum of 60 hours of work, no more than 24 of which can be transferred from other programs—either from within the University of New Mexico or elsewhere. In addition, the candidate must have:

1. completed no fewer than 42 graduate hours in residency at the University of New Mexico;
2. completed 9 hours of a "core" curriculum, plus the remainder of the recommended sequence withing the program and passed a Comprehensive Examination on the "core" curriculum;
3. completed a minimum of six complete scripts to the satisfaction of the M.F.A. Committee;
4. have at least three scripts produced in a forum suitable to the M.F.A. Committee. These might include: Concert Readings; The Writer's Stage; Experimental Theatre Series; University Theatre season productions (at the University of New Mexico or elsewhere); Professional Productions.

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Form C MFA Dramatic Writing

The department is realigning its graduate core classes in relation to faculty teaching loads, broader learning goals, and program matriculation.

The graduate faculty and department chair have determined that Thea 512 is not a necessary core requirement as it has been similar in course content (special topics) to Thea 506, and is only utilized by two of the four graduate degree tracks (one of which is on hold awaiting funding). Additionally the faculty believes that our graduate students in the arts need a larger interdisciplinary focus in todays world. 512 will be replaced in the two graduate programs with elective credits.

The budget will not be affected by this change.