

**DEGREE/PROGRAM CHANGE  
FORM C  
Form Number: C1787**

Fields marked with \* are required

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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)

[Department of Theatre and Dance Request for Degree and Name Change.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)

[Rationale for BFA in Design.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)

[BFA Design long range planning and budget impact.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)

Department of Theatre and Dance Request for Degree and Name Change

The UNM Department of Theatre and Dance is officially requesting the follow changes:

OLD DEGREE: B.A. in Design for Performance

NEW DEGREE: B.F.A. in Design and Technology for Performance

The Chair and faculty of the department have approved this request.

Department of Theatre and Dance  
Design for Performance B.A. to B.F.A. rationale

In the 1999-2001 catalog the department changed its decades long B.F.A. to a B.A. following a trend in Theatre academia of the time.

However, even though this occurred many facets of the B.F.A. remained, specifically in the Design area. The new B.A. students enrolling were still fulfilling the requirements of a B.F.A., by adding more classes in the discipline through open electives and, because of the department's large production season, students would be assigned to professional positions on these realized shows, including costume, lighting, scenic, or sound designer, stage manager, prop master, etc.

B.F.A. Program content:

All B.F.A. programs in Design and Technology mandate that the student design at least one show upon graduation. Here at UNM, our B.A. students in Design for Performance are designing 2-3 shows on average upon graduation.

Portfolio review:

As other B.F.A. programs, the department's B.A. in Design for Performance concludes each year with a Portfolio review and show, the students in the major present their work to the faculty who critique it. An open show where their work is on display to the public follows.

Professional Training:

As in other B.F.A. programs, students graduating from the department's B.A. program have garnered extensive professional experience. I would venture to say that our students get more professional training than many other B.F.A. programs in our region and beyond. This is due to four main reasons: the quality of our state-of-the-art facilities and equipment; the number of opportunities to serve in a professional capacity on department productions; the quality and diversity of the faculty; and the possibility of professional work and internships at Popejoy Hall and the Santa Fe Opera.

Conclusion:

During the last accreditation visit by the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST) it was reported that our B.A. degree in Design for Performance was essentially a B.F.A. by the course percentages of general studies versus the course percentages of theatre and design. NAST has tabled the accreditation for this particular degree until the department decides on a course of action by either correcting the percentages in the B.A. or converting it to an official B.F.A..

The department's faculty has discussed this topic in depth and has decided that the correct course of action is to change the B.A. in Design for Performance to a B.F.A. in Design and Technology for Performance, which by all accounts it has operated as.

## **BFA IN DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY FOR PERFORMANCE**

### **Impact on Long-Range Planning**

No impact, although we believe we will be able to attract more students to this degree

### **Detailed Budget Analysis and Faculty Workload Implications.**

Recent faculty retirements and new hires have allowed for the proposed changes to the curriculum. This will be part of the workload of current faculty. No new funding will be required.

