

PERFORMING AND MEDIA ARTS (PHD)

Graduate School

Program Website (<https://pma.cornell.edu/graduate/>)

CIP: 50.0501 | HEGIS: 1007.00 | NYSED: 76443

Graduate Field

Performing and Media Arts (<https://catalog.cornell.edu/graduate-school/performing-media-arts/>)

Program Description

The graduate program (PhD) in Performing and Media Arts offers students an interdisciplinary environment in which to pursue critical studies of various theatrical and performance traditions, cinema and media cultures, and expressive behavior in multilingual, intermedial, and transnational contexts. Students may work with a strong emphasis in either theatre and performance studies or cinema and media studies, and they are also encouraged to find novel, fresh, and rigorous ways to produce work at interdisciplinary sites of contact between theatre and performance studies on the one hand and cinema and media studies on the other hand.

A student's Special Committee is made up of three faculty members, two PMA field faculty members representing the student's major area (theater and performance studies, cinema and media studies, or theatre theory and aesthetics) and a third, from outside the PMA field faculty, representing the student's minor area (e.g., Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Asian Studies). Please note that while the graduate field is not coterminous with the department and the graduate field includes many faculty members with interests in performing and media arts from other Cornell departments, every special committee must include at least one current faculty member in the Dept. of Performing and Media Arts. Chairs of special committees must hold a PhD in their major field and be a member of the PMA Graduate Field.

Students whose interdisciplinary interests encompass more areas of study may add a fourth committee member. Possible areas include (but are not limited to): Directing or Acting Pedagogy (<https://pma.cornell.edu/graduate/#majors-minors-and-special-committee>); Film and Video Studies (<https://gradschool.cornell.edu/academics/fields-of-study/field/film-and-video-studies-minor/>); Feminist, Gender and Sexuality Studies (<https://as.cornell.edu/feminist-gender-sexuality-studies-major-minor/>); LGBT Studies (<https://lgbt.cornell.edu/>), Africana Studies (<http://africana.cornell.edu/>); Anthropology (<https://anthropology.cornell.edu/>); Asian Studies (<http://asianstudies.cornell.edu/>); English (<http://english.cornell.edu/>); German (<http://german.cornell.edu/>); Latina/o/x Studies (<https://latino.cornell.edu/>); Music (<http://music.cornell.edu/>); Near Eastern Studies (<http://neareasternstudies.cornell.edu/>); and American Studies (<https://americanstudies.cornell.edu/graduate-opportunities/>).

Research Facilities

Cornell University maintains an extensive library system for scholarly research, with excellent holdings in areas relevant to the field. Olin and Kroch Libraries are the main research centers for the humanities; they house several special collections of particular interest to our program, including the world's largest Hip Hop Collection ([\[rmc.library.cornell.edu/hiphop/\]\(http://rmc.library.cornell.edu/hiphop/\)\), extensive materials on and by George Bernard Shaw \(<https://rare.library.cornell.edu/collections/literature/shaw/>\) and George Jean Nathan \(<http://rmc.library.cornell.edu/EAD/htmldocs/RMM04615.html>\), and the Rose Golden Archive of New Media \(<http://goldsen.library.cornell.edu/>\). Students work closely with Cornell's Society for the Humanities \(<https://societyhumanities.as.cornell.edu/>\) and The School for Criticism and Theory \(<http://sct.cornell.edu/>\), interdisciplinary centers of intellectual exchange that draw scholars and artists from across the globe.](http://</p>
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Concentrations

- Cinema and media studies
- Theatre and performance studies
- Theatre practice (acting or directing) (minor)
- Theatre theory and aesthetics

Program Information

- Instruction Mode: In Person
- Location: Ithaca, NY
- Minimum Credits for Degree: 120

Program Requirements

- 10 semesters of GRAD Research Course
- Minimum Semesters for Degree: 10

Graduate School Milestones

- Responsible Conduct of Research Training: Required
- Open Researcher and Contributor ID (ORCID): Required
- Student Progress Reviews (SPR) begin: Second Year
- Examination for admission to candidacy (A Exam): Spring of third year
- Defense of Dissertation (B Exam): Spring of fifth year

Field Specific Milestones

- Qualifying Examination (Q Exam): Fall of second year
- Field progress review conducted every year
- Two semesters of teaching assistantship or as an instructor required

Course Requirements

Additional course requirements may be set by the student's Special Committee. Program specific requirements that apply to all students are included below.

- Students will enroll in GRAD 9010 Graduate-Level Research to reach full-time status in every semester.

Year 1

- PMA 6600 Proseminar in Performing and Media Arts (Fall)
- 3 additional courses in each semester

Year 2

- PMA 6600 Proseminar in Performing and Media Arts (Fall)
- 2 additional courses in each semester

Year 3

- 2 - 3 courses in each semester

University Graduation Requirements Requirements for All Students

In order to receive a Cornell degree, a student must satisfy academic and non-academic requirements.

Academic Requirements

A student's college determines degree requirements such as residency, number of credits, distribution of credits, and grade averages. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of the specific major, degree, distribution, college, and graduation requirements for completing their chosen program of study. See the individual requirements listed by each college or school or contact the college registrar's office (<https://registrar.cornell.edu/service-resources/college-registrar-directory/>) for more information.

Non-academic Requirements

Conduct Matters. Students must satisfy any outstanding sanctions, penalties or remedies imposed or agreed to under the Student Code of Conduct (Code) or Policy 6.4. Where a formal complaint under the Code or Policy 6.4 is pending, the University will withhold awarding a degree otherwise earned until the adjudication process set forth in those procedures is complete, including the satisfaction of any sanctions, penalties or remedies imposed.

Financial Obligations. Outstanding financial obligations will not impact the awarding of a degree otherwise earned or a student's ability to access their official transcript. However, the University may withhold issuing a diploma until any outstanding financial obligations owing to the University are satisfied.

Learning Outcomes

- Make an original and substantial contribution to the chosen field.
- Be able to develop appropriate concepts and methodologies and to articulate the value of the chosen research.
- Demonstrate advanced research skills, which may include creative scholarship.
- Demonstrate commitment to advancing the values of scholarship by being actively engaged in the university's scholarly/creative community, professional societies, and other forms of knowledge exchange.
- Demonstrate growth as a teacher.