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<th>Course Requirements and Descriptions</th>
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<td><strong>Program of Study: Scene Design</strong></td>
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### Studio Courses (6 Semesters)
- **Design Studio 1 (Year 1, 2 Semesters)** (including Drawing Lab): The first year is spent in Studio I with all new designers and directors.
- **Scene Design (4 semesters)** (including Drawing Lab): The Scene Design studio focuses on the development of skills and artistry directly related to the work of a scenic designer.

### Skill-Building Courses (6 Semesters)
- The student may select from choices in many alternate areas such as scene design skills, costume design, lighting design, projection design, audio design, writing, pedagogy and production management. The skill-building courses are chosen by the student with the advice and guidance of the design faculty and the primary mentor.

### Production Laboratory (6 Semesters)
- The student conceives, plans and realizes designs for departmental and/or Butler School of Music productions. He/she will design the scenery for at least two main-stage productions with additional opportunities in lab and alternate venues, including the biennial Cohen New Works Festival. Theatre productions at the university cover multiple genres including plays, musicals, dance and opera.
- Opportunities in film production design exist within collaborative arrangement with the Department of Radio-Television-Film.

### Critical Thinking/Writing (1 Semester)
- Courses may include Theatre History, Design Theory, Reading the Canon or Research Methods.

### Electives (3 Semesters)
- The graduate Scene Design thesis serves as the capstone of the candidate's graduate work at The University of Texas at Austin. It is the final opportunity for the M.F.A. candidate to demonstrate her/his aesthetic, artistic, intellectual and technical acumen relative to the standards of the professional model.
- The thesis is subject to the requirements of the university and the Graduate School. This means that a supervisor, usually the student's primary advisor, and an additional reader will examine the thesis in detail. The thesis will culminate in an oral defense of the work.
- The thesis will be reviewed per the standards of the performing arts industries and the university's standards of research. The thesis will consist of three parts:
  1. A demonstration of artistry and skill in scene design.
  2. A significant original project demonstrating the candidate's ability to generate new work.
  3. A presentation of the candidate's portfolio.