

The Department of Theatre and Dance wishes to remove the foreign language requirement from all of our BFA programs for the following reasons:

1. FAU currently refuses to add additional credits to our BFA program. This makes us less competitive with similar programs across the state which have a higher number of credit hours required for graduation and do not have a required language component.

- Florida State University – 129 Credit Hours; NO foreign language requirement
- University of Central Florida – 129 Credit Hours; NO foreign language requirement.
- University of Florida – 124 Credit Hours; NO foreign language requirement

As you can see, we are at a severe disadvantage when compared to these programs as, by graduation, their students have taken up to 17 more credit hours than our program allows.

2. Our BFA degree is a pre-professional degree for students hoping to begin working immediately after graduation. While we appreciate the necessity of a foreign language requirement as part of a well-rounded liberal arts education, the limited number of credit hours available to our students compels us to place departmental courses which should be required for our BFA actors into elective status. Currently, there is room for only ONE elective course in the BFA curriculum. This forces our students to choose between such courses as Directing, Advanced Acting for the Camera, Speech 2 (accents), and others which are important components of a pre-professional acting degree.

3. Our 2017 Program Review identified our lower credit-hour limit (and hence, fewer required course offerings) as problematic. We intend to move forward with National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST) accreditation in the future and know this will be an issue for them as well.

4. This request affects a relatively small number of students; we typically have 20-25 students in the entire BFA program.

5. The University Catalog indicates that FLEX is not required for a BFA degree:

FLEX is two semesters of the same language at the first-year college level or a demonstrated equivalent proficiency. FLEX is required for all B.S. degree programs (unless otherwise specified) and for all B.A. degree programs. Other select degrees may require FLEX (for more information, please refer to the specific degree program requirements). FLEX is also required if the FLENT entrance requirement was waived.

As such, we don't believe we're asking for an extraordinary accommodation; we simply wish to be competitive with other Theatre programs in the state.