Theatre

Typical Career Fields:

**Performing** (projected growth 9% - 13%)
- Community/Commercial/Regional Theatres
- Touring Companies
- Amusement & Theme Parks

**Directing** (projected growth 9% - 13%)
- Direction
- Technical Direction
- Casting
- Stage Mgt.

**Behind the Scenes** (projected growth 9% - 13%)
- Set Design
- Lighting
- Sound/Costume Design
- Wardrobe
- Riggers
- Prop Mgt.

**Writing** (projected growth 15% - 21%)
- Scriptwriting
- Playwriting
- Screenwriting
- Journalism

**Business** (projected growth 9% - 13%)
- Producing
- Management
- Marketing
- Fundraising
- Admin. of Arts Programs

**Education** (projected growth 9% - 13%)
- Teaching in Public or Private Schools

* = Bright Outlook  
Source: O*NET

Top Ten Career Fields Chosen by ESU Theatre Grads: (Source: Linkedin)

Where Our Grads Go (top ten):
- Topeka Civic Theatre
- Kansas State Univ.
- Sprint
- US Army
- Stormont Vail Health
- University of Minnesota
- Butler Community College
- Univ. of Missouri
- Santander Consumer USA
- Cowley College

View a list of required courses for this major at [http://www.emporia.edu/sac/list-of-majors.html](http://www.emporia.edu/sac/list-of-majors.html).
Career Services  career@emporia.edu  620-341-5407
www.emporia.edu/careerservices

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Theatre Majors
Strategies on how to become more marketable at graduation

**Performing** (Community / Commercial / Regional Theatres, Touring Companies, Amusement and Theme Parks, Radio and Television)
- Participate in acting workshops, courses, and seminars to get advice and experience and to make contracts with others in the field.
- Join unions or actors’ guilds to stay abreast of opportunities and developments in the field.
- Get as much acting experience as possible. Perform in school productions, Community Theater, summer stock, etc. to hone acting skills.
- Prepare a professional resume that lists your acting experience.
- Have your resume attached to or printed on the reverse side of an 8” x 10” photograph of yourself. Be prepared to make the rounds.
- Distribute your resume to numerous agencies and offices. Follow up with several personal visits.
- Take courses on entertainment law, business, management, etc. An extensive network of contacts is essential.

**Directing** (Direction, Technical Direction, Casting, Stage Management, Support Staff)
- Participate in the Director's Guild Training Program.
- Develop leadership skills through participation in campus and community organizations.
- Experience with fund-raising is important. Volunteer to do this with local theaters and arts councils.
- Volunteer with directors in local theaters to become familiar with the environment. Serving as an assistant is a great way to get started in this area.

**Behind the Scenes** (Set Design, Lighting, Sound / Costume Design, Wardrobe, Riggers, Prop Management)
- Learn to work well in a team. Develop a sense of artistry and creativity.
- Become involved in the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE). They can give you information about becoming an apprentice as well as help you make valuable contacts.
- Offer your services to school and local theaters.
- Read industry magazines and books to learn about your area.
- For sound design: Become familiar with computer technology as digital sound effects and electronic music replace traditional means of sound design.
- For costume design: Supplement your program with courses in art history and fashion design.
- A basic knowledge of history and architecture is helpful.

**Writing** (Scriptwriting, Playwriting, Screenwriting, Journalism, Publicity)
- Review plays, movies, and TV shows for school or local newspaper.
- Take courses in related areas such as public relations, advertising, and business.
- Get as much writing experience as possible: Write for the college newspaper, enter playwriting contests, etc.

**Business** (Producing, Management, Agents, Marketing, Fundraising, Admin of Arts Programs)
- Take business courses to supplement your program. Obtain a working knowledge of computers.
- Develop skills in leadership, negotiation, budgeting, and fundraising.

**Education** (Teaching in Public or Private Schools)
- Obtain certification for the state in which you wish to teach.

**Special Note:**
- Be aware that more opportunities exist in large cities such as New York and Los Angeles.
- It is essential that you get to know people working in your field and related areas.