

## **MA in Intercultural Communication Studies**

### **Shanghai Theatre Academy (STA)**

#### **Introduction**

In 2013, STA opens a new bilingual (Chinese and English) MA program in Intercultural Communication Studies for excellent students with a bachelor's degree or equivalent from top international and Chinese universities. This two-year English-taught program includes the required first year full-time residency, sponsored by STA with full scholarships. After course work is completed in the first year, the following year(s), when students take internships and write theses, can be flexible. Duration of study for the MA degree could be extended to maximum of four years. MA theses can be written in Chinese, English, or French.

#### **Entrance Examination**

Applicants are expected to have a strong interest in Chinese culture and intercultural communications in any academic and/or artistic field, including but not limited to performing arts, performance studies, literature, business, law, and all forms of media. Applicants need to fill out the application form online by April 10, and take the entrance examinations online, including a written test to answer two general essay questions in the fields of human civilizations and a Skype interview, on April 25. The admission notice will be mailed out by May 15.

#### **Curriculum**

The curriculum requires 32 credits, including 18 from five mandatory courses:

- China and the World, a Lecture Series (2 credits)
- Intro to Intercultural Communications: Theory and Practice (4 credits)
- Intro to Chinese Arts and Culture (4 credits)
- Intercultural Theatre: History/Theory and Practical Workshop (4 credits)
- Semiotics and Case Studies in Intercultural Performance (4 credits)

The remaining 14 credits are from elective courses, including:

- 2-4 in Chinese language courses;
- 4-6 in studio courses (Chinese opera acting, dance, filmmaking);
- 6 credits for writing the MA thesis under the advisor's supervision. These are the only credits that can be taken after the first year.

#### **MA Thesis**

The MA thesis is the culmination of the student's two years of study. It will start with a thesis proposal developed in consultation with the MA advisor, chosen at the end of Semester I, and will be accepted by a group of three professors at the end of Semester II. The student will then spend the next year, or more if needed, to write the thesis, while consulting with the advisor in person or electronically. Once completed, the thesis will be defended before a group of five professors. The student will then be granted the MA degree at the next commencement ceremonies.

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