



program in
DRAMATURGY
AND THEATER STUDIES

The dramaturgy program provides practical and academic training for literary directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, and theater critics. The program is both individualized and flexible. Classes are small and students complement class work by participating fully in the professional life of two of the world's most prestigious theaters. Courses are taught by the dramaturgs of the A.R.T. and MXAT, whose professional experience provides an ideal bridge between the worlds of academic study and theatrical practice. Students work on a wide range of productions. They play an active role in the daily life of the theater: assisting directors, participating in season planning discussions, writing articles for the theater's journal, delivering pre-show talks, preparing program notes for A.R.T. productions, evaluating new scripts, and participating in the development of new plays. Working with some of the world's most exciting directors, students become familiar with a wide range of theatrical styles and are encouraged to translate, adapt, direct, and write dramatic texts. In Cambridge, students spend mornings in class and afternoons in rehearsal for Institute and A.R.T. productions.

In Moscow, students are taught by Russian dramaturgs and critics and assist in the development of Institute productions. Students also have an opportunity to attend numerous productions by Russian and foreign troupes. With hundreds of theaters and important arts festivals, Moscow offers students an unparalleled opportunity to round out their education by experiencing great theater every night. Our students apply immediately what they learn in classes in the context of two world-renowned professional theaters. Given the broad-based nature of their training, our students have gone on to careers in dramaturgy, playwriting, academia, film and theater script development, and theater criticism. Dramaturgy students also have opportunities to serve as paid Teaching Assistants for Dramatic Arts courses at Harvard University. Students have the opportunity to audit lecture courses at Harvard University as well. Students complement their academic study with intensive practical work, including dramaturgical support of productions at the Institute, American Studio of the Moscow Art Theater, and A.R.T.

To earn the M.F.A. in dramaturgy, students must write an academic thesis on an aspect of dramatic literature, history, or practice. In some cases, an original play or a new translation of a foreign play will be accepted as a thesis, but it must include a critical introduction.

Some of the required courses dramaturgy students take over their two years of study include:

- Dramatic Structure
- Theories of Representation
- Aesthetics
- Dramatic Literature & Theater History
- Practical Dramaturgy
- The History of Set Design
- New Play Development
- Russian Language and Culture
- The History of Soviet & Russian Cinema
- 19th & 20th-Century Russian Literature
- The History of Russian Art & Architecture
- Translation and Adaptation
- Writing for Publication
- Public Speaking
- 19th & 20th-Century Russian & European Theater
- The History of the Institutional American Theater
- The History of Dramatic Criticism