



ASSISTANT PROFESSOR of DESIGN
Tenure-Track
Department of Theater and Performance Studies

POSITION SUMMARY

The [Department of Theater & Performance Studies](#) at Occidental College invites applications for a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Theater & Performance Studies with an area of expertise in theatrical scenic design for appointment to begin on August 16, 2025.

Position

The Assistant Professor of Theater & Performance Studies, with an area of expertise in scenic design, will teach introductory, intermediate, and advanced courses in theatrical design, scenic design, and preferably (but not mandatory) lighting design. They will be expected to teach courses that rotate across departmental faculty ([Topics in Theater & Performance History](#) and [Senior Seminar](#)). They also will teach other courses in the program in their area of interest. And, on occasion, in the college's [First Year Seminar](#) writing and community-engaged program. They will collaborate with department faculty and staff to plan curriculum and productions. They will design and paint scenery (and, if possible also design lighting), as well as supervise student designers and prop and design assistants for mainstage productions. This faculty member will be an essential member of a dynamic department, advising and mentoring students, as well as participating in college and department service which will occasionally include assessment, grant reporting, and faculty reviews. This faculty member will support our efforts to make our commitment to Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion visible across campus. The ideal candidate will be committed to mentorship, departmental service, and the liberal arts.

Occidental faculty are committed teacher-scholars who bring research and creative discovery to life for students in classrooms, labs, studios, and mentored projects. They teach broadly in the curricula of their departments, advise students, carry out research and creative work, and provide departmental, college-wide, and external service. In this position, the faculty member's primary responsibilities will include the development and teaching of introductory and core courses in the discipline, including courses in their area(s) of specialization. Specific courses that this faculty member will teach include Introduction to Design, Scenic Design, (possibly Lighting Design), Topics in Theater and Performance History, Senior Seminar, and on occasion, courses in the [First Year Seminar program](#). This faculty member will also be responsible for producing creative work and, if relevant to this faculty member's expertise, scholarship commensurate with the requirements for tenure. This faculty member will also be expected to contribute to and participate in the life and development of the department which includes assessment and administrative duties, attending faculty meetings, as well as advising students, serving on committees, and participating in the broader college and disciplinary communities.

QUALIFICATIONS

Required Qualifications

- MFA in Theater Design by appointment (ideally with an emphasis on scenic design)
- At least 1 year of experience teaching at the undergraduate level and demonstrated commitment to and excellence in undergraduate teaching and mentorship
- Ability to teach introductory, intermediate, and advanced courses in theatrical design, scenic design, and preferably (but not mandatory) lighting design.
- Ability to teach a Topics in Theater & Performance History class as well as elective courses in their area of interest
- Ability to teach courses in the liberal arts context by using interdisciplinary approaches to the material and subject matter
- A record of design credits in professional settings as well as in a collegiate setting which includes work completed while earning the MFA
- Training and practical experience in scenic design, Vectorworks drafting, and scene painting
- Evidence of successful collaboration and leadership (such as, an ability to manage multiple projects at once, to lead a team, have strong interpersonal and communication skills, etc.)
- Demonstrated commitment to working effectively with students from all backgrounds
- Ability to balance excellent teaching, scholarship, and service
- Demonstrated commitment to the four cornerstones of the mission of the College: excellence, equity, community, and service

Preferred Qualifications

- We welcome applicants with training and practical experience in lighting design, projection design, or in other related areas.
- If applicable, we welcome applications with scholarly accomplishments such as article(s), chapter(s), book(s) and other sorts of publications
- We welcome applicants with experience in administrative writing, such as with grant reports and grant proposals, serving on committees (such as department, college, or student project committees or with professional affiliations)

SALARY RANGE

Salary range for Academic Year, Nine-month Appointment: \$85,000 - \$92,000

If you are offered this position at Occidental College, your final base salary compensation will be determined based on factors such as skills, education, experience, and/or geographic location. In addition to those factors, Occidental complies with applicable pay equity laws and considers internal equity among current employees when developing the final offer. Please keep in mind that the range mentioned above is the base salary range for the role. Hiring at the maximum of the range would not be typical in order to allow for future and continued salary growth.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Application Submission Materials

Upload your application materials to Interfolio, <http://apply.interfolio.com/151128>

You must submit a complete application package electronically to be considered by the search committee. An application includes the following:

- 2-3 page Cover Letter in which you describe the education, experience, and/or skills you possess that are relevant to the required and preferred qualifications. Include within the letter a brief research/artist statement (in which you explain your artistic and intellectual orientation and trajectory).
- Curriculum Vitae
- 2 brief course descriptions (1 paragraph each) of courses that you could teach at in Oxy's Theater and Performance Studies department with 1 being a 100 level course that you could teach in the [FYS program](#) and the other being a 200 or 300 level course that you would teach in your area of interest.
- A portfolio of scenic design at the professional and collegiate level and, if applicable, include lighting design work.
- Commitment to Inclusive Excellence Statement: This brief statement provides your unique perspective on your past and present contributions to and future aspirations for promoting justice, equity, inclusion, and diversity in your professional career. This should include your demonstrated commitment to, past evidence of, and future plans for creating equitable opportunities for learning and mentoring especially for students from marginalized and minoritized groups. You may also speak to how your research and/or service promotes justice, equity, inclusion, and diversity. The purpose of this statement is to help the department identify candidates who have professional experience, intellectual commitments, and/or willingness to engage in activities that could help the College contribute to its mission in these areas.
- Three confidential letters of reference

For candidates moving on to semifinalist and finalist rounds we may ask for the following materials:

- Student Evaluations
- Course syllabi
- Potentially more detailed explanation of proposed courses

On Interfolio, one of the application steps you will need to complete is the Occidental Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) form. This form needs to be completed in order to submit your application, but applicants have the option not to answer any specific question.

Please direct all questions about the position to: Professor Kozinn at kozinn@oxy.edu or call 323-259-2872.

Application Deadline

To be assured full consideration, your application materials must be received by **midnight Eastern time (9:00 pm Pacific time)** on November 1, 2024.

The Department and College

The Theater & Performance Studies Department is a vibrant community of artist scholars located in the heart of Los Angeles. Our faculty and staff are experienced teachers as well as working professionals, and our courses foster connections to Los Angeles and its exciting art scene and beyond. We have a professional [summer company](#) composed of students and alumni who perform in the amphitheater and around the neighborhood and also run a drama school for children aged 6-1. We have an annual [New Works Festival](#) that connects student playwrights with professional directors and actors who incubate new works collaboratively, and we have generous support from several grants that allows us to host acclaimed performers and guest artists. Our state-of-the-art theater with flexible seating allows for exciting theatrical experimentation and technical execution. Our intimate size allows faculty to work closely with each other, collaborating on mainstage productions, course design, and season planning. Student mentorship is a cornerstone of our program, and through our small class sizes we are able to really know and foster the passions and talents of each individual. We always thrive to innovate and revise our course design to ensure our commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice is centered. Our faculty regularly contribute to the First Year Seminars, creating immersive and interdisciplinary learning experiences for first year students.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Occidental is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not unlawfully discriminate against employees or applicants on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, breastfeeding or related medical condition, national origin, ancestry, citizenship, age, marital status, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic characteristic or information, military and veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by state or federal law. Occidental is strongly committed to increasing the diversity of the campus community and the curriculum, and to fostering an inclusive, equitable, and just environment within which students, staff, administrators, and faculty thrive. Candidates who can contribute to this goal through their teaching, research, advising, and other activities are encouraged to identify their strengths and experiences in this area. Individuals advancing the College's strategic equity and justice goals and those from groups whose underrepresentation in the American professoriate has been severe and longstanding are particularly encouraged to apply.

Salary is commensurate with experience and qualifications. Moving expense reimbursement (up to \$5000, taxable according to current IRS regulations), start-up funds, and a one-course reduction of teaching load in the first year are provided. A comprehensive benefits package is available that includes: excellent health, dental, life, and retirement benefits; tuition benefits for the employee, spouse, domestic partner, and dependents; additional extras including use of gym facilities and the College Library. For a detailed description of benefits, please visit <https://www.oxy.edu/offices-services/human-resources/benefits-information>.

All qualified applicants will be considered for employment, including those with criminal histories, in a manner consistent with the requirements of applicable state and local laws, including the City of Los Angeles' Fair Chance Initiative for Hiring Ordinance.

Occidental College is committed to working with and providing reasonable accommodations to applicants with qualifying disabilities. If you need reasonable accommodation because of a disability for any part of the application or employment process, please contact Human Resources (hr@oxy.edu).