

COURSE SUMMARY DOCUMENT

2022-23 ACADEMIC YEAR

COURSE TITLE: BA (Hons) Professional Acting

DURATION OF COURSE: Three Years (Full Time)

Entry Requirements:

Please note: this course is only open to those who are ordinarily resident in the UK or the Republic of Ireland. This course is NOT open for overseas applications.

Applicants would normally be expected to meet UWE Bristol's minimum entry requirements. However, Bristol Old Vic Theatre School welcomes interest from applicants who may not have the standard entry requirements. We will consider evidence of personal, professional and educational experience which show an ability to meet the demands of the course.

If English is not your first language, you will need to demonstrate English language proficiency through a relevant qualification, such as the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), which can also be used to satisfy UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) requirements. For this Course, an overall score of IELTS 7.0 is required, with a minimum of 8.0 in the speaking component, 7.0 in the listening component, 6.0 in the writing component and 7.0 in the reading component.

The selection process involves a preliminary online audition. If you are successful at the first stage, you will be required to attend an in-person recall workshop, which is normally held in-person at the Theatre School.

Course Outline:

On this course you will study acting for Stage, Audio and Television/Film, Voice, Movement, Singing, Stage Combat, Improvisation, Theatre Clown, Alexander Technique and Dance.

Government restrictions due to the Covid 19 pandemic permitting, you will apply the knowledge and skills acquired in a variety of performance scenarios including main house theatre productions at professional venues in Bristol such as The Bristol Old Vic Theatre, The Tobacco Factory, Circomedia and The Weston Studio at Bristol Old Vic.

It is hoped under the current Government guidelines that you will have the opportunity to perform in front of a live audience in fully supported theatre productions across a range of venues.

The playful nature of the ensemble runs through the course. The definition and celebration of the individual and the maintenance of that individuality throughout the course enables the building, enhancement and honing of performance skills and instincts to create a holistic and flexible actor primed for the modern performance media platforms and stages. There is a continuity and coherence of approach across all technical disciplines

that allows validity, security and trust in what is being taught and an embracing of the shared aims and ethos of the School.

Core Modules and any Optional Modules:

Year One

The Course is currently being revised, a process which should be complete by early Summer 2022. As a result, the following proposed structure of modules is provisional.

It is not anticipated that there will be optional modules.

In your first year you will study the following modules:

Acting Practice 1 (40 credits)

Voice and Singing 1 (30 credits)

Movement for Actors 1 (30 credits)

Reflective & Creative Practice (20 credits)

In your second year you will study the following modules:

Voice and Singing 2 (20 credits)

Movement for Actors 2 (10 credits)

Acting and Professional Practice ((20 credits)

Children's Theatre (30 credits)

Epic Stages (40 credits)

In your third year you will study the following modules:

Film and Audio Production (15 credits)

Main House Public Productions (50 credits)

Student Led Productions (30 credits)

Launch (15 credits)

Method of study (for example, lectures, seminars, work placements) expected:

In line with Government regulations, some teaching and learning in past years at BOVTS was delivered online, prompting a lot of innovative practice. In line with current Government regulations, it is anticipated that

teaching and learning in 2022-23 may be a blend of online virtual learning (retaining the innovative recently developed practice) and face to face learning.

Your learning will be facilitated through a combination of online and 'in school' classes ('blended learning'), workshops and extended text-based projects, physical and musical projects, tutorials and seminars, stage combat and voice projects. In the second and third years your technical, practical and theoretical work will be applied in a number of theatre scenarios and then into main house theatre productions. You will also have the opportunity to apply your learning by taking advantage of industry standard facilities for a variety of TV, film and audio work.

Workload including number of contact hours with School staff and expected self-study:

The learning is immersive: you will be in scheduled learning sessions with teaching staff and visiting industry professional for up to 25 hours per week (more in production weeks).

In addition, students will be expected to undertake approximately 10 hours of independent study per week.

Students will normally be in class Monday – Friday between 9.30am and 5.30pm, although during production weeks, there will also be evening and weekend work.

Under Covid 19 restrictions the School may need to schedule classes in the evenings and at weekends in order to make the best use of space and facilities.

The overall methods of assessment for the Modules (for example exams, course work or practical assignments):

The courses assessment strategy reflects the importance the programme puts on the development of skills through an interconnected curriculum and subsequently the integration of disciplines in performance. Students are assessed through ongoing monitoring, analysis and feedback on their classes, workshops, rehearsal processes and performance skills.

The Course uses a range of assessment methods appropriate to the outcomes being measured including:

- Practical Work: this may take the form of continuous assessment of classwork or a fixed assessment point, such as a project showing, performance or sharing of work.
- Coursework; this may include learning journals.
- Presentation: this may be an individual presentation or a group presentation on a particular theme or subject.
- Written Work: this could be a script or an essay.

Both verbal and written summative feedback in the first year is given on a termly basis. In years two and three you will be continuously assessed on your contribution to process and performance and you will receive constant feedback with the intention that you will reflect on your own learning and understanding.

You are assessed on a pass or fail basis (meaning that degrees are undifferentiated).

The award students will receive on successful completion of their Course:

BA (Hons) Professional Acting validated by the University of the West of England, Bristol.

Where the course is taught:

Bristol Old Vic Theatre School – Operating on two specialist teaching sites (Downside Road (main site) and Christchurch Studios) and other School sites and external performance venues.

Length of the Modules:

Between 7 and 12 weeks each.

Staff who are delivering the teaching:

Director of Acting Courses, Artistic Director, Head of Acting, Head of Voice, Head of Singing, Head of Movement, Acting Tutor, Senior Voice and Dialect Tutor and other acting tutors and visiting industry professionals.

The fees which students can expect to pay:

Tuition fees for UK and Republic of Ireland students on the BA (Hons) Professional Acting course will be £9,250

Please see the Fees Policy at <https://www.uwe.ac.uk/courses/fees/tuition-fees-policy> for further information.

Any extra costs (in addition to fees) which students may have to pay to complete the course and estimated cost:

Increasingly much of the information and some of the content of the course is available via the School's virtual learning environment and so it will be important for you to have your own personal computer and access to the internet to make the most of your course. It is estimated that a suitable personal computer will cost £300.00. Please check with the Course leader for recommended functionality.

In addition, you will need to research the most cost-effective way of accessing the internet. The School has a number of means tested scholarship funds available to assist students with purchases of computer hardware and other essential costs which would otherwise cause financial hardship.

Course materials are provided but students need to allow funds to provide their own work clothes and equipment (approximately £150.00) and contribute to some costs towards their self-promotion materials in the final year (approximately £500.00).

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