

Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	Course Title	MA Acting
2	Course Code	PT1256
3	Awarding Institution	Birmingham City University
4	Teaching Institution(s) (if different from point 3)	N/A
5	Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation (if applicable)	This school is a member of the Federation of Drama Schools and of Conservatoires UK. The course has been designed with reference to the QAA Benchmarks for Dance, Drama and Performance

6	Course Description
	<p>The PG Dip/MA Acting course is designed for graduates who wish to undertake advanced studies to further their knowledge and widen their experience of acting in order to take up a professional acting career upon graduation.</p> <p>The course seeks to create independently minded performers and practitioners who are able to apply a variety of methodologies to their creative work. Its aim is to inculcate forward thinking practitioners able to create real employment opportunities for themselves, both in finding work and creating work.</p> <p>This laboratory programme provides opportunities for students to enhance their experience and understanding of acting by focusing on the repertoire of the British and European traditions. Students form an acting company and each exercise, workshop or production is designed to challenge the student actor and to progressively develop the imaginative, intellectual and creative skills required for acting.</p> <p>The delivery of the course is based on the conservatoire model which requires an intensive taught delivery of a minimum of thirty to forty hours per week over a minimum of thirty weeks per year. Its focus is practice-based learning through which the student is enabled to develop the requisite intellectual, imaginative and physical skills of the professional actor.</p> <p>The MA Acting course is a full-time programme delivered intensively over one year (4 terms – September to September) that provides a fast track to entering the industry in the UK. Whilst there is a specific focus on entering the UK industry, the focus of work within the repertoire is, initially, European, and later widens to include repertoire from World theatre. Studies focus on the ensemble, the tools of Psychological Realism, and the demands of classical texts, professional preparation, and personal research.</p> <p>Delivered through a series of exercise, workshop and performance opportunities the programme also includes acting for the camera and voice over work, and for MA students culminates in a showcase, a final production and a practice-based research project.</p>

	<p>Students are supported through this highly intensive course by a robust pastoral system led by personal tutors who will support students throughout the course. Students can seek tutorials with specific tutors or their course director at any time. Each student receives an individual tutorial on their progress and development every term. This also provides an opportunity for them to speak about their experience of the course and raise any areas of concern.</p> <p>Students are also given more formal opportunities to feedback on their course through the formal BCU structures. In addition to these, the Course Director holds debriefs for the group after the completion of every performance module and a termly meeting is held in which the cohort can express any areas of concern they may have about the course and its delivery.</p>
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7	Course Awards		
7a	Name of Final Award	Level	Credits Awarded
	MA Acting	Level 7	180 credits
7b	Exit Awards and Credits Awarded		
	Postgraduate Diploma in Acting	Level 7	120 credits
	Postgraduate Certificate in Theatre Studies (Must successfully complete Acting module and Acting Skills module)	Level 7	60 credits

8	Derogation from the University Regulations		
	N/A		

9	Delivery Patterns		
	Mode(s) of Study	Location(s) of Study	Duration of Study
	Full-Time	City Centre	4 Terms
			Code(s)
			PT1256

10	Entry Requirements		
	<p>The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at https://www.bcu.ac.uk/, or may be found by searching for the course entry profile located on the UCAS website.</p>		

11	Course Learning Outcomes
	Knowledge and Understanding
1	Analyse a range of forms of theatre and respond to a range of theatrical genres and styles.
2	Evaluate the demands of naturalistic and non-naturalistic dramatic texts.
3	Express critical knowledge and understanding of key acting practices.
4	Devise strategies to solve technical, interpretive and scholarly problems in performance arising from the complex relationship between the performer, the performance space and the audience.
5	Identify and apply research skills in the field of acting.
	Skills and Other Attributes
6	Evaluate your own practice as a basis for ongoing professional development.
7	Conduct practice-based research relevant to the discipline.
8	Apply a body of core technical skills in order to apply these to professional practice.
9	Collaborate in the complex negotiations required as an effective member of an acting ensemble.
10	Synthesise the theory and practice of key acting processes in performance in theatre spaces and in recorded media industries.
11	Apply self-reliance and a pro-active attitude to seek out and/or create varied employment opportunities

12	Course Requirements																						
12a	MA Level 7: <i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 180 credits):</i>																						
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="background-color: #ffff00;">Module Code</th> <th style="background-color: #ffff00;">Module Name</th> <th style="background-color: #ffff00;">Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>Acting Exercises</td> <td>40</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Acting Skills 1</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Workshop 1 and 2</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Professional Studies</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Production</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Major Project</td> <td>60</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value		Acting Exercises	40		Acting Skills 1	20		Workshop 1 and 2	20		Professional Studies	20		Production	20		Major Project	60	
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12b Structure Diagram

Level 7 MA

<p>Core</p> <p>ACT7XXX: Acting Exercises (40 credits) (Semester 1, Term 1)</p> <p>ACT7XXX: Acting Skills 1 (20 credits) (Semester 1 and 2)</p> <p>ACT7XXX: Workshop 1 and 2 (20 credits) (Term 2)</p> <p>ACT7XXX: Professional Studies (20 credits) (Terms 1, 2 and 3)</p> <p>ACT7XXX: Production (20 credits) (Term 3)</p> <p>ACT7XXX: Major Project (60 credits) (Terms 1, 2, 3 and 4)</p>
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13 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- *Scheduled Learning* includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- *Private Study* includes preparation for exams

The *balance of assessment* by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, exam and in-person) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by students. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, exam and in-person is shown below.

Level 7

MA Workload

Time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	1060
Directed Learning	0
Private Study	950
Total Hours	2010

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	36%
Exam	0%
In-Person	64%