

Purpose Statement

UAL Level 4 Professional Diploma in Performance (603/3034/X)

Overview

Who is this qualification for?

The UAL Level 4 Professional Diploma in Performance has been designed to provide students with the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to progress into higher education or conservatoire training. The skills developed throughout the qualification may also support students intending to progress directly into employment in the creative industries.

This qualification will provide students with an opportunity to stretch and refine their practical skill levels whilst defining their own personal interests and area of expertise. It allows them to explore, develop and test their creativity within a qualification structure which is stimulating and demanding and provides a supportive transition into either higher-level training or employment. The qualification is suitable for students who intend to pursue a career in the creative arts.

The qualification is also appropriate for students wishing to continue their education through applied learning, by locating learning within a professional context in which they can work alongside industry experts to gain first-hand experience of the sector.

There are no age restrictions for this qualification. However, most of the students taking this qualification are expected to be 18+ and have completed A Levels, Level 3 Diplomas or Extended Diplomas (for example, the UAL Level 3 Diploma or Extended Diploma in Performing and Production Arts) or a relevant apprenticeship.

The UAL Level 4 Professional Diploma in Performance is not currently available as part of an apprenticeship.

What will students learn as part of this qualification?

The content of the UAL Level 4 Professional Diploma in Performance was developed with representatives from industry, universities and further education colleges to ensure it provides students with the skills, knowledge and understanding needed to progress into the next level of education and training or employment or self-employment.

The qualification is made up of the following three mandatory units:

Unit 1 – Applied Professional Practice: This unit introduces students to the realities of a professional working environment and will equip them with the necessary rehearsal etiquette and professional practice standards required within industry. Students will gain an understanding and appreciation of the demands placed upon the performer both in and outside of the rehearsal room and they will start taking responsibility for their own professional development.

Unit 2 – Specialist Performance Technique: In this unit, students will take part in a range of performance activities in order to develop their performance technique. Students will advance their technical competency skill levels across a range of performance styles and apply the requisite professional standards in both rehearsal and performance.

Students will develop their analytical skills through the exploration of their own practice and consider the impact of their artistic choices on the audience experience. This unit also considers the different ways in which significant practitioners have imagined, theorised and produced performance throughout history, which will enable students to consider and become aware of interweaving strands of questioning and conceptual development.

Unit 3 – Specialist Performance Project: The focus of this final unit is for students to realise their professional performance ambitions by instigating, rehearsing and performing in a specialist performance project.

Students will take control of their own professional development and explore a self-defined area of practice that will bring together their applied professional practice and specialist performance techniques combined with their knowledge and understanding to carry out a performance project. This will involve students identifying the project objectives, clarifying and agreeing the scope of the work, managing their time and resources to achieve a final outcome for a clearly identified audience. The precise form and content of the project will be dependent upon the specialist skills developed by each student.

Students must pass all three units in order to achieve the qualification.

What could this qualification lead to?

Students completing the UAL Level 4 Professional Diploma in Performance may progress into:

Higher Education – the qualification will support students to develop a portfolio of work enabling them to progress to higher education courses

Further/conservatoire training – the qualification will support students to develop a portfolio of work enabling them to progress to conservatoire courses

Employment/self-employment – students completing this qualification may progress to roles in the creative industries, such as:

- Actor
- Dancer
- Musical Theatre
- Musician
- Director
- Dramaturg
- Choreographer
- Musical Director

Who supports this qualification?

The following organisations recognise and value this qualification:

- Dancebox Studios and Theatre Works
- Harlow College
- Reynolds Training Academy
- Stratford-upon-Avon
- West Suffolk College
- New College Stamford
- Miskin Theatre, North Kent College
- Bedford College
- South Devon
- Buckinghamshire College Group

To view these letters, please follow the link in the *further information* section of this document.

Further information

Additional information for this qualification can be found on the UAL Awarding Body website here:

<http://www.arts.ac.uk/about-ual/awarding-body/qualifications/>