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**APPROVED**

## BA (Hons) Contemporary Theatre and Performance

<b>Awarding Body</b>	University of the Arts London
<b>College</b>	Wimbledon College of Arts
<b>School</b>	University of the Arts London
<b>Programme</b>	Acting and Performance (L073)
<b>Course AOS Code</b>	WIMBACTPF01
<b>FHEQ Level</b>	Level 6 Degree
<b>Course Credits</b>	360
<b>Mode</b>	Full Time
<b>Duration of Course</b>	3 years
<b>Valid From</b>	September 1st 2020
<b>QAA Subject Benchmark</b>	Dance, drama and performance
<b>Collaboration</b>	N/A
<b>UAL Subject Classification</b>	Performance and design for theatre and screen
<b>JACS Code</b>	None
<b>UCAS Code</b>	W440
<b>PSRB</b>	N/A
<b>Work placement offered</b>	Yes
<b>Course Entry Requirements</b>	<p>The standard minimum entry requirements for this course are one or a combination of the following qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2 A Levels at grade C or above</li><li>• Pass at Foundation Diploma in Acting, Performance or Art and Design (Level 3 or 4)</li><li>• Merit, Pass, Pass (MPP) at BTEC Extended Diploma</li><li>• Pass at UAL Extended Diploma</li></ul>

- Access to Higher Education Diploma
- Or equivalent EU/International qualifications, such as International Baccalaureate Diploma
- And 3 GCSE passes at grade 4 or above (grade A\*-C)

Entry to this course will also be determined by the quality of your application, looking primarily at your portfolio of work, personal statement and reference.

### **APEL - Accreditation of Prior (Experiential) Learning**

Applicants who do not meet these course entry requirements may still be considered in exceptional cases. The course team will consider each application that demonstrates additional strengths and alternative evidence. This might, for example, be demonstrated by:

- Related academic or work experience
- The quality of the personal statement
- A strong academic or other professional reference
- A combination of these factors

Each application will be considered on its own merit but we cannot guarantee an offer in each case.

### **English language requirements**

All classes are taught in English. If English isn't your first language you must provide evidence at enrolment of the following:

- IELTS level 6.0 or above, with at least 5.5 in reading, writing, listening and speaking (please check our [English Language requirements](#))

### **Selection Criteria**

We look for:

- Interest in, commitment to and motivation for studying the subject
- Ability to work imaginatively and creatively individually and in groups
- Ability to create, develop and respond to new ideas and to work with new creative forms
- Desire to learn
- Ability to investigate and develop ideas independently
- Ability to communicate ideas physically, verbally and in writing

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Aptitude for creative problem solving</li><li>• Ability to self-direct and critically evaluate work</li><li>• Willingness to think critically about the relationship between performance and public / social life</li><li>• Openness and responsiveness to other's ideas</li></ul>
<b>Scheduled Learning and Teaching</b>	<p>During your course you will engage with learning and teaching that includes both online and face-to-face modes. The advertised scheduled activity for the course will be delivered through a combination of live, synchronous and asynchronous on-line learning. This is often described as blended learning.</p> <p>Definitions of our learning and teaching modes can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p>

# Awards and Percentage of Scheduled Learning

## Year 1

<b>Percentage of Scheduled Learning</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>Awards</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Certificate of Higher Education (Exit Only)	120

## Year 2

<b>Percentage of Scheduled Learning</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Awards</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Diploma of Higher Education (Exit Only)	240

## Year 3

<b>Percentage of Scheduled Learning</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>Awards</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Bachelor of Arts	360

# Course Aims and Outcomes

The Aims and Outcomes of this Course are as follows:

<b>Aim/Outcome</b>	<b>Description</b>
Aim	To investigate performance as a globally significant form of artistic practice and creative expression, exploring contemporary theatre-making as a mode of cultural critique
Aim	To develop multi-faceted contemporary theatre practitioners confident in the value of their work as collaborative artists and experimental performance-makers
Aim	To explore the impact of new technologies and performance practices on contemporary theatre-making
Aim	To support the development of innovative, entrepreneurial and socially-engaged theatre companies and performance collectives
Aim	To enable the expression of diverse cultural identities, narratives and experiences within the context of creating new performance forms and histories
Outcome	You will demonstrate a complex understanding of contemporary theatre through the application of a range of performance-making strategies, processes and techniques
Outcome	You will utilise knowledge of performance theory and contemporary practice in making innovative performance work
Outcome	You will demonstrate critical awareness of the relationship between live and mediated technologies and the ability to work across performance forms and digital platforms
Outcome	You will employ a reflective, self-aware approach to creative processes and critical thinking, and articulate a distinctive personal 'voice' developed across a body of performance research and practice
Outcome	You will apply performance-making skills and demonstrate the capacity to work collaboratively in an ensemble
Outcome	You will deploy conceptual and practical skills in the planning, devising and realisation of contemporary performance
Outcome	You will utilise critical and creative skills in dramaturgical analysis and performance composition
Outcome	You will demonstrate confidence, articulacy and adaptability as a creative thinker and performance-maker
Outcome	You will demonstrate enterprise, resourcefulness and resilience in sustaining artistic projects, managing career goals, and ensuring personal and professional development

<b>Distinctive Features</b>	
1	Opportunity to study contemporary theatre and performance-making in an arts school environment fostering a multi-disciplinary approach to theatre practice
2	Focus on ensemble practices and collaborative working, leading to the creation of new companies and collectives making innovative, socially-engaged performance
3	Enquiry-driven pedagogy integrating project-based learning opportunities, ensemble practices and sustained critical and creative development as theatre-makers
4	Engagement with rapidly changing technologies and production practices, enabling the development of innovative performance practices and entrepreneurial activities
5	Exploration of diverse cultural histories, narratives and identities within the context of investigating the politics of representation and developing theatre-making as a mode of cultural critique

# Course Diagram

LEVEL 4 – YEAR 1																														
BLOCK 1															BLOCK 2															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
<b>Unit 1</b>				<b>S</b>	<b>Unit 2</b>								<b>S</b>	<b>Unit 3</b>					<b>S</b>	<b>Unit 4</b>										<b>S</b>
Introduction to Contemporary Theatre & Performance					Contemporary Performance Lab									Theatre in Context						Representing the Real										
20 credits					40 credits									20 credits						40 credits										
LEVEL 5 – YEAR 2																														
BLOCK 1															BLOCK 2															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
<b>Unit 5</b>				<b>S</b>	<b>Unit 6</b>								<b>S</b>	<b>Unit 7</b>					<b>S</b>	<b>Unit 8</b>										<b>S</b>
Performance Histories					Collaborative and Collective Practices									Digital Performance Lab						Contemporary Theatre-Making										
20 credits					40 credits									20 credits						40 credits										
OPTIONAL DIPLOMA YEAR – LEVEL 5																														
LEVEL 6 – YEAR 3																														
BLOCK 1															BLOCK 2															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
<b>Unit 9</b>														<b>S</b>	<b>Unit 10</b>															<b>S</b>
Performance Research															Ensemble Performance															
60 credits															60 credits															

**S = Summative Assessment**

Indicative summative assessment weeks are noted in the course diagram. For exact dates please refer to your timetable.



## Course Detail

BA Contemporary Theatre and Performance will give you the opportunity to develop as a collaborative theatre-maker, creative entrepreneur and innovative performance practitioner. You will work collaboratively to create contemporary theatre productions and to develop innovative forms of performance.

The course will enable you to work in an ensemble and to form a company or collective. You will plan, design, develop and deliver performance projects for a range of theatrical and non-theatrical locations and contexts, ensuring your work is engaged with contemporary culture.

## What to expect

- To develop practical and critical skills to produce solo and group performances
- To be able to make performance across a range of creative forms and disciplines
- To investigate critical approaches to contemporary theatre and post-dramatic performance
- To study the theory and practice of performance composition
- To have the opportunity to develop your own compositional practices
- To gain an understanding of performance in relation to text, image and action
- To investigate different performance environments
- To look at performance in a cultural, political and historical context
- To examine global theatre practices, post-colonial narratives, and socially-engaged performance
- To learn about digital, participatory and relational performance practices
- To have access to Wimbledon's shared workshops. View the [Wimbledon facilities](#)

## Mode of study

BA Contemporary Theatre and Performance is offered in full-time mode. It is divided into 3 stages over 3 academic years. Each stage consists of 30 teaching weeks. You will be expected to commit an average of 40 hours per week to your course, including teaching hours and independent study.

## Course Units

A short description of each unit and what you can expect.

### Year 1

#### Unit 1 - Introduction to Contemporary Theatre and Performance

This unit is an introduction to your course, the college and the university.

#### Unit 2 - Contemporary performance lab

This unit will investigate a range of contemporary theatre and performance making practices and compositional methods. It will provide you with a firm grounding in key approaches to

dramaturgy and performance composition.

- You will develop practical skills and knowledge required for your initial development as a theatre-maker
- Grow your creative and intellectual skills in performance composition and theatre-making
- Develop your critical awareness and practical experience of performance-making as a compositional process

### **Unit 3 - Theatre in context**

This unit will investigate theatre as an expanded field of cultural practice and artistic endeavour. It will look at performance as a critical and conceptual framework.

- It will present the study of acting, theatre and performance as a set of inter-related practices by drawing on a range of theories and approaches
- Place acting, theatre and performance practices in their social, cultural and historical contexts, enabling you to examine, question and challenge their politics and ethics
- Explore what acting might be and performance might mean in different parts of the world by looking at cultural traditions, historical meanings and societal impacts of theatre locally and globally
- Investigate the possibilities and limitations of cross-cultural performance practices and inter-cultural collaboration

### **Unit 4 - Representing the real**

This unit will introduce you to some of the foundational practices and theoretical questions concerning the relationship between reality and representation. It will place them in an historical, cultural and artistic context.

- You will be able to choose from a range of projects
- Create and make a performance
- Examine a range of theatre forms and acting conventions
- Situate acting and performance within the context of an event and scenography
- Improve and grow your acting and performance-making skills, creative capacities and theatre knowledge
- Develop a personal process of practical investigation and reflective critical enquiry

## **Year 2**

### **Unit 5 - Performance histories**

You will look at different approaches to acting and performance as cultural narration and storytelling practice.

- You will explore the creative potential of acting and performance to tell new stories, to give voice to minority and marginalised experiences and to generate alternative perspectives
- Investigate the relationship between performance and history, interrogating how dramatic, theatrical and filmic narrative forms contribute to the perception of the past and its shaping of the contemporary

### **Unit 6 - Collaborative and collective practices**

This unit aims to introduce you to different ways in which collaborative working can focus and enhance your own creative strengths. This unit has 3 core purposes:

- To engage with fellow students with different practices and interests in a collaborative project
- To engage with external audiences, participants or institutions to consider new contexts for your work
- To develop your creative attributes to enable you to take on future challenges in a variety of contexts

### **Unit 7 - Digital performance lab**

This unit investigates the diverse and rapidly developing field of digital performance and its transformative impact on contemporary theatre forms.

- You will learn practical skills and approaches to digital performance making
- Explore performance making for digital environments and platforms, including acting for screen and interactive media
- Experiment with new technologies such as virtual and augmented reality

### **Unit 8 - Contemporary theatre-making**

This unit looks at a range of contemporary theatre-making practices developed by contemporary performance companies, directors and performer-practitioners.

- You will extend your knowledge of current theoretical and practical approaches to making contemporary theatre
- Further develop your critical awareness and practical experience of performance making as an investigative and experimental process
- Investigate and explore contemporary approaches to making socially and politically engaged theatre and performance
- Improve your compositional skills and creative capacities as a contemporary theatre-maker and ensemble practitioner
- It will encourage you to sustain a personal creative process of practical investigation and reflective critical enquiry

## **Year 3**

## **Unit 9 - Performance research**

This unit will provide you with a firm grounding in performance research. It will enable you to conduct supervised independent research practice in any area of acting, theatre and performance.

- You will learn how to frame research questions, conduct a critical literature and practice review, identify appropriate research methods and form a sustained critical and theoretical argument, whether in performance practice or through writing
- Produce a substantial piece of performance research practice
- Think about the social, economic and political impacts of your research
- Be able to choose the form your research takes

## **Unit 10 - Ensemble performance**

This unit will provide you with a firm grounding in the practical process of creating and performing an ensemble production.

- You will make a professional-standard public production, using the contemporary theatre and performance-making strategies and ensemble performance processes you have explored on the course
- Work with designers, technicians and other theatre and performance-makers

## **Optional Diploma between year 2 and 3**

Between year 2 and 3 you can opt to undertake the Diploma in Professional Studies or the UAL Diploma in Creative Computing. Whilst these Diplomas are an optional aspect of the course, they are designed as an integrated and assessed part of your journey through the course.

## **Learning and Teaching Methods**

- Collaborative work
- Group and individual tutorials
- Independent study
- Introductions and inductions to university, college and course resources
- Investigative seminars
- Lectures and visiting speaker talks
- Practical performance projects
- Practical workshops
- Performance analysis of live theatre and digital screenings
- Performance labs
- Production projects
- Project based learning
- Staff and student led seminars and discussions

- Studio, external venue and other visits
- Training for performance sessions
- Use of resource venues and institutions

### **Assessment Methods**

- Critical and creative portfolios
- Essays
- Live presentations - pitches, proposals, papers
- Performance etudes
- Performed and digital essays
- Process workbooks and reflective journals
- Production roles and ensemble contribution
- Project proposals, plans and reports
- Written and performed dissertations

### **Reference Points**

- QAA Subject Benchmark statements
- QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
- CCW Common Credit Framework
- UAL Creative Attributes Framework

*The University will use all reasonable endeavours to provide the Course and the services described in this Output. There may be occasions whereby the University needs to add, remove or alter content in relation to your Course as may be appropriate for example the latest requirements of a commissioning or accrediting body, or in response to student feedback, or to comply with applicable law or due to circumstances beyond its control. The University aim to inform you of any changes as soon as is reasonably practicable*